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Per. gen. d. 6

THE
ASIATIC JOURNAL

AND
MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR
British India and its Dependencies :

CONTAINING

Original Communications.
Memoirs of Eminent Persons.
History, Antiquities, Poetry.
Natural History, Geography.
Review of New Publications.
Debates at the East-India House.
Proceedings of the Colleges of Hailey-
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George.
Literary and Philosophical Intelligence.
India Civil and Military Intelligence, Oc-
currences, Births, Marriages, Deaths,
&c. &c. &c.

Proceedings of the Royal Asiatic So-
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Home Intelligence, Births, Marriages,
Deaths, &c.
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Lists of Passengers to and from India.
State of the London and India Markets.
Notices of Sales at the East-India House.
Times appointed for the East-India Com-
pany's Ships for the Season.
Prices Current of East-India Produce.
Indian Securities and Exchanges.
Daily Prices of Stocks, &c. &c. &c.

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PREFACE

TO THE

TWENTY-THIRD VOLUME

OF

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL.

THE commencement of a new year and a new volume affords a convenient opportunity for addressing a few prefatory observations to the readers of the *Asiatic Journal*.

Eleven years have now elapsed since the first appearance of this work, which, during the greater part of the eventful period, has been the only general popular record of political transactions in British India, of occurrences at home and abroad, connected with that interesting country, as well as of the progress of the various discoveries made respecting the geography, the history, the statistics, the moral and physical circumstances, of the extensive territories comprehended within, or in the vicinity of, the vast empire of Great Britain in the East. It has been, moreover, an essential part of its plan to arrest, as it were, the evanescent hues of opinion upon passing events, by condensing the contents of the various newspapers published in India.

This consideration alone imparts a value to the *Asiatic Journal*, thus constituted a receptacle of abundant materials for history: a value increasing, not diminishing, by the lapse of time. Its original contributions to science and literature are likewise already appreciated by writers of the present day, foreign as well as English, who have avowed their obligations to this Journal for much valuable information.

Possessed of such claims to public regard, the *Asiatic Journal*, by recent salutary changes in its constitution, has, in the opinion of competent judges, established new pretensions to patronage: these the

editor and proprietors are sedulously endeavouring to corroborate, by adopting every practicable suggestion for improving the work, in each department; and they have, very lately, made a further addition to its dimensions.

Grateful for the support which the Journal experiences, they are unwilling to advert to the expense incurred in order to gain and secure that support: as some subscribers, however, may not be aware of the extraordinary expenditure required for this work, they may be excused for stating, that the original cost and the postage of newspapers from every part of the East (files of each Indian paper being imported, for the purpose of obtaining the very earliest intelligence), the charge for rapid printing and cancellations (an inconvenience peculiar to such a work as this), and, lastly, the reporting and printing in full the Debates at the East-India House, constitute altogether a heavy tax *superadded* to the expenses incurred by monthly publications in general.

The editor takes occasion to assert that, in its political views and sentiments, the *Asiatic Journal* is entirely independent. It is, however, essentially a literary and scientific work; in this respect, its scope is as comprehensive as possible: history, geography, biography, literature in the largest sense of the term, every branch of philosophy, navigation, trade, and commerce,—all these subjects, and whatsoever is connected therewith, bearing any relation to the East, will find admission into the *Asiatic Journal*; and the editor will feel obliged by any communications upon those topics from contributors in Britain, the European continent, or India.

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR
JANUARY, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

THE MARQUESS OF HASTINGS.

THE character of an eminent personage, when he has recently quitted this stage of existence, demands, in our opinion, a more delicate and skilful hand to portray with fidelity, than it did whilst he was alive. The maxim which teaches that we should say only what is good of the dead, although it interprets rightly the charitable feelings which should actuate those who survive, must not be followed so implicitly and observed so literally, as to occasion the absolute concealment of what is base and pernicious in a character, or vices of habit injurious in the way of example; the temperate exposure of which is due from a biographer to the world. But in the case of public men, the difficulty of pronouncing upon measures not yet fully understood, or motives not yet clearly discerned, often perplexes the writer who undertakes to adjudicate the merits of an individual soon after his decease. If he is guided by right principles, he will, indeed, deem it equitable to lean towards the favourable side of the question; because he may be deceived, and may wound a person incapable of defence.

From such considerations, not from a blind obedience to the maxim before-mentioned, it probably happens that violent reflections upon the characters of the lately dead are generally displeasing, without reference to the truth or falsehood of what is alleged. There is, moreover, a certain prejudice, if it deserve not a better name, which forbids our treading rudely upon the earth which covers a recent grave.

This is the general, though not indeed universal, feeling of mankind: we do, though rarely, meet with an instance (as in the case of the late Mr. Adam) where all these considerations are utterly disregarded; where death disarms not malice of its sting, but stimulates its venom; where the impotence of the object invites, instead of suspending, the assaults of the adversary. Such

conduct is, however, akin to the ferocity of the savage, who, discovering the corpse of an enemy whom he could not cope with whilst living, strides over it in unmanly triumph, mangling and mutilating it amidst yells of brutal joy.

We prefix these reflections to a notice of the late Lord Hastings, because we have recently seen with pain and regret some remarks upon his character, with respect to the pecuniary difficulties in which his liberality involved him, which might probably be esteemed more just if they had not been, in our humble judgment, ill-timed, and, under all circumstances, ungenerous.

It is not our present intention to give a memoir of the Marquess of Hastings; that office has been already performed very fully in the sketch of his history and administration, published in several successive numbers of this Journal about three years back,* when he closed his political career in British India, with the history of which his name is now inseparably associated. To this sketch we refer our readers. We merely add, that upon his departure from that country, the theatre of splendid events, which will transmit his fame with lustre to remote posterity, he subsided to the governorship of Malta, then severed from that of the Ionian islands;—exhibiting a transition not altogether unlike that of the Emperor Charles V., and equally voluntary: the resignation of the office of Governor-general of India, on the part of Lord Hastings, proceeded from a wish to be relieved from the fatigues and duties of that station. The Chairman of the Court of Directors, in 1822, distinctly declared, that “his Lordship’s resignation had been accepted at his own earnest and anxious desire, and much against the will of the Court.”†

It may, however, be convenient to state, briefly, that his Lordship was appointed to the post of Governor-general and Commander-in-chief of the British territories in India, in December 1812, and reached that country in October 1813; that in 1814 he commenced military operations against Nepal, which, being admirably conceived and skilfully executed, ended in the entire conquest (in fact) of that difficult country; that in the years 1816, 1817, and 1818, he purged the continent of the hordes of Pindarries, and by consequence, was involved in the most extensive war with native powers ever prosecuted by the British arms in India, which, by wonderful political foresight and military talent, was not only terminated with glory to this country, to himself, and to his gallant army, but furnished; in fact, the means of establishing the settlement of India upon a broad and substantial foundation. The extension of territory obtained during his Lordship’s administration has consolidated, not attenuated, our eastern empire; and the war, so far from impoverishing, has, in the sequel, enriched the Company’s treasury.

On his return from India, previous to revisiting his native country, his Lordship accepted (as before observed) the insignificant post of Governor of Malta, at which island he has resided ever since, with the exception of one visit to England, connected (we believe) with the subject of the Hyderabad financial question.

In the month of November last, it appears from the statements in the public papers, his Lordship fell from his horse and sustained a severe injury, which produced fatal effects upon a *hernia* under which he had long laboured. He embarked on board a King’s ship, the *Revenge*, either in hopes that the voyage would restore him, or that he might be able to reach England. He was removed to that ship on the 20th, being brought down from the palace

on

* See *Asiatic Journal*, vol. xvi, pp. 481, 885; and vol. xvii, pp. 1, 117.

† Debates at E.L.H., *Asiatic Journal*, vol. xiii, p. 306.

on a sofa, placed in the admiral's barge, which was towed alongside, and hoisted on board in a weak and languishing state. Next day the ship put to sea, and after a very quick passage of three days only, reached Naples. The Marquess was then, however, so ill that he could not be moved; he continued, therefore, on board the ship, which was anchored in the smooth water of Baia bay. He lingered, in much pain, showing, notwithstanding, greatest firmness and resignation, till about eleven o'clock on the night of the 23d, when he breathed his last, surrounded by the Marchioness and his daughters, the Earl of Rawdon not having arrived from Malta.

A letter from an officer of the *Revenge* states the following remarkable fact: "The late Marquess of Hastings, in a letter found amongst his papers after his death, requested that, on his decease, his right hand might be cut off, and preserved till the death of the Marchioness, when it was to be interred in the same coffin with her Ladyship. In pursuance of his direction, the hand has been amputated."

His remains are to be conveyed to Malta for interment, at his special desire.

His Lordship enjoyed, at his death, the following titles and offices: he was Marquess of Hastings, Earl of Rawdon, Viscount Loudon, Baron Hastings, Hungerford, Botreaux, Molines, and Rawdon in Great Britain; Earl of Moira and Baron Rawdon, and a baronet in Ireland; a Knight of the Garter, Grand Cross of the Bath, a general, colonel of the 27th Foot, Governor and Commander-in-chief of Malta, Constable of the Tower of London, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the Tower Division, F.R.S., F.S.A., Vice Patron of the Royal Asiatic Society, and member of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta. He had nearly completed the 72d year of his age.

The marriage of his Lordship with the Countess of Loudon took place in July 1804. The issue of this marriage was one son, George Augustus Francis, now Marquess of Hastings, and three daughters.

It would be difficult to select a public man, at least in the present generation, who has passed through so great a variety of scenes, and acted so conspicuous a part in all the different walks of public life, whose character stands freer from defect or reproach than this deceased nobleman's. The punctilious principles of honour for which he claimed to be distinguished, and by which all his actions were therefore measured, exposed his reputation to incalculable risk had he been capable of pursuing the indirect paths of crooked policy, and of bending to unworthy objects. A rare and remarkable circumstance, in the history of a man so actively engaged in politics as Lord Hastings has been, is, that he has ever enjoyed popularity: the weight and importance which the country attached to every thing proceeding from his Lordship, formed the specific ground upon which an inquiry was moved for in Parliament, by a member politically opposed to him, regarding an affair in which the Marquess thought it expedient to appeal to the public in print.

It is the lot of few individuals to have the good or evil fortune (as the case may be) of meeting with a crisis calling for great and splendid qualities, and an ample field for their display. This was, however, the lot of Lord Hastings: he found a *modus vindicæ dignus*, and his genius proved equal to the emergency. The great political virtues he seems to have possessed in no ordinary degree. He excelled as a statesman: he was sagacious, prompt, indefatigable, devoid of arrogance or pride. He shone as a commander: in this capacity he was enterprizing yet vigilant; brave, skilful, and eminently heedful of the comforts of his soldiers; capable of forming vast plans and of

patiently

patiently superintending the details. In addition to these imposing qualities, he manifested those more retired, which, nevertheless, win public applause, and establish the basis of posthumous reputation. He was a liberal, a munificent patron; he was himself imbued with a fine taste for science, literature, and the arts; his deportment was correct and dignified, though affable, and characteristic of the polished gentleman; his domestic character was amiable; his social qualities were in the highest degree estimable: so entirely exempt was he from the least taint of selfishness, that even his very faults are to be traced to an excess of generosity. We cannot refrain upon this topic from quoting the sentiments of General Doyle:—

I speak not from vague rumour, but from long personal experience, having had the happiness to serve under the immediate command and upon the personal staff of that distinguished commander, for many years and in various countries, and having so often witnessed the display of those talents and resources which enabled him to subdue difficulties as great (though in a more limited sphere of action) as those which he has encountered and overcome in India. This anticipation was not formed upon loose or light grounds. No man possessed in a higher degree the happy but rare faculty of attaching to him all who came within the sphere of his command. When they saw their general take upon himself the blame of any failure in the execution of his plans (provided it did not arise from a want of zeal or courage), and, where it succeeded, giving the whole credit to those he employed, every man found himself safe; an unlimited confidence infused itself into all ranks, and his army became irresistible. Never was there a man of whom it could be more truly said "*self was the only being seemed forgot.*"

The writer of the strictures upon the character of this nobleman, already referred to, which impute to him the running through a princely fortune, the dwindling from lofty and large pretensions of many kinds to the frame and stature of an ordinary being, and the vanity which prompted him to seek the praise of others more eagerly than his own; this severe and unsparring censor of the weakness, not the vice, of Lord Hastings, admits that he was spoken of and appealed to, during much more than half his life, as the soul of chivalry and honour; that "he did possess, or at least set out with possessing," the theory and sentiment of honour, in its highest sense; and that he had an innate abhorrence of any mean or sordid action, when it was distinctly presented to his mind as such. But it appears that "he squandered his noble revenues at the bidding of ostentation, which he had the misfortune to confound with generosity, or to mistake for it." The wealth was his own.

We are far from offering to justify extravagance, under any circumstances; but it is only where prodigality springs from a corrupt principle, and where its objects are intrinsically bad, that we desire to see it visited by harsh censures. In cases like the present, where the same term, extravagance, is employed to denote the acts of a generous soul hurried to excess in the pursuit of laudable, or at least blameless objects, we would censure lightly, or not at all. If, in judging of criminal actions, we abate somewhat of our severity, in consideration of the violence of human passions, and the weakness of human reason, shall we refuse to extend the same indulgence to those who have been propelled a little from the narrow path of rectitude by the momentum of an impulse virtuous in its nature?

A speck like this is not visible in ordinary men: in Lord Hastings it was the more perceptible by reason of the clearness of his general character. To us it seems more just, as it is certainly more grateful, to overlook this little defect, which, if it be a trifling drawback upon the virtue and integrity of his Lordship,

Lordship, in the eyes of hypercritics of reputation, has worked out its own pardon by the punishment which it entailed. It will be but candid, in future judges of the merits of Lord Hastings, who shall stigmatize his liberality as a fault, to add that it debarred him, in the decline of life, from the enjoyment of what he had richly earned, ease and dignified retirement in his native land amidst his admiring and applauding countrymen; and doomed him, after he had but recently ruled over tributary princes and fixed the fate of kingdoms, to die poor and in voluntary exile.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Having lately obtained a perusal of Sir John Malcolm's Political History of India (2d edition), I beg leave to offer my humble tribute of applause to a work, contributing so much to our knowledge of the history and institutions of that (to this nation) now most interesting country. His observations on the army, and suggestions for the improvement of its system, have been of course the chief object of my attention, and for the prosperity of it I trust they will meet with the consideration due to them by Government: One point in its present view I think objectionable, and in offering my opinion on it, I do so with the deference I feel due to that of so experienced and distinguished an officer; I allude to his proposal (vol. ii, p. 223) of corps of officers *only*, who would be temporarily attached to such corps as, from the number of their own officers on the staff, required additional aid for their regimental duties. How irksome would be the situation of such officers, temporarily serving with a regiment of which they seldom could be allowed a choice! Could they feel that interest in its welfare, or would they and the soldiers they would thus command feel that mutual confidence and attachment, so essential in military duties, as if permanently belonging to the same corps? The remedy for the present deficiency seems simple: augment the regiments or corps to something like the establishment proposed by "A Retired East-India Officer," in your 19th vol., pp. 142, 253, 428, and 638; but I cannot agree with the same authority (page 39), when he proposes that the general staff, &c. should be borne supernumerary to the established strength of corps; as carrying that measure into effect would be attended with the most mortifying super-secessions, in the subaltern ranks especially, from the unequal numbers of captains, &c. that some of the regiments have so employed.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Cheltenham, Dec. 6, 1826.

AN EAST-INDIA FIELD-OFFICER.

BRUCE'S "TRAVELS."

In our last number (vol. xxii. p. 655) the writer of an article entitled "Strictures on the 'Travels' of Bruce," censured that traveller unjustly for translating the Arabic word *hakim* by *physician*, or *philosopher*, alleging that it signified a chief, master, or superior person. Undoubtedly such is the sense of the word *hakim*, حاكم; but حكيم is the common title of Mahomedan practitioners in medicine throughout the east. The passage escaped our notice when we read the article in manuscript, or we should have noted the oversight.—*Editor.*

SMUGGLING FROM INDIA.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir: Now that the prohibitory system is done away with, and silks and crapes admitted on a duty, there will be less inducement for smuggling from India, which, no doubt, was carried on to a great extent during the last twenty years. As many of our fair country-women in India are yet ignorant of this fact, I wish to convey to them a few words of advice, through your widely-circulated miscellany, in order to save them an infinite deal of trouble, pain, and loss. Many persons have condemned, for years past, the harsh and unjust, nay tyrannical proceedings under our custom laws, and which fell peculiarly heavy on our fellow-countrymen in India: we all know that, after a lapse of fifteen or twenty years, when an officer or civilian returns from India, how desirous he is to convey some small token, the produce of the country, as a mark of his affection to some sister, friend, or mother; and the tokens themselves being of too little consequence and value to be entered in the ship's papers, were sure to be seized, if found by some voracious shark, in the shape of a custom-house officer, on their persons or in their boxes; no regard being had to the tears and intreaties of the ladies; and I really think some one interested ought to step forward, and by a proper representation to the Lords of the Treasury, secure an order that no passenger should be molested for having in possession any token or trinket, or presents, not exceeding the value of £10 or £20, whether coming from the East or West-Indies, Africa or America. I was an eye-witness to a fact which will scarcely be credited: a few years ago, a distinguished civilian, a baronet, who had filled one of the highest situations abroad under Government, was coming home after an absence of some thirty or forty years; in the Channel he hired a pilot schooner for thirty guineas, the captain of which agreed to land him and family on any part of the English coast, and advised him and his lady to bring all their valuable articles with them, that they might be safely landed; he went into Portsmouth, and before he would allow one of them to land, which they might have done at four in the morning, unknown, he sent for two custom-house officers, who searched, and took every thing valuable from them, besides grossly insulting them. I wish I knew the name of the rascal that thus sold the party to the Philistines, I would give it as a warning to others. This notice, however, I hope will prove a lesson to future voyagers; to whom I would say, bring nothing from India, for every article can now be purchased in London the same as in Calcutta, and with very little difference in price: China crapes are here so common as to be unfashionable; and silk bandannoes are as numerous as cabbages in market-gardens; but if you do bring any presents, let them all be put into a box, entered on the ship's papers, and the regular duty paid. Few would judge six rupees duty, on a piece of crape that cost twenty, exorbitant to secure it from molestation, and the fear of being seized; for my part, and I am an old stager, Mr. Editor, I bring nothing from India but my clothes, and a few cheroots, whenever I can happen to evade the grasp of the cormorants, which is but seldom.

8th December 1826.

I am, yours, &c.

MARCUS.

. We must remind our correspondent of a homely saying, which implies that fair play is due to all. An evasion of duty imposed by law, however trifling, is a fraud, which the officers of customs are expressly appointed to prevent. The levying duty upon small articles is vexatious, but there is no remedy: the project of exempting articles of small value from duty would lead to great abuses, if the discretion of rating their value were vested in the preventive officers, which would be the only means of obviating the evil complained of.—*Editor.*

HISTORY OF THE KURTAKUL, OR ANCIENT HINDU PRINCES OF MADURA.

[*Concluded from last vol., page 670.*]

THIS occurrence having excited commotion in the Ramnad country, and renewed the system of pillage on the road to Ráméswarem, those who travelled thither made loud complaints, and claimed restitution of their property. They, moreover, demanded the enlargement and reinstatement of the Sétupati. Whereupon Trimalla Náyaca ordered him into his presence, expostulated with him on his conduct, advising him to pursue a course consistent with his duty as tributary; and having received assurances from the Sétupati of fidelity and obedience, dismissed him with marks of favour, and permitted him to return to Ramnad.

Sadákay Tewen Sétupati dying a few years after, without issue, was succeeded by his son-in-law, Raghunátha Tewen Sétupati, who, being bold and enterprising, extended his authority as far as Pattacottah (in Tanjore) and Manarcoil, and became the dread of all the polygars. The Mysoreans having at this period invaded Madura, and occupied a great portion of it, Trimalla Náyaca, in apprehension for his life, wrote to Raghunátha Tewen Sétupati for immediate aid; whereupon he marched at the head of 60,000 men, attacked the Mysoreans, and drove them out of Madura. He pursued them vigorously to the ghauts, and when the country was clear of them, he left some of his troops in the fortresses with those of Trimalla Náyaca, whom he visited at Madura.

Trimalla Náyaca was so highly pleased with the services rendered by the Sétupati, that, after commending him in public, and loading him with valuable presents, giving him his own palankeen, elephants, camels, and horses, with several trophies, he conferred upon him the denomination of Trimalla Sétupati, after his own name, declared that he would henceforth esteem him as his own son, dispensed with tribute from him, and granted to him and his heirs for ever, free of tribute, the whole of the possessions he held. Trimalla Sétupati returned home in triumph, and built the present fort and palaces.

Trimalla Náyaca reigned for forty years, till the year 1584 (era of Saliváhana, A.D. 1661), and was succeeded by his son Mutu Virapa Náyaca, who reigned ten years, and in 1594 (A.D. 1671) was succeeded by his son Chokanátha Náyaca, whose reign lasted for sixteen years.

This prince, having taken a fancy to a boy of the Mahomedan race, named Rustum Khan, gave him a good education, and when he was qualified, appointed him his minister. The relatives and friends of this person having by his means filled many important stations, they gradually, in conjunction with him, usurped the entire management of the state. They secured the persons of those in charge of the fort, and Rustum Khan found no difficulty in confining the prince to his palace, and assuming the whole authority of the state.

Sócánátha Náyaca found means to apply for aid to the then Sétupati (named Kétuwan Sétupati), who marched from Ramnad against the usurper with 20,000 men, and having surprised him and his adherents, he beheaded them, and sent the head of Rustum Khan to the prince. He then expelled the Mahomedan chiefs and their people from the different towns and fortresses of Madura. Sócanátha Náyaca conferred upon the Sétupati marks of distinction in testimony of his approbation.

Sócánátha Náyaca died in 1610 (A.D. 1687), and was succeeded by his son Rangan Críshna Mutu Virapa Náyaca, who reigned seven years; he was succeeded in 1617 (A.D. 1694) by his son Vidyárange Sócánátha Náyaca, then an infant three months old, during whose minority his grandmother, Mangáma, widow of Sócánátha Náyaca, was appointed queen-regent of the country.

During her reign she constructed several temples, agrars, and cshétrams, and governed so prudently, that she afforded general satisfaction to the people. It is related that, upon one occasion, as she was chewing betel, she inadvertently received the betel with her left hand: manifesting great sorrow at the deed, and anxious to secure herself from the evils attending it, she ordered avenues to be made from Cási (Benares) to Cape Comorin, and along the road to Ráméswarem; and she, moreover, built additional cshétrams and proper places for the accommodation of travellers, which were supplied with all necessary articles for their use and consumption. In short, her generosity and charity gained her the esteem and admiration of all her subjects, as well as of foreign princes, and she became famous throughout Hindustan. She died (A.D. 1712), after a glorious reign of eighteen years.

Her grandson, Vidyárange Sócánátha Náyaca, then mounted the throne; he reigned for nineteen years, and dying (A.D. 1731) without issue, Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, son of Cumára Trimalla Náyaca, claimed the succession as next heir. But the widow of Vidyárange Sócánátha Náyaca having adopted the son of Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, she insisted upon his right to succeed. His father, however, disputed his title to precede him, and accordingly assumed the government: but the whole treasure was deposited in the palace, which was in the possession of the widow-queen.

This lady complained to Chandá Sáheb* of the unjust act of Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca; who, hearing of this complaint, applied to the Nawáb Saádar Ali Khan to support him; whereupon Chandá Sáheb and the Nawáb marched with 10,000 horse, and encamped on the plains of Trichínopoly.

Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca visited the Nawáb, and having represented his right to the government, his highness summoned all the principal inhabitants, and after proper inquiry into the validity of his pretensions, pronounced in his favour. He was consequently declared by the Nawáb successor to the government, and was desired to continue to the Rani, her brothers and dependents, the daily allowance they enjoyed during the life of Vidyárange Sócánátha Náyaca. It was further provided, that she should retain all her own property, but deliver up to the prince all the property belonging to the state. The Nawáb then received from the Raja a promissory note for the payment of thirty lacs of rupees, as a nuzr for confirming his installation, which he left Chandá Sáheb to perform in the usual manner; and his highness, having directed Chandá Sáheb to provide for the tranquillity of the province, returned to Arcot.

After the departure of the Nawáb, the Rani and her brothers offered a handsome nuzr to Chandá Sáheb to forward their objects, which he agreed to, and thereupon procrastinated the installation of Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, to the great dissatisfaction of the latter.

The nuzr offered by the Rani to Chandá Sáheb was 100 lacs of rupees; and as security for the payment of it, she delivered to him all the jewels, elephants, horses, &c. belonging to the state; whereupon he entered the fort, and intimated his intention of supporting the Rani's claim. Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, alarmed,

* Known also by the name of Husén Dost Khan.

alarmed, left the fort of Trichinopoly, and proceeded to Madura, where he administered the government of that province, as well as of Dindigul and Tinnevely.

Chandá Sáheb appointed two brahmins, named Govindá Jyen and Ráwanápa Jyen, as the ministers of the Rani, and despatched them with a force of 8,000 cavalry and a body of infantry, to demand the surrender of the forts of Dindigul, Madura, and Palamcottah, with directions to commence hostilities in case of refusal.

On arriving at Dindigul they summoned the garrison of that fort, and upon the refusal of the commander to surrender, it was taken by assault. On their march from thence to Madura they were met by the minister of Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, who had been detached with 2,000 horse and foot to oppose them; but the Rani's superior force routed these troops, who abandoned their commander and fled. This personage, being mounted on an elephant, was surrounded by the Rani's troops; he resisted them for some time with bow and arrows from his haudah, but was at length killed. The Rani's army then advanced without opposition to Madura, which they found evacuated by Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca; whereupon the government of the country was assumed in the name of the Rani. The ministers, having appointed proper persons to manage public affairs, and made the necessary arrangements for the tranquillity of the country, returned to Trichinopoly, and reported the result of their expedition to Chandá Sáheb.

By means of various intrigues, and by solemn promises of support, Chandá Sáheb so persuaded the Rani that he was entirely devoted to her interests, that she took no precautions for her security. But soon after, Chandá Sáheb seduced the garrison of the fort, seized the city, and having secured the persons of the Rani, her brothers, and principal adherents, removed them beyond the precincts of Trichinopoly.

The submission of the rest of the kingdom soon followed that of the capital, and Chandá Sáheb became entire master of the southern countries. Soon after (A.D. 1736), the death of the Rani took place.

Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, upon the news of the defeat of his army, the death of his minister, and the advance of the Rani's force, fled from Madura into the Sivaganga country, and met with protection from its polygar, named Wodeya Tewen, who settled him in a village called Velicourchy, paying him every mark of respect. Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca thereupon represented his case to the chief of the Mahrattas at Sattara Poona.* Upon which an army of not less than 60,000 Mahrattas, under the command of Puttay Sing and Raghuji Bhonsla, entered the province of Trichinopoly, and encamped in sight of the fort, closely investing the city. All supplies of provisions being cut off, Chandá Sáheb applied earnestly for aid to his brother Budda Sáheb, who advanced with a large convoy of provisions, escorted by a strong force. The Mahrattas detached a larger force to intercept the convoy; the escort defended themselves with bravery until Budda Sáheb fell, when a general rout took place. The Mahrattas cut off Budda Sáheb's head and sent it to Chandá Sáheb, who, notwithstanding his brother's defeat, continued to defend the fort resolutely, till he could resist no longer, when he surrendered, and was taken prisoner by the Mahrattas.† Puttay Sing and Raghuji Bhonsla appointed one
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* The reader may here compare this history with those of Orme and Wilks; also with Capt. Grant Duff's more recent history of the Mahrattas, vol. i, p. 566, and vol. ii, p. 2, *et seq.*

† This event occurred in March, 1741.

of their generals, named Moorari Rao, to take charge of the fort and reinstate Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, and to realize the promised nuzr of thirty lacs of rupees. Leaving a strong force under his command, they returned to Poona with their prisoners, whom they confined (as was afterwards reported) in a fort in the vicinity of Sattara, their metropolis.

Moorari Rao soon after invited Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca to accompany him to Trichinopoly, for the purpose of being formally installed; but they were unable to proceed, owing to the confusion prevailing throughout the country in consequence of the march of Nizám Husén Sáheb (the Nawáb of Golconda and Hyderabad) with a very formidable force into the Carnatic.

The Nawáb reached Trichinopoly soon after without experiencing any resistance from the princes of the country through which he passed, and sent a summons to Moorari Rao to surrender the city. Whereupon he evacuated Trichinopoly, and soon after quitted the Carnatic with all his Mahrattas.

The Nawáb Nizám Husén Sáheb having taken possession of the kingdom of Trichinopoly, Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca waited upon him, and represented his case. The Nawáb having ascertained the justice of his pretensions, promised to reinstate him, provided he would give him a nuzr of thirty lacs of rupees.

The Náyaca alleged his inability to comply with his desire immediately, because Chandá Sáheb and the Mahrattas had completely drained the kingdom of all they could find valuable in it. But upon an agreement for the liquidation of the nuzr in three years, the Nawáb desired Anwar-ud-deen Khan (then appointed Nawáb of Arcot and its dependencies) to reinstate the Náyaca in his kingdom, and to collect the nuzr.

The Nawáb Nizám Hussén Sáheb (Nizám ul Mulk) having adjusted the affairs of this part of the Carnatic, returned to Golconda, leaving Anwar-ud-deen Khan to administer the government of Arcot. Soon after, some of the northern countries being in commotion, Anwar-ud-deen Khan marched thither, accompanied by Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca, promising that as soon as he had reduced the northern polygars to obedience, he would return to Trichinopoly and reinstate him. But as the polygars were not to be easily subdued, he was detained there longer than he expected; he therefore allowed Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca 100 pagodas per month, and his son Vidyá Raghunátha Trimalla Náyaca 100 rupees, for their respective maintenance. The former fell sick in camp, and died upon his removal to Arcot. His son having expressed a wish to join the family in Sivaganga, for the purpose of performing the obsequies to his deceased parent, the Nawáb allowed him 10,000 rupees to defray the expenses, and promised he should succeed to the principality on his return to Trichinopoly. Vidyá Raghunátha Trimalla Náyaca having joined his mother and family at the village of Velicourchy, in Sivaganga, and performed his father's obsequies, married a bride chosen by the polygar of Sivaganga.

Whilst he was expecting the return of the Nawáb Anwar-ud-deen Khan, a report prevailed that Chandá Sáheb, having obtained his freedom, had joined Hedayet Moidén Khan* against the Nawáb Anwar-ud-deen Khan, who was killed in battle with them; that Chandá Sáheb had not only obtained possession of the city and fort of Arcot, but had also become Nawáb of all the territories under Anwar-ud-deen Khan, whose son, Mahomed Ally, had made his escape from the battle to Trichinopoly.

The

* Better known as Muzaffir Jung.

The confusion which prevailed throughout the southern country, in consequence of the revolution at Arcot and the design of Chandá Sáheb of marching, with a French auxiliary force, against Mahomed Ally, obliged Vidyá Cumára Mutu Trimalla Náyaca* to remain at Vellicourchy. Chandá Sáheb shortly after entered the territories of Trichinopoly with a strong force, accompanied by a detachment of French troops from Pondicherry, and besieged the fort. He despatched a small army under Alum Khan to occupy Madura and Tinnevely, which was effected with little trouble. He left Nabeer Khan at Tinnevely, and Mundimeyah at Madura, to superintend those districts, and returned to Chandá Sáheb at Trichinopoly, where Alum Khan was shortly after killed in battle. This was in the 1674th year of the era of Saliváhana, corresponding with A.D. 1751.

The superintendents of Madura and Tinnevely were then directed by Chandá Sáheb to inquire after the dethroned king of Trichinopoly, and to reinstate him at Madura. They accordingly went to Ramnad, and having summoned Villayen Sherogar and Tandawaroyahpillay, the ministers of Ramnad and Sivaganga, to join them with their respective forces, escorted Vidyá Cumára Mutu Trimalla Náyaca from Velicourchy to Madura, where he was formally installed as successor to the throne. This event took place in the year 1674, or A.D. 1751. Nabeer Khan and Mundimeyah became his foudrars. A person named Alagopah Moodely was appointed general of the Raja's troops; he was stationed at Tinnevely, with the title of *Dalawah*, which has remained to his descendants until this day.

Mundimeyah being censured by his father-in-law for having re-established the Raja in his government, which, he remarked, would for ever secure it to his posterity, to his own prejudice, prevailed upon him to plot the subversion of the Hindu authority. But the ministers of Ramnad and Sivaganga, aware of this, expostulated with Mundimeyah, assuring him that they would unite their endeavours to support the Raja, and counteract his treacherous design.

The two ministers, finding that Mundimeyah's proceedings indicated a resolution to usurp the government, marched with an army to Madura, and encamping near the Teppacolum, peremptorily required Mundimeyah to quit the fort. Upon his refusal a battle ensued, in which the loss on both sides was considerable. The Raja, afflicted at the misfortunes which had befallen his father and himself, ascribed them to the influence of a malignant star which presided at their nativities; and requesting the ministers to cease hostilities on his behalf, he signified his readiness to quit Madura, which he immediately did, and returned to Velicourchy. Here he remained, cherishing the hope that fortune might, at some future period, prove favourable to himself or his descendants, by causing some just personages, possessed of power, to come from the north, who would doubtless, actuated by equitable and benevolent motives, institute a strict inquiry into their ancient and hereditary rights, and restore them to their kingdom; an event which would establish their authority for ever.

Such were the hopes indulged by this unfortunate prince, who died some years afterwards, and was speedily followed by his only son, Viswanátha Náyaca; and whose grandsons, Bungaru Trimalla Náyaca and Vidyá Cumára Mutu Trimalla Náyaca, were living, at the time this history was written, in the village before mentioned in Sivaganga.

* Here seems to be an error in the MS., which is continued to the end; the name of this prince is before written Vidyá Raghunátha Trimalla Náyaca.

JOURNEY ACROSS THE ARRACAN MOUNTAINS.

UPON the cessation of hostilities in Ava, a party consisting of the 18th regt. Madras N.I., fifty pioneers, and the elephants of the army, under the command of Capt. Ross, was directed to move to Pakang Yeh, then cross the Irrawaddy to Sembeghewn, and thence march over the Arracan mountains to Aeng : at the same time the Burman authorities deputed the Thanduck-Woon, named Moonza, or Maunzah (a chief of some rank who had commanded formerly the province of Thanduck), to accompany the detachment as far as Aeng, and afford it every assistance in his power.

Particulars of this interesting journey, which occupied twelve days, have appeared, from two sources, in the *Calcutta Government Gazette** and the *Bengal Hurkaru*. These two statements we have taken the pains to condense and incorporate into one narrative.

The party reached Pakang Yeh from Yandaboo on the 13th March, after a pleasant march of eight days, and encamped on the banks of the Irrawaddy, there about 1,500 yards wide, the current not very rapid.† During the wet season, the country on the other side of the river (which they crossed on the 14th) is completely inundated. The soil is rich and fertile, producing tobacco in great perfection, Indian corn, and other productions, all the way from hence to Sembeghewn, which is four miles inland. On the banks of the river was a long straggling village, inhabited chiefly by those who had fled from their habitations on the advance of the British army.

Sembeghewn was once an extensive and flourishing town, containing 3,000 inhabitants, but now not a single habitation existed; the Burman army, when retiring from Chalaín Mew, after the fall of Melloon, having burned it to the ground. The inhabitants had not yet commenced re-building their huts; here and there some were prowling about among the embers of their houses, or from the road-side, looking at the passage of the troops: and after they had passed, three bullock-loads of rice were stolen; a musket was also taken from one of the sepoys, but no blood was spilt. The people in the neighbourhood of Sembeghewn are notorious for robberies.

The country round Sembeghewn is an open uninterrupted plain, fertile and highly cultivated, chiefly paddy-fields; in the immediate vicinity of the town are beautiful gardens, and groves of plantain, mangoe, and other fruit trees. The Chalaín river, which during the rains is of considerable size, runs through the town.

The party arrived at Chalaín Mew on the 16th. The road thither was excellent, having been made at a great expense by the orders of Menderagee Prah; it was lined at each side by a brick parapet wall, about three feet high, which defended it from the inundations from the rice-fields with which the country was laid out as far as the eye could reach, and which were irrigated from the Chalaín river. A bridge was thrown over every ravine. The country was beautiful, and thickly interspersed with inhabited villages. Wells were in abundance; and sacred groves, kioums,‡ and pagodas, were seen all along the road.

The

* The valuable contributions to our stock of geographical knowledge furnished by this paper, and which have laid the public in England as well as India under great obligations, make us rejoice to find it stated in an Indian paper, "from good authority," that "the lately published order of the Hon. Court of Directors, with regard to the editors and proprietors of newspapers, will not at all affect the present able conductor of the *Government Gazette*."

† The account in the *Hurkaru* estimates the breadth of the river here at 1,150 yards, and describes the current as strong.

‡ Residences of the Poonghees, or priests.

The suburbs of Chalain Mew, as well as the city itself, had fallen a prey to the flames; the only buildings saved from the conflagration were the kioums and other edifices appropriated to the purposes of religion. This wanton act is said to have been committed, without the knowledge of the chieftains, by some of the disorganized bands of the Burman army. Round Chalain Mew are the remains of a lofty brick wall, and in those places where it had fallen to decay, a capital teak-wood stockade was erected at the commencement of the war. The situation of the work is very strong, and on two sides completely defended by large jeels, whence, by cutting a small bund, sufficient water might be procured to form a wet ditch round the fortifications. The brick portion of the latter is well worthy of remark, offering a more perfect specimen of ancient fortification in this country than any other of the forts that have been passed. One part of the wall, which seemed to have suffered less from the ravages of time, particularly attracted attention: its outer height was fifty feet, and inside it rose about thirty feet above the level of the town, and this must be about six feet below the original elevation, the turrets which formerly adorned the summit having fallen down. This great height of the brick-work was only between three or four feet thick, supported by slight abutments every forty yards; and it seemed quite extraordinary that so much of it still remained, in many places tottering on its base. Near the summit of the walls were small apertures, intended to receive the beams by which the platform was sustained, whence the defenders fire; and, on inquiry, it appeared that these walls were long antecedent to the use of fire-arms. The Thanduck Woon stated that Chalain Mew is said to have been built 1,500 years ago, at the time Pagham Mew was the seat of government, and that it used frequently to be honoured with the residence of the sovereign.

Chalain Mew contained 10,000 inhabitants, and is the chief town of the district of Chalain, which is in extent between 500 and 600 square miles, and has a population of 200,000 souls. Sixty-four villages are scattered over this fertile tract, which furnished, during the war, 10,000 men as their quota to the army, of whom only one-half returned. The district of Chalain is governed by a Musghi. From Chalain Mew the road branches off to Talak, by which it was originally intended a part of the detachment should proceed; but all the accounts of this route were so very unsatisfactory, that it was deemed proper to give up all idea of attempting it.

A footpath is said to have existed over the mountains to Talak, occasionally frequented by a few itinerant merchants, and that ponies and bullocks were the only beasts of burden by which the road could be traversed. A great scarcity of water exists for four marches, so much so, that those who went that way used always to carry a supply of water in bamboos; the chance of finding crevices in the rocks, or pools of water, being very precarious, and, if found, would not prove sufficient for more than twenty or thirty men. The hills are very steep, and although the road was naturally so very bad, the Burmahs, at the time they expected an attack from us in that quarter, determined on entirely destroying the medium of communication, and accordingly scarped part of the road, in others felled trees across it, and so completely closed the passage, that for more than two years not a single individual had passed that way. The Talak road was not followed by either of the Burman armies: the Maha Bundoolah having marched by Aeng, both in going to and returning from Arracan; and the Arracan army, after its defeat, was so totally dispersed, that

that the men which composed it, striking into the mountains, followed no regular track, but took their chance of going straight over the hills.

On the morning of the 17th the detachment left Chalaín Mew, and, deserting the high road to the right, struck off considerably to the southward, in order to encamp in the vicinity of water, none being procurable on the main route at this season, except by making very long marches. Several thickly inhabited villages were seen on both sides of the road, and the division marched through one of considerable size, called Ponglahang, situated at the foot of a small range of hills, covered with jungle, and on the banks of a very extensive jeel, formed by the inundation of the Irrawaddy. On the banks of this jeel the party encamped, about two miles from the village. It was most gratifying to remark the confidence exhibited by the villagers, so very different from the conduct hitherto pursued by them since the arrival of the British in Ava. No longer forsaking their houses, and flying with their families and effects into the jungle, they quietly pursued their daily avocations, and only noticed the approach of the troops by running to the road-side when they passed, and gazing with astonishment at the first white faces they had ever seen.

The difference of soil between the east and west banks of the Irrawaddy, at this part of the country, is very surprising: the east, barren, arid, and parched up, particularly in the neighbourhood of the Petroleum wells, produces not the slightest vegetation; scarcely a blade of grass is to be met with; whilst the west is fertile, well watered, abounding with fine cattle and excellent pasturage, and producing all the requisites of food. Sugar is extracted from the palmyra tree in considerable quantity, and saltpetre is also manufactured.

The road next day lay, for some miles, over an extensive plain laid out in paddy-fields, and bearing the traces of being completely inundated during the monsoon. The whole country between this and the Irrawaddy, at that season of the year, is one continued sheet of water. The road winded along the banks of the jeel, which the party crossed, about a furlong broad. After marching eight miles, passing the pagoda of Minashatwah, and the village of Knuzee, the Moh river occurs, a fine stream of water, fordable about knee-deep, and forming the boundary between the districts of Chalaín and Leh-dine. It derives its source from the Arracan mountains, and even at this season presented sufficient water for small canoes, many of which were plying up and down, mostly superintending the course of several rafts of bamboos, which are cut in the mountains, and thence floated down to supply the inhabitants of the plains with materials for building houses. A large and populous village, named Boonzong, stood on the bank of the river, and many others lower down were discernible.

It being desirable to gain the foot of the hills as soon as possible, it became necessary to make long marches, and this day the men advanced fifteen miles and a half. The camp was pitched near a jeel at the town of Leh-dine, or Zeh-dine, chief of a small district of the same name, containing twenty-four villages, and about 10,000 inhabitants: the town had been burned by some of the predatory bands who had overrun this part of the kingdom.

On the 19th the party marched fourteen miles and a half, through a highly cultivated country, embellished with groves of palmyra and other trees, and full of populous villages; these obtained their water from a small stream conducted by means of dams from the Mine river, and answering the twofold purpose of supplying the wants of the inhabitants and irrigating the soil. At the

the village of Shoegiun were many Shāms (a warlike race, their features more prominent than the Burmese), who came out and offered toddy; and here, for the first time, some of the tribe of Kareans were encountered. The distances on the road to-day were marked off at every *dine* by small upright posts, surrounded by a railing; the distance between several amounted to two miles five furlongs; but this varies considerably, as a coss, or dine, in the mountain districts, was often under two miles, whilst in the plains it generally exceeded three. It seems probable that the Burman distances are calculated rather by the time it takes to traverse them than by any fixed rule. The detachment halted at Kivensah, near the Mine river, a stream of considerable magnitude, and which bounds the Lehline district to the south; and here, for the last time, the party saw the plains of Ava. Before them lay wild jungle and forests, and in the distance the blue summits of the lofty Arracan mountains were indistinctly visible.

About two miles beyond Kivensah, after crossing the Mine river several times, the party reached (on the 20th) the lowest range of hills connected with the Koon Pokoung range, and commenced ascending. In a little valley at their foot, a post was stuck in the ground to denote to the pilgrims and merchants who formerly frequented this road, that a chokey, or a watchhouse, existed there, whence they would derive protection against the depredations of the robbers who infested the mountains. The line of march here regained the high road to Aeng, and several places were distinguishable where it had been cut and levelled with no little trouble; it was in capital repair, and at certain distances were houses for the reception of pilgrims going to worship at the famous Shoechatoh Pagoda. Many of these houses had been burned by accidentally catching fire from the long grass which had lately been in flames: the trees were scorched and deprived of their foliage; and the whole appearance of these hills was as dry and arid as could be. The jungle was not thick, and consisted principally of the male bamboo, and a few other stunted trees; several small ponds, one or two containing a little muddy water, and the rest dry, were on the road-side, and near one of them the Burmahs had formerly erected a small breastwork, the traces of which were almost obliterated. Emerging from the jungle on the summit of a steep ghaat, the Shoechatoh was perceived at a mile distance, built on the peak of a very high and steep hill. The pagoda and its kioums (the latter gilt) had a magnificent appearance, and seemed a delightful spot, when compared with the bold, but arid scenery around. To the S. and W. was another range of hills. At the foot of the hills near the camp, the Mine river wound in the most circuitous manner, and enriched a little verdant space of ground, where a village formerly stood, the only spot where any thing like vegetation could be seen, and where the camp was, consequently, pitched. The Shoechatoh is held in the greatest veneration by the Bhuddists, as containing the impressions of Gaudma's feet, one on the summit, and the other at the base of the hill. These are railed in, and covered over by splendidly carved and gilt temples, and attended by Poonghis, who inhabit the kioums at the side of the hill. Pilgrims from all parts of the empire flock here to offer up their prayers, and as the party entered the valley, the repeated tolling of the bells indicated that some suppliant was on the point of preferring his request to the deity. The Burman government derives some profit from the Shoechatoh by exacting a tax on the richer class of devotees, of from twenty to fifty rupees, according to their rank, and they are then allowed to pray within the railing which surrounds the foot. No tax is levied on those suppliants who content themselves with

prayers

prayers outside the railing, but none are allowed to enter the sacred precincts without paying the fine. The unsettled state of the country of late has, of course, prevented the pagoda's being as much resorted to as formerly, and but very few devotees are found there. The ascent to the temple is by means of a flight of stone steps, 970 in number, and is covered from the weather by a wooden roof, or canopy, handsomely carved, and supported by numerous pillars of teak.

The march of the 21st followed the course of the Mine river for several miles, ascending almost imperceptibly the whole time, and after crossing a low range of hills, led to a delightful valley, about a mile in width, watered by the Mine river. On its banks were numerous habitations, occupied partly by the Karean tribe, employed in cultivating their paddy-fields. After passing the villages of Siraoh and Chitalaing, they arrived at the large stockaded village of Napeh Mew, the capital of the district, and the last Burman village towards the mountains. It is very pretty and neat, though of but inconsiderable size, and is situated on a rising ground. The district contains twenty-four villages and 4,000 inhabitants. A few hamlets exist farther on, but are inhabited by those Kareans who have placed themselves under the authority of the Burman government.

The inhabitants of Doh, the place of encamping, at first were running off, but being re-assured, returned, and afforded a good opportunity of remarking the difference between the Kareans and the Burmahs. They possessed a more pleasing cast of features than the latter, and were much neater dressed than any before seen.

The Kyoungs are a distinct race of people that inhabit the hills; they acknowledge the Burmese authority, but have a chief of their own sect; they are not of a fighting cast, as none of them were employed during the war; they do not appear to have any particular form of religion, but worship the sun and moon for affording them light; their cattle, swine, and fowls, as the means of their subsistence. Their women, when arrived to the age of forty, have their faces tattooed, which gives them a most hideous appearance; their dress is commonly black cloth, whilst that of the males is white; their employment is chiefly fishing in the mountain streams; the produce of their labour is laid on a frame of bamboo, with large fires underneath, until completely dried, when they are taken down to the vallies, and exchanged for rice, &c. &c.

Clearing the village of Doh on the 22d, the detachment followed the bed of the Mine river, and entered a deep pass formed by the lofty mountains through which this stream runs: rising almost perpendicular to a great height, they completely hemmed in the line of march, and their summits and sides clothed with trees, now of a verdant appearance, shielded it from the rays of the sun, and rendered the road pleasant. Several Kareans were met, as the party was on the march, laden with dried fish. With the exception of these straggling individuals, not a soul was seen, nor the recent traces of any one, during ten miles march through this dell. The party encamped at the first spot which afforded sufficient width to pitch a tent, and were so fortunate as to procure plenty of forage, although they had been led to expect they should find nothing for the cattle but bamboo leaves; so far from that being the case, the vegetation, as they advanced, became more and more luxuriant; the most delightful variety of brilliant foliage hung over the stream, rills of water abounded in the mountains, and large masses of rock, torn from their original site by the mountain torrents, lay here and there in the bed of the river, and occasionally damming the stream, caused it to rush down in waterfalls, giving to the whole scene one of the wildest and

and most romantic appearances imaginable. The road this day, though far from good, being over the rocks and loose stones in the course of the stream, might, in a short time, with but little trouble, be made passable for wheel-carriages; but during the rains, the force and depth of the torrents would prevent a passage being effected.

On the 23d, after winding through the bed of the Mine river for four miles, the detachment arrived at the post of Kaong, where two or three good houses remained, which had been occupied by a Burman picquet. At this point the river divides into two branches, and the road begins ascending the mountain: the ascent for a mile is extremely abrupt, as it runs up a tongue of land proceeding from the main range, and which is so very steep on the sides, that the road has necessarily been made almost straight up the hill. After ascending a couple of miles, the road ran on the summit of the ridge, which was not more than fifteen or twenty feet wide, and the declivity on each side exceedingly abrupt; across this part of the road a small stockade had been erected, which completely enfiladed the path for a considerable distance; this work was called Keokrias, and was supplied with water from a stream at the bottom of the valley; it may have contained about 100 men.

After marching four miles over a continued ascent, the party reached the foot of the highest point of the mountains; and here the road, which for some distance had been as good as could be wished, became very abrupt and much broken, the rain having forced away great part of it. The men marched all day, and were it not for the refreshing shade thrown by the lofty trees under which they passed, would have suffered much from the heat and want of water: as it was, they were much fatigued when they gained the summit of the mountains, and halted in a small stockade called Nairiengain. The road was gravelly, interspersed with sand and stones. The toil that had been undergone was now amply repaid by the grand scene which opened to the view. Below, in every direction, rose immense mountains, beautifully wooded from the summit down to the very base, and giving rise to the Mine river on the east, and Aeng river to the west, both of whose numerous sources could be distinctly traced in the ravines falling from the mountains. This was exactly the frontier line. On one side lay the British territory, and on the other the dominions of the king of Ava, and had it not been that the weather was hazy, the view, it was said, would have comprised the sea and the plains of the Irrawaddy.

The water of Nairiengain was so difficult of access, that the cattle could not approach it, but it was of good quality, and in quantity sufficient for consumption. It is quite a mistaken idea that no water exists in the mountains, there being numerous springs in all the hills: but these rising about half-way from the summit where the road runs, the difficulty of access to them is very great. This might be obviated by cutting paths to and from them; and digging reservoirs of sufficient size to water the cattle, would always ensure a supply, as the spring in a short time would replenish them.

The great range is called the Romah Pokoung Toung, and runs in a direction about S. 20° W., falling to the east in a succession of parallel ranges, and on the west more abruptly to the sea. The mountain on which Nairiengain is situated is named Marang-mateng-toung. In early times the Kareans used to prowl about this road in search of plunder, and attack and murder any traveller they might chance to meet with; but as their numbers were never very great, the merchants who formerly passed this way united their forces, and forming little caravans of from thirty to 300 men, placed themselves

beyond the power of these savage marauders. A great trade was carried on, before the war, between Arracan and Ava, in which it is said, 40,000 people were annually employed: the former country exported India and European manufactures, such as velvets, broad-cloths, piece-goods, silks and muslins; and betel-nuts, salt, and other articles, the produce of its own soil; receiving in return ivory, silver, copper, Palmyra sugar, tobacco, oil, and lacquered boxes.

It was principally to further this intercourse that the late King of Ava, Minderajee Prah, caused this superb road to be made: a work which reflects the greatest credit, not only on the liberal mind of him who planned, but also on those who carried it into execution. The labour bestowed upon it has been immense, as for nearly twenty miles the road is cut out of the hill-side, to the width of between ten and twelve feet, and that with the most judicious attention to the different falls of the ground: the remains of a parapet formed of trunks of trees are visible in many places; and it would be very advantageous if something of the kind still existed, the precipices off the road being most terrific, and of such a depth, that if any animal lost his footing and fell over, its loss would be inevitable. The Aeng road was first commenced in 1816, under the superintendence of the Thanduck Woon, and other chieftains through whose territories it passed; the whole plan, in the first instance, having been laid out by the engineers of the King. During the first two years only 500 workmen were employed, but then the road having been completed nearly up to the summit of the mountain, 200 more were added, who finished it as far as Shoechatoh, each man receiving seven rupees a month wages. But what contributed more than any thing to the completion of the road, was a most sensible rule enforced by the Burman government, by which, in lieu of taxes on their merchandize, they obliged all the travellers to carry with them working-tools, and repair those parts of the road which might require it, or facilitate the access to the water. Thus constant use, instead of spoiling the road, improved it; and it is only owing to the stagnation of commerce during the last two years, and the consequent encroachment and ravages of the monsoon, that any part of the route was bad; for as the communication is closed between May and January, the havoc committed during that period must be annually repaired.

The detachment was unable to leave Nairiengain till ten o'clock on the 24th, the road down the mountain having been completely blocked up by large trees, felled across at every few yards. The descent, for six furlongs, was exceedingly rapid, and led to a small open spot, used as a halting place by travellers, and named Kouronkire. Here a fine stream of water issued from the hill, and being dammed up, afforded great refreshment to the jaded cattle. A little farther on was another small stockade, in a capital position, and defended by an abbatis extending some distance down the road, which for two miles more was much impeded by trees, and had it not been for the exertions of the pioneers, would have retarded the advance considerably; as it was, the party did not arrive at Joadah, or Wuddah, though a distance of only six miles, until sunset. The latter part of the road was through a bamboo jungle, and the screams of innumerable baboons were heard, and the recent tracks of many wild elephants were visible.

On the 25th the division still continued descending the same tongue of land, over ridges and rocks, and after marching eleven miles, arrived at Sarowah, on the banks of the Aeng river: thence to Aeng, whither they marched on the 26th, was fifteen miles, the road occasionally crossing the Aeng river, and
eight

eight other small streams, over which substantial wooden bridges had been thrown, of sufficient breadth to admit any species of wheel-carriage: but time had so much impaired the wood that they had all fallen to decay, whilst those which age had spared, had been purposely destroyed by the Burmahs. Six miles before entering Aeng, the road leaves the hills, and from thence is superb, being quite level, and about twenty feet wide.

The party inquired at Aeng the means by which the famous colossal figure of Guadma, which was taken from the Arracanese, was conveyed across those hills; and learned, that forty years ago it was ordered to be sent up to Ava, by Ingy Kodo, for which purpose the head was taken off, and the body divided above the navel; three rafts were then constructed, on which those different parts were floated down the Sunderbunds to Chandaway, from whence, in the same manner, it was transported to Tongo Cyoung. At the foot of the hills a road was cut to Padown, just below Prome; the parts were placed upon separate sledges, and dragged over the mountains by manual strength to the banks of the Irrawaddy.

Aeng now contains but few inhabitants, but formerly it was of considerable size, and was the emporium of all the trade between the two kingdoms. The tide runs past the village, but at this season of the year there is not water enough for boats of any size within six miles of the wharf.

The distance from Pakang Yeh to Sembeghewn is 155 miles 4 furlongs. It is very satisfactory to observe, that although during the march from Sembeghewn the party averaged more than ten miles a day, and were much exposed to the sun, they only lost one man by death; and that when they entered Aeng only three men were so unwell as to be carried in doolies. The loss in cattle only amounted to a few bullocks, already jaded, when they started, by the long march from Prome to Yandaboo: four elephants also were lost; and one who was allowed by his mahout to stray away.

THE POET AND THE NIGHTINGALE.

A nightingale's music was heard in a grove,
Where wandered a bard deeply dreaming of love;
His thick-stirring fancies new vigour receive
From the air's fragrant breath and the stillness of eve:
Whilst sweetly the strain on his ear rose and fell,
He pondered what meaning its language would tell.

Is it passion-born sorrow that prompts the soft tale,
And fain would o'er flint-hearted beauty prevail;
Is it joy too abundant, which borrows relief
From its foe, and appears with the emblems of grief;
Is it distance, or presence, or favour, or scorn,
Or a smile killed by coldness, that dies when 'tis born,—
Which the minstrel describes in this eloquent strain;
Or does dark-brooding jealousy, fond of its chain,
Court Even's deep shadows to hear it complain?

As he spake, the bird ceased; when a dryad drew near
To the dream-haunted poet, and whispered his ear:
"Learn, drivelling mortal, the slave of a pen,
That nightingales are not such blockheads as men;
In love they ne'er whimper, or bluster, or whine,
And vent not their pains in such jargon as thine."

E. R.

THE CASE OF CAPTAIN McNAGHTEN.

THE gentleman whose name is prefixed to this article, who has recently arrived in England from India, chiefly with a view of defending his character from certain alleged slanders which have appeared against him in this country, has just published a pamphlet,* for the purpose of refuting the offensive statements in a contemporary periodical work, the vituperative misrepresentations in which, upon other subjects, we have been often called upon to expose. We not only feel that sympathy for Capt. McNaghten, which every man of sensibility must entertain towards a victim of calumny, and which would urge us to aid his endeavours to redeem his character from undeserved obloquy ; but we esteem it to be our special duty to open this journal to the exposure of misrepresentations on Indian topics, because the indifference of the public generally towards such topics renders it a matter of great difficulty for those who desire to correct misapprehension thereupon, to find an avenue to the public ear through the medium of the diurnal prints. The statements in the pamphlet now before us were transmitted from India for publication in a respectable London newspaper, the editor of which declined inserting them, assigning as one ground of his refusal, the indifference of the public, generally, towards the question.

Our readers will doubtless recollect that Capt. McNaghten, whilst editor of a Bengal newspaper, had the misfortune to become embroiled in a dispute with the editor of a rival paper. The consequences and final result of that dispute must also be familiar to our readers. It is not our office now to examine into this affair, or to censure or excuse the conduct of Capt. McNaghten. We refer to the subject, first, because one of the alleged misrepresentations in the *Oriental Herald* arose out of the occurrence ; and, secondly, because it suggests the consideration that, as this gentleman was a sufferer through the affair (having been deprived of a staff-appointment), he ought to experience the forbearance, rather than the hostility, of public writers.

Capt. McNaghten observes that, whilst in India, he was most grossly and groundlessly abused (in common with more important persons) in the *Oriental Herald*, and held up as all that was base and deliberately dishonourable, either by the editor himself, or by false communications from anonymous correspondents. At length, in one number of that work, the aspersions of his character became so indelicate, that he could bear it in patience and silence no longer ; and he returned home for the purpose of confuting and exposing the editor of the *Herald* on the spot, " and of exhibiting him to the public as a scandalous assailer of private reputations, and a malicious disseminator of the most calumnious falsehoods." He accordingly pledges himself to expose him " as a causeless slanderer, and a willing and malignant propagator of falsehoods, which he must have known to be false the instant he perused them."

These are strong terms ; but they are far from being the strongest in the pamphlet. Capt. McNaghten accuses the editor of the *Oriental Herald*, by name, of falsehood, indelicacy, and impudence ; of a vindictive and dastardly manner of hostility towards him ; of publishing allegations by mendacious correspondents, and " his equally mendacious self," whilst " in possession of proofs that his accusations are groundless, and under the conviction that time and distance conspired to render him safe from retaliation and exposure ;" and he pronounces

* Reply of Capt. McNaghten to the various Slanders of Mr. J. S. Buckingham, editor of the *Oriental Herald*.

pronounces one assertion, "in the most unqualified terms, a falsehood," &c. &c.

Without deciding whether these terms are or are not merited, we think Capt. McNaghten would have evinced better taste had he abstained from the use of them. When a writer has been guilty of a malignant misrepresentation, with the view of gratifying personal resentment, the public desire only the proof of the fact, and will spontaneously apply to the author of it the epithet which he deserves.

Capt. McNaghten states that he became personally acquainted with the editor of the *Oriental Herald* in 1819, and a "tolerable degree of intimacy" sprang up between them; and he quotes several proofs of the good opinion which the latter entertained of him. He then cites the various derogatory and insulting epithets heaped upon him by the same person, when in England, and assigns, as the only motive for the change, a censure which appeared in his paper (the *Bengal Hurkaru*) "of a most unjust and ungrateful attack," in the *Oriental Herald*, upon Lord Hastings, of whom he says the editor of that work has been "at one time the applauder, and at another the vilifier, just as it suited his party purposes."

Capt. McNaghten then refutes the charge of his being "an abject tool of the Local Government," and of "turning against Lord Hastings merely to please them." He challenges a single proof of his servility to government; and indeed we must say that we always regarded the *Hurkaru* as what is called, in popular phraseology, an opposition-paper. He observes:

Had Mr. Buckingham been possessed of the commonest liberality, he never would, and had I been within ten, instead of ten thousand, miles of him, he had never dared to have published the infamous communications he received from Calcutta; because, with regard to the former assertion, it is evident that the man must be quite devoid of every feeling of justice, who will publish such slanders as those against an absent person, while he is possessed of the means (in my case the *Hurkaru* files) of ascertaining their incorrectness; and though he might hastily publish praises of any one, without stopping to ascertain whether they might not have proceeded from a biased pen, yet when such strong and bitter attacks were received by him, as were all those which had me for their object, common humanity should have made him pause, if neither the dictates of justice, nor the voice of former friendship, had had the power of arresting him in the defamatory course which, with such maleficent haste, he pursued to ruin me.

Capt. McNaghten then recapitulates the particulars of the dispute to which we referred in the outset, wherein he demonstrates the grossly partial manner in which that affair was stated in the *Oriental Herald* (which, we observe, has called forth the condemnation of almost every journal in Calcutta), with the evident view of depreciating Capt. McNaghten; and he proceeds further to shew that, in the work referred to, matters unconnected with the dispute were raked up, in order still further to degrade him, which, he says, were "brought forward with diabolical malice, and proportionably distorted," by the editor of that work.

To refute another allegation of the editor, or his correspondents, which imputes to Capt. McNaghten a desire to supplant the editor of the *John Bull*, and that failing to do so, he pursued him with hostility, abuse, ridicule, and invective, to such a degree that that editor was obliged to order the *Hurkaru* not to be sent to his house, lest his wife's feelings should be lacerated;—he enters upon an explanation of the circumstances which caused the dispute between himself and the editor of the *John Bull*. He says the story about Mrs. Greenlaw is absolutely false, and he describes the whole account, as a compound

compound of falsehood, malice, and misrepresentation. He adds in a note: "When, upon the falsest representation ever made, he (the editor of the *Herald*) presumed to say that I wounded the feelings of Mrs. Greenlaw, and exulted in having done so, he ought to have borne in mind the infamous and indecent manner in which he himself spoke of the lady of Mr. Secretary Lushington, in a former number of his scandalous periodical."

Capt. McNaghten next proceeds to vindicate himself from the accusation of putting up with expressions unbecoming an officer, addressed to him in the capacity of editor of a newspaper; which he does by alleging that epithets applied to a person in his editorial capacity are not to be construed as applied to him in his private character. He proposes to corroborate this argument by adducing instances wherein the editor of the *Oriental Herald* was concerned, whilst editor of a newspaper at Calcutta; and he certainly has accumulated a sufficient number of instances in which that person, in his editorial capacity, was assailed by epithets which no *individual* could submit to bear, without incurring personal disgrace. Nay, he shews that in the disputes which prevailed between that editor and some of his contemporaries in India, his name was mentioned in connection with terms highly derogatory, but which Capt. McNaghten says that editor, so personally named, did not resent. We must admit, if such be the fact, that he was the last person who should advance the charge before-mentioned. He concludes thus:

The above are a very few of the personal insults offered to Mr. Buckingham, during his warfare with the *John Bull* newspaper. I do not say they were either true or merited, nor the reverse; that is nothing to the purpose; I only ask whether the man who submitted to such language has any right to taunt another with having overlooked the words "bravo," and "bully," applied in a strictly editorial sense (as subsequently affirmed by the editor of the *Scotsman*), and at most conveying nothing similar to charges of falsehood, low cunning, and servility, such as are contained in the above inserted extracts.

The writer of the pamphlet then compares his own conduct with that of the person who has assailed him: this is a part of his work which we must leave our readers to peruse in the original, as well as other passages, which the same motive induces us to abstain from copying.

In a postscript, Capt. McNaghten has published extracts from three Indian papers, respecting the alleged slanders in the *Oriental Herald*; which papers, he says, are "all of political principles similar to those of the *Herald*, and the editors are all gentlemen of the strictest integrity." They form a body of evidence in Capt. McNaghten's favour which must weigh considerably with the readers of his pamphlet.

It only remains for us to express our regret that any work connected with India should ever have found its interest to consist in propagating misrepresentations such as those which have appeared in the work referred to; a work which, Capt. McNaghten says, has scattered its venomous shafts, and "pierced the reputation of some of the worthiest men in India." It is true that he observes, in his preface, that its editor (whose censure, he says, is more desirable than his praise) is as fast falling in India as in England; yet it is extremely to be regretted that the work should *ever* have met with the least countenance, after its propensity to prey upon character was discovered to say nothing of its grievous offences upon another head.

THE GREAT BUDDHOO.

(Translated from the Dutch of Valentyn.)

THE Singhalese speak much of the Prophet Buddhoo, who appeared in the Island of Ceylon 622 years before Christ, and who introduced the Buddhist religion among them.

The sangetaris, or priests, say that this holy man came from the east, and that his footstep is as yet to be seen on the top of Adam's Hill, or Devinagerie-Gallé, where he gave them their laws engraved on tables of stone. It is said that he was twelve feet high, but if we consider the calculation of their time; no dependence can be placed on their story, and they often contradict each other.

Thus, they say that, prior to the coming of Buddhoo into the world, he lived in the fourth heaven, called Toésietlénqm Devilokenaye, where he reigned over a million of angels: seeing that the people then on earth were living without laws or religion, and that they would all be lost, he pitied them, resolved to save them, and therefore entered into the maternal womb of the Empress Mahamaye Devi; which event took place on the day of the full moon in July, 622 years before the birth of Christ. He was born in a most miraculous manner at mid-day, on a Tuesday (being the day of the full moon which happened in the month of May following), in the palace of the Emperor Soedoenoe Rajoero, at Kiemboluat Poerre, the capital of the kingdom of Madde Mandalum. The Emperor was delighted at the birth of this child, and ordered that he should be called Sidditire Coemarea, which means, "the prince who can do every thing he wishes." He performed many wonderful things before the age of sixteen: at that age he was married to the Princess Jasoedera, who was born at the same time and hour as Buddhoo was. She was the daughter of the King Andesah Rajoero, and the Queen Amoetanam Bisso, who were equal in rank with the parents of Buddhoo; he lived with his wife Jasoedera for thirteen years, and had a son who was called Rahoele Coemarea. After the birth of this son he left his wife, and retired into the woods, where he lived in great misery for six years. While he was in the woods, a throne of diamonds and other precious stones descended from heaven, in which he entered and returned from the woods, when he immediately became a Buddhoo. In this throne he was protected by the three following gods: Theacre Areme, Wishnu, and Mahaswere, with swords in their hands. The devils, on hearing of the birth and wonders of Buddhoo, feared that he would drive them away from the world and destroy them; and they consulted with their king, Wasse-Mantimande, how to dispute the laws and religion of Buddhoo, which the people were fast following. Thereupon they all appeared with arms, and fell upon Buddhoo in order to destroy him. But his strength and power were far superior; at his command all the grass of the earth, the branches and leaves of the trees turned into swords and other warlike instruments; and with great violence destroyed (or overcame) all the devils. After this victory over them, he entitled himself, for a week, "*Guntumā Buddhoo*," which means, "the conqueror of his enemies." The next week after the conquest there had been much rain, when the devils conspired again to disturb Buddhoo; and as they were approaching him, whilst seated under a large tree, a snake came forward and sheltered him with his head; the devils, on seeing this, were much terrified, and returned back quietly.

The third week after the first conquest, the devils appeared again, in the
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character of dancing girls, to endeavour by this means to captivate him; but he immediately destroyed them all.

The fourth week he caused great honours to be paid to the tree under which he was seated when the snake appeared and sheltered him.

The fifth week a throne of rubies descended from heaven, in which he entered to receive a message that was brought to him from heaven.

The sixth week he came out of this throne and proceeded towards the tree kirryupaloe; whilst seated under it, he perceived a great number of angels: thereupon he immediately began to worship and praise God.

The seventh week he retired to the city called Sewet Noere, where the Emperor Coesele Maha Rajoero had prepared a palace for him; this palace was called Jattewarrene, to erect and prepare which the emperor spent all his fortune: this palace was built that Buddhoo might live in it, and receive the visits of the emperors, kings, and princes that came to see him, and also to teach them his doctrine. He had five apostles; two of them were always standing at his right side, two on the left, while the fifth served him; besides these five apostles he had 500 writers, through whom he proclaimed his doctrines throughout that part of the world; those that did not receive and believe it he destroyed. He also distributed many good books for the guidance of the people. He was thus employed during forty-five years, till he arrived in the country of Coeserane Noever, where he lodged in the King's garden; a bed was prepared for him here, and on this bed he expired, in the month, the day, and the hour of his birth. Whilst his writers were lamenting his loss, his spirit appeared and addressed them in the following words: "Be by no means sorry, for the hour is come that I must leave this world; but burn my remains, and deposit my bones in a grave, and preserve by all means my doctrine." And he especially directed that they should preserve it, particularly at Ceylon, Siam, and Arracan, as the generation of the Emperor Soedoedeno Rajoero would reign in those places.

THE TAJE MAHAL.

MATCHLESS example of a builder's power !
 The ponderous masses on the Memphian sands,
 Stupendous, vast, that smite the gazer's eye
 With that mute wonder with which Nature stuns
 The soul that contemplates her mightiest works,—
 Seem the rude labours of a barbarous age,
 Compared with thee, thou brilliant gem of art !
 The fleecy whiteness of thy graceful spires,
 To which the chisel's nicest strokes have lent
 A beauty delicate, inimitable, far
 O'erpassing old, and mocking modern skill :
 Like clusters of the purest pearls they seem,
 Or hoary Lapland's frost-bespangled rocks,
 Or dew-drops glittering in the morning ray.
 Whilst cooling fountains shed their crystal stores,
 And roses waft their sweets,—all is a dream,
 A vision, a delusion.—Matchless work !

THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Taking a rather different view of the subject treated in an article which appears in your last number (vol. xxii. p. 629) than the writer of that article, I am induced to address you for the purpose of submitting my own opinions on the subject to the writer and to your readers in general.

In the article to which I refer, entitled "The Future Government of India," it is maintained that it would be dangerous to transfer the administration of affairs in our Indian possessions from the East-India Company to the Crown, chiefly, as I collect from the writer's arguments, through the exorbitant influence which the alteration would vest in the crown. The writer guards himself, however, against the suspicion of appearing to maintain that the Company should never be called upon to relinquish their political power, by admitting that there may come a time when this power may be withdrawn from them without danger; "when all the objections to the free intercourse between India and England will disappear; when the Hindus shall be entitled to the exercise of a freer scope in political affairs, short of participation in the legislative functions."

This concession is, I apprehend, incompatible with the tenor of the writer's argument; he is necessarily bound by it to maintain, that the political influence possessed by the Indian Government can never be transferred to the crown with safety. In other words, some body, the Company, or a board similar to that projected by Fox, must be interposed between the Government of India and his Majesty's ministers.

For my own part, I am so well prepared to coincide with those who applaud the manner in which the East-India Company have directed the political machine, that I should never desire to see any other body substituted for them, provided the writer's argument be well founded, that the Indian patronage (or such part of it as remains to the Company) could not be acquired by the ministers of England without detriment to the constitution. But I am not convinced of the justice of this argument; for I think that additional safeguards might be provided by the wisdom of our *yet uncorrupted* legislature, as would meet the prospective evil, and if not obviate, would at least very much limit, its injurious tendency. For example, the appointment of persons to all posts in India might be made by act of Parliament to depend upon the qualifications, well defined, of the parties, who might be required to undergo previous instructions, of a given length, in preparatory studies, according to the nature of their future employment, civil, judicial, ecclesiastical, military, or naval. I think even such a regulation as this would divest the evil (for such I admit it to be) of much of its threatening character; for no man of mere mercenary disposition, looking for place only as an object to yield him emolument, would be inclined to devote himself to study and application, which he might turn to account in his native land, without encountering the risk which he must incur in the distant and unwholesome climate of India. Those who consented to such previous toil would earn their appointment.

My unwillingness to believe that the existing mode of governing India is the only one which can be adopted with advantage and security to both countries, is rendered somewhat obstinate by the conviction that this mode is

productive of inconveniences, not in the least attributable to the present governing authority, but from the nature of the system and that alone. Confined and manacled as the Company are, in many respects, they cannot possess that free range which a governing power should possess in order to provide for the good of its subjects. Even the restrictions on the expenditure of money is an evil which the Company must often feel when they would confer some benefit upon the people under their sway. It is admitted on all hands that a body like the Company ought to be controlled by the crown in order to counteract oppression, and prevent the mischiefs arising from maladministration, which may proceed from incapacity as well as intention; but a controlling power established to prevent evil, does not necessarily also possess the ability to originate good.

In Mr. Auber's lately published work, it is observed as follows :

The distance of India, the nature of its governments, and the peculiarity of its inhabitants, appear to demand the vigilance and control of a distinct and separate body, responsible to the public for their conduct, directed and controlled by legislative provisions, and subject on all political matters to the superintendence of the constitutional executive power of the country.

The existing system has been significantly called "a system of checks." It is certain that to none of the affairs of the country has more publicity been given than to those relating to the East-India Company, and to the measures connected with the government of the extensive empire committed to their charge.

An objection to the Court of Directors being entrusted with the administration of India has been urged, on the ground of their being directors of a commercial company. Had not the affairs of India been confided to a body constituted as the East-India Company is, possessing the joint character of sovereign and merchants, the British possessions in that quarter of the globe might have long ceased to occasion discussion as to the best mode of administering them; as nothing short of the funds drawn from the commercial branch of their affairs could have enabled the Court of Directors to meet demands consequent upon political measures which have been deemed essential to the preservation of our interests in India.

All this is very well; I agree cordially with Mr. Auber in the latter part of this quotation: but although the peculiar state and circumstances of British India have been hitherto such as it would have been folly to adapt by violence to any other system, so far as regards the security of our possession of it; my doubt is this, namely, whether the anomalous administration of the East-India Company, nominally supreme, but really subject to the control, as to its acts, of the sovereign authority at home, will not be, *in future*, disadvantageous to the country governed. I can readily imagine a multitude of instances in which the present Indian Government would be incapacitated from effecting great changes for the benefit of their subjects, and would rest contented with working the machine of government as it exists, from want of those large powers which can be exclusively exerted by a royal hand. I doubt whether the present form of government, whilst it may be without the vices and defects of another form, be not at the same time divested of the ability to effect good, which would afford a sort of counterpoise to its inseparable concomitants of evil.

Let me repeat that it is upon the nature of the system alone I found my hypothetical doubts of the policy of continuing the present mode of governing India. I should be otherwise one of the most strenuous advocates for its continuance, and would be prepared to say, *esto perpetua!*

My

My scruples as to the propriety of withdrawing the political functions altogether from the Company, are derived from a consideration which the writer in your journal did not think fit to touch upon; to wit, the injustice of the act. To say nothing of the prejudice which the Company's commercial concerns might sustain from the loss of the sovereign character, it would be a loss which no pecuniary or other indemnity could compensate. Sovereignty is a species of property which can be bartered for no equivalent. Its mere abstract name, the very shadow of royalty, has in it such divinity, that millions would offer to become purchasers of the unsubstantial object, were there any mart in which it could be acquired.

The point of question, whether the Company would remain lords of India after the cessation of the exclusive privileges granted by the Legislature, is a very complicated and difficult one. There can be no doubt that for the first century and a half of the existence of this corporation, their sovereign title to the territorial acquisitions they had made in India was undisputed. It was not until the year 1772, when the Company resolved to "stand forth as Dewan" of the Bengal provinces (an office conferred upon them in perpetuity by a firman from Delhi seven years before), and to employ their own servants in collecting the revenues, that a dispute arose at home respecting their territorial rights; and from that period the statutes passed for continuing to the Company their exclusive commercial privileges, have contained a clause reserving the rights of the Crown, without prejudice to those of the Company. If this clause be necessary to save the royal rights, it follows that the maxim put forth at the period referred to, in opposition to the Company's pretensions to sovereignty, cannot be a fundamental principle of the constitution, namely, that all conquests made by subjects necessarily belong to the Crown; and then it follows that the ancient possessions of the Company, at least, are their's in indefeasible sovereignty. That the omnipotence of Parliament can demolish their pretensions is indisputable; but this is no proof that they are not well-founded.

Perhaps a middle course may be discovered, whereby the ends of all may be secured. The Crown may be admitted to a more direct authority in the government of India than is now possessed, by which means all the advantages in the sole power of the supreme authority to afford may be conferred upon the natives of India; and the Company may, at the same time, retain their character of sovereign, and consequently much of their present political influence, the loss of which the writer in your last journal conceives perhaps with some justice) would be the prelude to a change in our representative system.

I am, Sir, &c.

December 8th.

A. B.

. In the article to which our correspondent refers several inaccuracies occur (owing to the MS. not having been revised by the writer), which we are desirous to correct; viz. p. 629, line 4, for "possessions" read "empire;" p. 632, line 29, after "consistent" read "even;" p. 635, line 37, instead of "an oppressive and despotic system of government" read "any modification of despotism."

THE PROGRESS OF INQUIRY INTO THE LEARNING OF INDIA.*

THE *nyāya*, or logic, of the Hindus, has been hitherto but little investigated; we have the translation of one elementary work, the *Sūtras* of Gautama, in the second edition of Ward's account of the Hindus; and the elements of the science have been very recently set forth in English by the Director of the Royal Asiatic Society; but we are still merely upon the threshold of the investigation; and the objects of long and laborious study amongst the Hindus themselves, are considerably removed from the simple elements: we can easily conceive that the knowledge is not worth the acquisition, but the history of Hindu literature is incomplete whilst the subject is imperfectly explored, and we cannot institute that comparison between it and the philosophy of ancient and modern Europe, which is requisite for an entire view of the progress of human intellect.

Of the *mīmāṃsā*s there are two systems: it is usually said that one is applied to the explanation of the practical, and the other to the theoretical part of the Vedas; the former advocating the importance of ceremonial rites, and the latter discussing the great questions of matter and spirit, and the nature of God and man; the latter is better known by the name *védānta*; with the real character of the former, or *pūrva mīmāṃsā*s, we do not pretend to be acquainted: no account whatever of the system is to be found except in Ward's work, where a translation is given of the chief doctrines as found in the *Dherma Dipaka*, and other elementary treatises. With the *védānta* the public should be more familiar, as, besides the scattered notices to be found in the *Researches*, and in the works of various intelligent travellers, different sources of information have been laid before it. The work of Ward contains a list of eighty-eight books on the subject, and a translation of one of its principal elementary treatises, the *Védānta Sāra*: the *Prabodha Chāndrodaya*, a metaphysical drama, translated and published by the late Dr. Taylor, advocates its tenets, and they are further illustrated by a tract published along with the drama, the *Atmā Bodha*, or Knowledge of Spirit. The principal tracts published by Rammohun Roy within the last ten or twelve years, have also furnished ample illustration of this philosophy. The metaphysical part of the *Bhagavat Gita*, translated by Wilkins, in 1785, belongs to the *védānta* system; and in 1801 two thick quartos, entitled *Theologia Indica*, containing a Latin translation, by Anquetil du Perron, of Dara Shekoh's Persian version of the Upanishads of the Vedas, the basis of the Vedānta philosophy, was given to the learned world. The senator (now Count) Lanjuinais gave a popular form to the doctrine of the Upanishads, by publishing a summary in French about 1804. Is it credible that, in the teeth of this accumulated evidence, Mr. Mill denies the existence of the Vedānta philosophy as a *written system*? "The Vedānta doctrine," he observes, "which has caught the fancy of some of the admirers of Sanscrit, appears to be delivered *vivā voce*, and not in any other mode: no passage from any Sanscrit work has been quoted for it." What can we think after this of this historian's honesty or research? His ignorance of the existence of Sanscrit works treating of the Vedānta doctrine is inexcusable, if real; and if pretended, it is worse.

The last of the *upāṅgas* is law, and this, after grammar, is the branch of Hindu literature that has been most successfully cultivated. The laudable desire of the British Government to discharge its duties to its Hindu subjects has

* We extract this very able article from the *Quarterly Oriental Magazine* of Calcutta.

has ever disposed it to countenance the publication of legal authorities, both in the original text and translations; and the certainty of encouragement, the chance of distinction, and the prospect of pecuniary gain, have stimulated the industry of publishers and translators. In the original Sanscrit we have the *Menu Sanhitá*, the *Mitákshará*, the Vyavahára section of the *Víramitrodaya*, the *Dayabhága* of Jimútaváhana, the works of Nanda Pundita and Devanda Bhatta on Adoption, and that of Crishna Terkalankára on the order of inheritance. The list, however, of useful works is still very far from complete. We want the original text of the eighteen inspired legislators which are perpetually quoted in the more modern works, and which we have no means of verifying; we want, also, the *Parásara Mádhaviya*, the comment of Mádhava, the ablest scholar of modern times, on the text of the sage Parásara; we want, likewise, the *Smriti Chandriká*, and the *Saraswati Vilás*, one or two of the *Meyúkhas*, the *Viváda Chintáméni* for Mithila, and the text of the Digest, and two or three of Raghunandan's Tatwas for Bengal. These works are essential to complete a printed series, the only form in which authorities can be appealed to with satisfaction, of the body of Hindu law, applicable to the greater part, if not the whole of India.

In the shape of translation, we have the *Institutes of Menu*, by Sir Wm. Jones; the *Digest* of Jagannát'ha, by Mr. Colebrooke; and the *Dayabhága* of Jimútaváhana, and the section of the *Mitákshará*, on Inheritance, by the same; the work on Adoption, by Mr. Sutherland, and the *Dayakrama*, by Mr. Wynch: we have also an original work on Hindu law, as current in Bengal, by Sir F. Macnaghten. There still remains, however, much to be effected; humbler talent would be usefully employed in translating the whole of the Vyavahára portion of the *Mitákshará*, the *Parásara Mádhaviya*, and the *Smriti Chandriká*. But there is a splendid task for loftier pretensions; and he would deserve well of British India who, possessing a competent knowledge of general law, and having derived from the authorities we have named above familiarity with the principles of the Hindu law, as maintained in different provinces, as well as being conversant with the practice of the courts, should take a comprehensive view of the whole, in spirit, as well as in letter, and if not able to mould it into perfect consistency, should determine precisely in what it differs from itself, or from other systems. It is much to be regretted that the late Mr. Ellis did not live to effect some undertaking of this nature, to which the lectures he read before the Madras Society seem to have borne a tendency: we are quite satisfied that he would have succeeded.

Those systems of metaphysics which impugn the authority of the Vedas are excluded from the branches of true knowledge by the guide here followed by Sir Wm. Jones. The motive for their exclusion is obvious enough; but as far as the Sánkhya and Pátanjali schools are concerned, their interdiction is not universally recognized, and they are most usually classed with the orthodox systems. Except the view of the principles taken by Mr. Colebrooke, and the translation of the *Sánkhya Sára*, in Ward's account of the Hindus, we are without any knowledge of their tendency and character. Of the six schools considered heterodox as belonging to the followers of Budha, we are yet utterly ignorant.

The view of Hindu learning taken by the tract translated by Sir Wm. Jones, is confined to that which is considered sacred, and excludes all that literature which is most estimable in general opinion—the literature of poetry, and fiction, and profane history. Of these we yet know but little. The sacred poems, the *Rámáyana* and *Mahábhárat*, are not to be received as favourable specimens of Hindu fancy: imagination in them is subservient to superstition; they

they profess to record the actions of saints and gods, and necessarily lose, in marvellous and supernatural regard for the tamer probabilities of human life. But reject the legends, and they will be found to contain much beautiful imagery, animated description, and tender and natural feeling: in fact, neither of these works is yet well known, and nothing can be more unjust than the pictures which have been given of them; amongst other blemishes they have been charged with "metaphors perpetual, and these the most violent and strained, often the most unnatural and ridiculous;" than which nothing can be less true. It is not the genius of Sanscrit composition to delight in metaphor, and in this respect it furnishes a striking contrast to Arabic and Persian poetry. Modern writers may be sometimes charged with this vice, as they were taught to consider it a beauty by their Mohammedan masters; but the farther we go back into antiquity the simpler the style becomes. We know nothing in the literature of ancient or modern Europe which can be compared to the *Rámáyana* for the absence of metaphorical ornament, or for the naked simplicity of its style. We are not sure whether the rash conceit of modern criticism be not more fatal to truth than the credulity of ignorance.

The poetical compositions of the Hindus, which do not bear a sacred character, are yet scarcely known to English literature. Notices of the most celebrated poems, and some interesting passages from them, are given by Mr. Colebrooke in his Essay on Sanscrit and Prakrit prosody, in the tenth volume of the *Researches*; but it was no part of his plan to take any detailed view of their merits, and we have but two entire translations to which we can appeal. These are the *Songs of Jaya Deva*, by Sir Wm. Jones, and the *Cloud Messenger*, by Mr. Wilson; the former exhibits great delicacy and tenderness of passion; the latter displays the same qualities combined with picturesque description; there is no abuse of metaphor nor turgidity of expression in either; they both suffer much by translation in point of style; the *Songs of Jaya Deva* are written in every variety of the lighter kinds of verse, and are inconceivably soft and melodious; the style of the *Cloud Messenger* is more uniform and stately, but is equally musical and polished.

Of the rhetoric of the Hindus we yet know absolutely nothing; and the specimens of their drama have been calculated to excite rather than to gratify curiosity. Even Mill, with all his prejudices against the Hindus, admits *Sacontála* to have many beautiful passages, and can contrive to say nothing more harsh of it than that in whatever constitutes its beauty it is rivalled by the song of Solomon. We do not admit the justice of the comparison, though backed by Voltaire's irreverent critique of the latter poem, but we do not think it detracts from the worth of *Sacontála*. *Sacontála*, however, is a mythological drama, founded on a marvellous and legendary tale: the story is therefore to be judged with an allowance for Hindu belief, which the uninitiated reader is not prepared to make, and in his eyes, therefore, the incidents detract from the dramatic truth of the composition. The Hindu theatre, however, is not confined to mythology for the plots of its pieces; and although there is that bias towards them, which the close connexion of the national creed and manners might lead us to expect, yet the dramas not unfrequently diverge from this association, and borrow their action from mere mortal life. *Sacontála*, consequently, does not enable us to pronounce an opinion upon the dramatic writings of the Hindus, and we must await that further development of them which we have been for some time led to expect. We understand that the secretary to the Asiatic Society has begun to submit his translations of select Hindu plays to the press.

We may take some credit to ourselves for having been the first to draw attention to the fictions of the Hindus, and prove how mistaken was the notion which restricted them to the apologues of the *Hitopadesa*. There is no language in which they more abound than in Sanscrit, and few in which they possess more merit. It is, however, to the history of fiction that they will most usefully contribute, and they will go farther than any collections yet known, to solve the problem which engaged the interest and research of Percy and Warton, and other writers, as eminent for learning as taste. We observe that the subject has found a place in a popular magazine at home,* and that not only our stories, but our approximations, have been cited to shew that *nullum est jam dictum, quod non dictum sit prius*.

Mr. Mill states: "It is acknowledged on all hands that no historical composition whatever appears to have existed in the literature of the Hindus." This position, it may be observed, is of great importance to his theory, as he draws from it the inference "that they had not reached that point of intellectual maturity at which the record of the past, for the guidance of the future, begins to be understood." Unfortunately for his conclusion, his postulate is not true. This acknowledgment he cites as being made on all hands, is not so made, and he is obliged to qualify the *text* by a *note*, admitting that Sir William Jones had observed it was much to be regretted that no Hindu nation but the *Cashmirians* had left regular histories. To this Mr. Mill replies; "what he meant by excepting the *Cashmirians* we know not; no history of them has ever been seen." By whom, we may ask? By a Dr. Tennant, who states that, although "we have had recourse to the Sanscrit records at Benares for several years, no history of the country has been found which is the composition of a native." If, instead of wasting his time with Dr. Tennant, Mr. Mill had looked into the ninth volume of the *Asiatic Researches*, he would have found that the History of Cashmir *had been seen*; that it was in Mr. Colebrooke's possession; that extracts from it were cited by that gentleman, and that he had announced an intention of giving a detailed account of the work. Again, in the tenth volume, he would have found that it was cited by Colonel Wilford, with whose dissertations he professes to be familiar. So much for the extent and accuracy of Mr. Mill's researches. But, not only did the *Cashmirians* possess a series of historical writings in Sanscrit, but they are far from unfrequent in other parts of India. In the Dekhin, local histories or *cheritras* are very common; in the province of Orissa such records exist, and are cited by Mr. Stirling in the volume of the *Researches* just published, who remarks that "Mr. Mill's observation on Hindu history does not hold good with regard to Orissa, for the Hindus of this province do possess accounts which carry an appearance of truth, and which they themselves believe of their more modern kings and their actions. It is true these records are not of ancient date; but they are still applicable as proofs of Mr. Mill's utter unacquaintance with the subject, for he is not satisfied with denying the existence of historical records prior to the Mohammedan invasion; but adds, "it is perhaps still more remarkable, that since that period no historical work has been produced by a Hindu:" to this the works cited by Mr. Stirling are an unanswerable reply; besides which, we have now before us an *Akbar Nama*, or history of the reign of that prince, in very classical Sanscrit. It is also well known that many Hindus about the courts of Mohammedan princes cultivated composition in Persian; and we have likewise in our possession a *Tarikh i Hind*, and a *Tarikh i Cashmir*, both by Hindu authors; whilst the

Leb

* See *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xxi., p. 189.

Leb al Tawarikh, a general and voluminous history of India, is the work of Bindraban, the son of Raja Bhara Mal, names undeniably Hindu. In this respect, therefore, as well as in regard to ancient histories, Mr. Mill has displayed a want of accuracy equalled only by his want of mistrust in himself, and by the imperfect diligence with which he had discharged the duties of a critical historian.

We have dwelt, perhaps, longer on this subject than may be thought necessary, but we have been happy to avail ourselves of the opportunity to offer some view of what has been really done in Sanscrit literature. An opinion generally prevails that we have penetrated into its inmost recesses, and are in possession of all that is valuable. With respect to what is valuable or worthless, opinions will differ; those who have studied the subject will not be inclined to under-rate their acquirements; and those who have not, will be disposed to condemn attainments they have not acquired. The truth will be probably, as usual, in the mean; nothing is valueless that contributes to illustrate the history of our species, although the absolute accession to actual knowledge may be less than partial anticipation expected. We are not, however, discussing the quality of Hindu literature, but our competence to value it; and here, we do not hesitate to say, that we are not yet qualified to appreciate it with justice. In fact very little has yet been done towards supplying materials for an estimate: individuals have done much, but how few are the labourers! Jones, Wilkins, and Colebrooke, are the only extensive contributors to Hindu literature, in whom we can confidently confide. Wilford, with great learning and equal industry, was always in pursuit of a phantasm, and for a time was shamefully misled. Ward had accumulated great, and, upon the whole, very correct information; but his notions are not rarely narrowed by his religious impressions, and his knowledge of India is very much restricted to Bengal only. There are other labourers of considerable estimation, but who prosecuted their Hindu studies only in specific directions; as Davis and Bentley in astronomy, Carey and Yates in grammar, and the translators of the works on law named above: others again seem to have shrunk from publication, and Hamilton, and Ellia, and Fell, have carried with them to the grave attainments of the highest class. The active cultivators of Hindu literature at present in the field are few indeed; we are afraid we could not point out above a solitary instance in India, and Mr. Colebrooke seems to stand alone in England: we have therefore scarcely more than a dozen names, in a literature of which Sir Wm. Jones observes, "wherever we direct our attention to it, the notion of infinity presents itself:" we have indeed but broke up the surface, followed a few straggling veins, and there is ample work before us to penetrate to the centre of the mine. Hitherto, however, what has been done has been done by Englishmen; for Paolino was a very superficial Sanscrit scholar, and Du Perron still less profound: in future they must expect competitors. The pages of the *Journal Asiatique* indicate a number of worthy rivals; and Schlegel, in his proposed translation of the whole of the *Rāmāyana*, takes a bold and fearful flight. Our own translators flagged in the second book; it is perhaps now too late for them to redeem their credit, and they must yield the palm to German perseverance. If, however, there be any feeling of national pride amongst us, it is to be most fervently hoped that neither the encouragement of Government, nor the energies of individuals, will be wanting to maintain that place in the cultivation of Sanscrit literature which Great Britain has assumed, and which, it is to be hoped, she will always continue to preserve, in every liberal aim of intellectual ambition.

[To be concluded next month.]

MESSRS. SAY AND SISMONDI.

AMONGST the modern writers who have attacked the existing system of government established in British India are two French economists, M. J. B. Say and M. I. C. L. S. de Sismondi. These gentlemen have published essays upon India, in a periodical work of Paris not remarkable for its accuracy on English topics, wherein they have committed the most egregious errors, partly occasioned by an unfortunate selection of authorities for the supply of *data*, and partly by precipitate reasoning upon principles, which more mature reflection and better information would have taught them to be inapplicable to the subject.

M. Say we believe to have been altogether misled, except in one remarkable particular (where he *adds* an assumed sum of twenty-five millions to the Indian debt, instead of *deducting* it, for the purpose of showing the *real* condition of our finances in India); but M. Sismondi's mistakes proceed, in our opinion, from an eager appetite for notoriety, which prompts him to write upon almost every subject, without deeming it necessary to waste much time in study and reflection: hence he is superficial, confident, and liable to become the easy victim of any misstatement which flatters his prejudices. Besides his dissertations upon Indian affairs, which amply confirm our remarks, he has, since his visit to this country, published treatises upon other subjects—for example, the corn question and the commercial distress of England—which discover very erroneous and hasty views, as well as a confident tone of argument, which is too often the concomitant of superficial knowledge.

His hypotheses on the last-mentioned subject, the commercial crisis of England, have called forth the strictures of M. Say himself, in an article which has appeared in a French periodical work. It is useful for those who, in this country, place reliance upon the theories of these writers, to find that they disagree, *toto cælo*, with each other; and that the principles which they respectively lay down as immutably applicable to the science of political economy are so totally contradictory, that no confidence can safely be placed in those of either: at any rate, both cannot be right, and both may possibly be wrong.

The following is a translation of M. Say's remarks; the subject is one which cannot fail to be interesting to every English reader:

"M. de Sismondi has announced a new edition of his 'New Principles of Political Economy,' in which he attacks more violently than ever 'the learned of the present day who profess in so brilliant a manner the economical sciences.' We wait the appearance of the work to pass a judgment upon it; and we shall congratulate ourselves if M. de Sismondi shall be found to have multiplied therein those observations, pregnant with sense and refinement, which he scattered so plentifully throughout his first edition. But in the mean time we may be allowed to offer some remarks upon the pretended *new* principles promised in his article. Such discussions as these cannot be indifferent to the public, for they concern its interests.

"M. de Sismondi has visited England. He was struck with the commercial distress of that country. Its artizans 'perish by famine;' the Irish support themselves 'only upon potatoes;' their clothing is 'merely rags:' and M. de Sismondi lays all this to the account of the system which cries up production. Let us understand each other: M. de Sismondi surely possesses more sense than to pretend, that the more we augment provisions the less we have to eat; that the more raiment we make the less clothes we have; or that it is more

difficult to purchase these articles, when, by the progress of industry, we have succeeded in fixing them at a lower price. But he thinks that more is produced than can be consumed; and that those who wish to become consumers do not gain sufficient for that purpose. I have honestly endeavoured to reduce his complaints to their simplest expression. Let us now examine how far they are well founded, and whether the modern system of political economy ought to be answerable for them.

"There is an excess of production in England, says M. de Sismondi; but has he formed a sufficiently clear idea of what is understood by the term production? If it means the making of more hats than there are heads, his argument would have some force: but a man who writes upon political economy cannot be ignorant that production is only that which reimburses advances made. The manufacturer who expends to the value of twenty-five shillings in order to create a value of twenty shillings, does not produce—he destroys. True production yields value; an article cannot possess value unless it be in demand by a consumer; and the latter would not bear the expense of it unless he wished to consume it. True production, therefore, is followed by consumption. "Well, well, M. de Sismondi will say, if there have not been too many productions, too much merchandize has been fabricated; and 'it is your theories which have encouraged the producers to occasion this glut, the existing cause of the distress in the civilized world.'

"M. de Sismondi does us (the modern political economists) too much honour. Not a single speculator in England ever concerned himself about our labours when he projected a company, or extended his commercial transactions. All have been equally actuated by a desire to get money; and if they had consulted our work, they would have there seen that the only true industry is that, the produce of which is worth the expense which it has occasioned; moreover, that it is impossible to have too much of such industry, whatever M. de Sismondi may say upon the subject, since the undertaker derives thence a profit, and the labourers their wages. So far from our theories having been the cause of the glut referred to, it is owing to their not being adopted that the glut has taken place, and that the artisans have been plunged into misery. Why then take part against political economy? But a few years ago, there was a comedian at Paris who wished to place the end of his cane upon the safety-valve of a steam-machine. A philosopher said to him, 'you will occasion the vessel to explode.' The actor paid no regard to this caution; and he was killed. Was philosophy to blame for this?

"I am inclined to think that M. de Sismondi labours under much misapprehension with regard to the end of political economy. He wishes that it should control the very nature of things; but things will not submit to our government; all our ambition, it appears to me, ought to be confined to the well observing and well understanding them, and to classing them well, if we are able to do so. Herein the true science consists. It gives no other advice, than showing mankind the good or evil consequences of what they do: and what more solid counsel can be given them? At the period we have now reached, it can no longer be said that 'the increase of wealth adjusts itself to the increase of the population;' 'that the distribution of wealth is made in a certain ratio, and that consumption increases with population.'* The distribution of wealth, as well as consumption and population, proceeds in spite of us and our books. It would sometimes be very desirable that the wealth produced should distribute

* Some of the luminous maxims of M. de Sismondi.

bute itself otherwise than it does; but our wishes are not consulted. It is the antecedent actions of mankind which produce certain fruits, and not our wishes or our exhortations.

"Far from weakening the natural laws of political economy discovered by good writers, the late commercial crisis has amply confirmed them. It is explained upon the principles of Ricardo on money; the only part, probably, of the science upon which he has imparted to us any new and important truths. The spirit of speculation was excited in an extravagant manner by the banks which, throughout England, enjoyed the privilege of issuing notes payable to the bearer. Every man who wished to project a scheme, or who, dreaming of a fortune, wished to embark in a project already formed, had only to manufacture bills of exchange, which one or other of the numerous banks in England would discount. These banks gave in return (after deducting the discount) their own notes, payable to the bearer, which circulated like money. Hence projects could be undertaken without capital; and the bankers themselves could make advances to schemers without possessing any more capital than they. What was the consequence? The abundance of the instrument of circulation (money and bank-notes) caused its value to decline in relation to bullion; and from the instant that a piece of gold was no longer worth so much as the same weight of bullion, holders flocked to the bankers to change notes into gold coin, and the gold coin into bullion. As fast as the Bank caused sovereigns to be coined, they were melted down. I saw myself, at the Bank of England, cases filled with ingots of gold which had been imported at great loss, and which were of little service for the relief of commerce, and for the prevention of the crisis. The Government, at its own expense, converted these ingots into coin, which was melted down as soon as issued.

"The sequel of all this necessarily was, that the bankers, obliged to pay their notes, and being unable to re-issue them, were incapacitated from discounting fresh bills, which the projectors offered them, in order to raise the necessary funds to redeem those already discounted. The latter, forced to meet their engagements, and possessing no real capital, found themselves insolvent, after having converted every thing into money, and selling at a reduced price whatever merchantable commodities they had.*

"All the schemes which had been commenced were now at a stand; goods were sold far below prime cost; the manufacturers who had carried on business in the most prudent manner, were disabled from continuing their concerns; hence the mass of starving artisans; hence the proposal made by Government to reduce the duty upon the importation of corn; hence the complaints of the large landed proprietors, who cannot sustain the competition of foreign corn by reason of the taxes by which they are themselves pressed down.

"I may now be allowed to ask M. de Sismondi whether there be any thing in all this which weakens the principles established by good writers. Is it not obvious, on the contrary, that these principles, which are but the simple exposition of the nature of things, will suggest useful precautions against the recurrence of the same misfortunes? Is he justified in saying to us, 'Behold the result of your theories, in the very place where they have been put into practice?' Is there any necessity, as he pretends, 'to seek some new explanations of phenomena, so strange to the laws which we fancied we had established?'

* "Some merchants, in order to avoid, or rather retard their ruin, even purchased goods upon credit, and sold them at half-price for ready money."

blished?" Doubtless there are few subjects upon which people have wandered so much as political economy; every one thinks he can write upon this topic without having fully studied it: one writer was about to publish a pamphlet recently, in which this commercial crisis was attributed to the Congress of Panama, which assembled a year afterwards:—

*Chacun à ce métier,
Peut perdre impunément de l'encre et du papier.*

"The picture drawn by M. de Sismondi of the situation of England, that rich country, in which the great majority of the natives are exposed to the severest privations, is full of truth. The deplorable prejudices of the English relative to entails, and the law of primogeniture, are, in part, the cause of this evil; but we may reproach the good-natured writer whom I am obliged to combat, with being completely mistaken regarding many other causes equally powerful; with intermeddling with the questions respecting capital and income, without having perhaps sufficiently studied the functions of the one and the source of the other. He pretends that, embarrassed in deciding 'what is capital and what is income, we have found it easier to retrench the latter altogether in our calculations.' May I not justly reproach him with having forgotten, that in my *Traité d'Economie Politique*, I have devoted a quarter of a volume to the definition of the functions of capital, and a quarter of another volume to trace the source of our incomes, as well as the causes which augment or diminish them? When he shall have demonstrated that I am deceived upon all these points, and that such things happen not in the manner I have described, I shall then receive with gratitude the new truths which he shall substitute for my errors."

It is obvious that, when two writers upon a given subject, with views and principles so diametrically opposed, arrive at the same conclusion (as these two writers have done regarding India), there is reason to suspect some fallacy in their arguments.

E D U C A T I O N O F C A D E T S .

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: In your last volume, p. 508, an intelligent correspondent is impressed with the indispensable necessity of giving a certain degree of military education to cadets of infantry and cavalry. He appears sensible that, independent of the fairness and justice of so desirable a measure, in reference to three branches of the service receiving the benefits of early culture, the prosperity and welfare of India must depend materially on imparting useful knowledge to those who at future periods will command armies in India. The pressure on the revenue, occasioned by the late war, has unavoidably prevented the Court of Directors from carrying into execution a plan that experiences general approbation, as certainly second in importance to no other public proceeding. Your correspondent recommends that these cadets should be educated at Sandhurst, if parents or relatives will bear the expense. This few would do; and giving rank to the fortunate few who might be educated there, would give rise to jealousies, and disadvantageous consequences in future life, without adequate benefit to the service in India. The education given at Marlow, formerly, was not found to be precisely that best calculated for India; and under this impression, and from the suggestions of experienced officers, joined

to

to my own observations in all parts of India, I sketched in former letters the description of military and scientific instruction absolutely necessary. It consists with the dignity of the East-India Company to have an establishment of their own for the essential purpose in view, and that ought to be near to, but distinct from, Addiscombe, in order that the cadets of infantry, cavalry, artillery, and engineers, might occasionally meet on one field of exercise with great benefit to general progress. At other times, the four lines would carry on their studies without intermixing. It is thought that two years and a half, from the age of fourteen to sixteen and a half, would suffice for acquiring all that has been stated requisite: the cadet might then be permitted to remain six months at home, to see a little of men and manners, and of his native country. This practical intercourse would be useful, and exclude a remark sometimes made:—*Bæotum in crasso jurares ære natum*. I have known, Sir, many excellent men in India, who have feelingly lamented the want of a due degree of *early* education: they attempted study at too late a period, when no stable superstructure could be formed in the mind for want of foundation to sustain it. Such characters were numerous; and when they attained to command, no detriment arose where they had the good sense to be guided by able men on their staff. In early life, we resist the intrusion of thought that a more advanced age will force into the human mind. Waller has, faintly, but beautifully, expressed this reflection on defects rendered *more impressive by time*:

The soul's dark cottage, battered and decayed,
Lets in new light through chinks that time has made.

Let but the poor cadet receive the quantum of professional education imperiously demanded even by the public interest, and he will be spared the physical and moral pain of otherwise unavoidable reflection, independent of concomitant injury arising to the service. It is to be recollected, that the education alluded to will not cost to the parents more than they now lay out in giving more imperfect provincial instruction; and every year *lost* in delaying what is prevalent in the King's service, cannot but be highly detrimental to the best interests of the East-India Company.

Your's, &c.

Summerlands, Exeter,
December 4th, 1826.

JOHN MACDONALD.

P. S. At page 660 of your last volume, end of the first paragraph, *east* [no doubt a mistake of mine] should have been printed *west*. Philosophers, in their closets, place magnetic poles where navigators find none. Halley puts a pole in Baffin's Bay, and another near Spitsbergen. Euler situates one near to where Captain Parry wintered in 1819. Churchman places a magnetic pole on the west coast of America. Krufft situates one on the east coast of Greenland. Lately, Professor Hansteen puts down a couple of poles to the west of the real one discovered by Captain Parry. If five of these mere creatures of imagination existed, the west variation could not be even one-half of what is found. These facts occasioned the conclusion drawn at the end of the paragraph where *east* should have been *west*.

CONSUMPTION OF OPIUM IN CHINA.

THE following curious particulars respecting the trade and consumption of opium in China are given in the *Singapore Chronicle* of June 8.

STATEMENT RELATIVE TO THE CONSUMPTION OF OPIUM IN CHINA.

Season 1821-22.

The quantity of Patna and Benares opium sold this season was 2,910 chests, at an average of Drs. 2,075 per chest, the highest sale being made at Drs. 2,500, and the lowest at Drs. 1,650 per chest..... Drs. 6,038,250

The quantity of Malwa opium sold was 1,718 chests, at an average of Drs. 1,325 per chest; the highest price being Drs. 1,600, and the lowest at Drs. 1,050 a chest..... 2,276,350

Amount of sales for the season Drs. 8,314,600

Season 1822-23.

The quantity of Patna and Benares opium sold this season was 1,822 chests, at an average of Drs. 2,315 per chest; the highest sales being made at Drs. 2,550, the lowest at Drs. 2,080 per chest 2,828,930

The quantity of Malwa opium sold was 4,000 chests, at an average of Drs. 1,290 per chest; the highest sales being at Drs. 1,500, and the lowest at Drs. 1,080 per chest Drs. 5,160,000

Amount of sales for the season Drs. 7,988,930

Season 1823-24.

The quantity of Patna and Benares opium sold this season was 2,910 chests, at an average of Drs. 1,600 per chest; the highest sales being at Drs. 2,100, and the lowest at Drs. 1,100 per chest 4,656,000

The quantity of Malwa opium sold was 4,172 chests, at an average of Drs. 925 per chest, the highest sales being at Drs. 1,050, and the lowest at Drs. 800 per chest 3,859,100

Amount of sales for the season Drs. 8,515,100

Season 1824-25.

The quantity of Patna and Benares opium sold this season was 2,655 chests, at an average of Drs. 1,175 per chest; the highest sales being at Drs. 1,450, and the lowest at Drs. 900 per chest 3,119,625

The quantity of Malwa opium sold was 6,000 chests, at an average of Drs. 750 per chest; the highest sales being at Drs. 950, and the lowest at Drs. 550 per chest..... 4,500,000

Amount of sales for the season Drs. 7,619,625

Season 1825-26.

The quantity of Patna and Benares opium sold this season was 3,442 chests, at an average of Drs. 975 per chest; the highest sales being at Drs. 1,150, and the lowest at Drs. 800 per chest 3,355,950

The quantity of Malwa opium sold was 6,276 chests, at an average of Drs. 705 per chest; the highest sales being Drs. 850, and the lowest at Drs. 560 per chest..... 4,403,430

Amount of sales for the season Drs. 7,759,380

RECAPITULA-

RECAPITULATION.

	Consumption of Patna and Benares Opium.	Value of Patna and Benares, In Sp. Dollars.	Consumption of Malwa Opium.	Value of Malwa Opium, In Sp. Dollars.
1821-22	2,910	6,038,250	1,718	2,276,350
1822-23	1,822	2,828,930	4,000	5,160,000
1823-24	2,910	4,656,000	4,172	3,859,100
1824-25	2,655	3,119,625	6,000	4,500,000
1825-26	3,442	3,355,950	6,276	4,403,430
Total for } five years }	13,739	19,998,755	22,166	20,198,880

Average annual consumption of Malwa opium being in five years.....Chests 4,433

Ditto..... ditto..... of Patna and Benares.....ditto..... 2,747

Annual average value of consumption of Patna and Benares opium,
during five years.....Sp. Drs. 3,999,751

Ditto.....ditto..... of Malwa, for ditto..... 4,039,776

Total amount valueSp. Drs. 8,039,527

The first important fact which appears to be established by this statement is, that the sum expended by the Chinese in the consumption of opium within the period to which it refers, has been limited to about eight millions of dollars annually. And it seems as extraordinary as a matter of fact, as in unison with other points of character exhibited by this people, that during the space of five years, the aggregate amount of dollars laid out in this article has varied little more than five per cent. any one year, whether compared with the highest or lowest total amount of consumption.

The next important feature is the immense increase of consumption in point of quantity, which has been more than doubled during the same period, and that nearly the whole of this increase has been in the Malwa opium, which has risen from 1,718 to 6,276 chests. The decided preference for this description of opium may be accounted for (independently of its having always rated at a lower price) by the circumstance of its yielding a greater quantity of pure opium than can be extracted from an equal quantity of Patna or Benares. According to the estimate of the Chinese dealers at this place, Malwa opium yields 14·20, and Patna or Benares only 9·20 of pure opium. If this analysis be correct, there appears to be a substantial and permanent cause of preference which the one description possesses over the others.

It may be interesting to follow up the deductions which are to be drawn from the statement which we have given, and to endeavour to trace them in their application to the present state of the China market.

On the 1st of April last the stock of Malwa opium in China was...Chests 966
Estimated amount of this year's supply of the Company's Malwa 3,800
Dumaun, or smuggled opium, chiefly from the Portuguese settlements 1,600

Total supply for this season Chests 6,366

The consumption of last year has been shewn to have been 6,276 chests of Malwa; but as the price of this description of opium has this season advanced more than either Patna or Benares, we may rather infer a reduced consumption, which we shall estimate in round numbers at 6,000 chests, and at the price of Drs. 900 per chest.

The largest amount of sales effected in China within the last five years, and we might with equal safety add, ever effected, appears, on reference to the preceding statement, to be to the value of Drs. 8,515,100; from which amount, if the value of Malwa opium at an estimate be deducted, we shall have the following result :—

Value of the greatest consumptionDrs. 8,515,100
 Estimate of consumption of Malwa this season 5,400,000
 There will remain a sum of Sp. Drs. 3,115,000 to be invested in Patna and Benares.

At the date of our last advices from China, the price of Patna was quoted at Drs. 1,050 per chest, with a confident expectation of its rising higher; but assuming the rate of this quotation for this year, the quantity which can be purchased by the above balance of Drs. 3,115,000 will be 2,966 chests.

The stock of this description in China at the 1st of April last, the same date at which we have taken the stock of Malwa, was ... Chests 1,645
 Amount of the Company's sales for this season at Cal- } 3,800
 cuttaChests }

Deduct for the consumption of the Archipelago..... 1,000
2,800

Total supply for ChinaChests 4,445

Making an excess of nearly 1,500 chests, which will remain on hand at the end of this season.

The scope of our observations we would incline to limit to a general result unfavourable to the expectations pretty confidently entertained of a rise in the price of opium in China, rather than to a decided opinion in favour of one description of opium, or further than may be established by the facts which we have adduced; and what we are most anxious to have noticed, is the almost unavoidable certainty of such an issue, unless the means of the consumers shall be increased beyond the experience of the last five years. Such of our readers as take an interest in the question, are much more able than we are to judge how far this is likely to occur, and what weight ought to be allowed to the extended range which the consumption has taken, and the consequent increased taste which has been created for this noxious drug.

With any other people but the Chinese, and any other article but opium, the conclusions to be drawn from such a state of circumstances would be of easy calculation.

E P I G R A M.

Πόλλ' ἔχει σιωπὴ καλὰ.

HE who talks much, so says the ancient rule,
 Must often babble like an empty fool.—

"I speak but little," shallow Bufo cries:

In *that*, no doubt, the world would call him wise.

FIRST VISIT TO INDIA BY THE PORTUGUESE.

PURCHAS, in the second book of his "*Pilgrimes*," has given a curious account of the first visit of the Portuguese to India in the fifteenth century, under Vasco di Gama.

The immediate impulse given to the Portuguese to venture upon this difficult and dangerous expedition was the celebrated bull of Pope Alexander VI., in 1493, which contained the extraordinary grant of an immense portion of the world to the Catholic king, in the following comprehensive form of words, which is worthy of insertion, as a proof of the impudent pretensions submitted to by Europe in those days :

Et, ut tanti negotii provinciam Apostolicæ gratiæ largitate donati, liberius et audacius assumatis, motu proprio, non ad vestram vel alterius pro vobis super hoc nobis oblata petitionis instantiam, sed de nostrâ merâ liberalitate, et ex certâ scientiâ, ac de Apostolicæ potestatis plenitudine, omnes insulas et terras firmas inventas et inveniendas, detectas et detegendas, versus Occidentem et Meridiem, fabricando et construendo unam lineam a Polo Arctico, scilicet Septentrione, ad Polum Antarcticum, scilicet Meridiem, sive terræ firmæ et insulæ inventæ et inveniendæ sint, versus Indiam, aut versus aliam quamcunque partem, quæ linea distet a qualibet insularum quæ vulgariter nuncupantur de *los Azores* et *Cabo Verde*, centum leucis, versus Occidentem et Meridiem. Itaque omnes insulæ et terræ firmæ repertæ et reperiendæ, detectæ et detegendæ, a præfatâ lineâ versus Occidentem et Meridiem, quæ per alium regem aut principem Christianum non fuerint actualiter possessæ usque ad diem Nativitatis Domini nostri Jesu Christi proximè præteritum, a quo incipit annus præsens 1493, quando fuerunt per nuncios et capitaneos vestros inventæ aliquæ prædictarum insularum, auctoritate Omnipotentis Dei nobis in beato Petro concessa, ac Vicariatûs Jesu Christi, quâ fungimur in terris, cum omnibus illarum dominiis, civitatibus, castris, locis, et villis, iuribusque et jurisdictionibus ac pertinentiis universis, vobis, hæredibusque et successoribus vestris (Castellæ et Legionis regibus) in perpetuum tenore præsentium donamus, concedimus et assignamus.

The limitation which this instrument placed upon the discoveries of the Portuguese, modified as it was by subsequent arrangements, forced the maritime expeditions of that nation to the eastward. John, King of Portugal, accordingly prepared a fleet for prosecuting discovery beyond the Cape of Good Hope, on the African coast. But his death, in October 1495, put a temporary stop to the project.

His successor, Emanuel, adopted the same views as his predecessor ; but the Portuguese having, in their preceding voyages to the Cape, encountered severe storms on their approach to that promontory (whence it derived its first name of *Cabo Tormentoso*), the mariners conceived there was no doubling it, and some years elapsed before a fleet could be fitted out for that object. At length, in 1497, Vasco di Gama, who was superior to such prejudices, left Portugal with three ships and a victualler, having on board 160 men, bound for the countries beyond the Cape. He sailed on the 9th July, with "letters to the Indian kings," directing his course eastward ; and after meeting with dreadful tempests, which made the crews importune him to return, he doubled the formidable promontory on the 20th November. His resolute determination to proceed was the occasion of a mutiny in his fleet, the crews of which conspired his death ; "but" (to use the quaint language of Purchas), "by his brother Paul's relation forewarned, he forearmed himself with vigilant circumspection, and laying the masters in the bolts, became master himself."

He sailed along the eastern coast of Africa, close to the land, which appeared full of cattle, the inhabitants negroes, who "uttered their speech out of the throat, as it were sobbing." On the 8th December a storm drove them away from the land, which they regained sight of on the 10th January 1498, and had some communication with the natives, who told them, "in ill Arabic," that in a country not far from hence, ships like theirs used to come.

On the 1st March they fell in with seven small vessels, which approached the admiral, and saluted him with a loud cry in Arabic, accompanied with music. The men had garments of silk, with linen turbans wrought with gold, and falchions girded on their sides. They came on board the admiral's vessel, and informed him that the name of their island was Mosambique, which was subject to the King of Quiloa, and traded with Arabia, India, and other parts of the world.

Purchas states as follows:—"It is remarkable that these Moors used both compass and sea-cards, or plates; quadrants also, wherewith they observed the heights of places, the sun's declination and distance from the line; and were furnished with divers maritime mysteries, not much short of the Portuguese. They mistook the Christians for Mahometans of Barbary, and therefore used them so kindly."

Upon discovering that they were Christians, the natives devised sundry acts of treachery; and a pilot, sent by the governor, at the request of Gama, to carry them to Calicut, decoyed them to Mombaza (Mombas), where the Portuguese narrowly escaped destruction from the perfidy of the natives. From hence they sailed to Melinda, where they arrived on Easter-day. In this place the houses were of hewn stone, well built and stately; the country fruitful; the people black, with curled hair, naked from the navel upwards, clothed below with silks to the middle of the leg. Here they met with some "Christians of India" (Armenians?), who testified great joy at the sight of the Portuguese, gave them instructions for their voyage, and provided them with an Indian for a master, or pilot. They left this place April 22d, and on the 19th May came in sight of land, the mountains near Calicut, before which city they anchored on the same day.

Gama set on shore one of the criminals, of whom he took several from Portugal, whose lives had been forfeited, but who were pardoned on condition that they went upon these desperate adventures; he was almost pressed to death through the curiosity of the natives, who flocked in multitudes to see a man so uncouthly habited; and at length two merchants of Tunis saw him, and knowing the Spaniards, one of them asked him in Spanish from what part of Spain he came. The man replied that he was a Portuguese; the merchant invited him home, and after entertaining him, accompanied him on board Gama's ship, and told Gama that the king of Calicut (whose customs formed his chief revenue) would be glad of their visit. Gama, therefore, sent two of his company with this merchant, whose name was Monzaida, to inform the King that their sovereign, "moved by his worthy fame, had sent one of his captains thither to establish mutual love and amity." The King received them graciously, and recommended the admiral to bring the fleet to Pandarane (Paniani?), where he resided, because the road of Calicut was dangerous during that season, and sent a pilot to conduct them. Soon after the King sent an officer or magistrate, called a catval (cutwal), to attend Vasco di Gama into his presence in a respectful manner.

They no sooner landed than they were each placed in a litter (palankeen), many soldiers, called nairros (Nairs), attending them on foot; and thus they were

were conveyed to a sumptuous temple, esteemed of great sanctity, which Gama at first supposed, from the structure, images, and other signs, and from having heard of Christians in these parts, to be a Christian temple. At the door four men met them, naked to the navel, covered thence to the knees with silk, having three threads (the Brahminical cord) from the right shoulder crossed to the left side, who sprinkled *holy water* upon them, and gave them sweet powders. The walls of the temple had many figures painted on them. In the midst was a round high *chapel*, with a narrow brazen door, having many steps to it; within was an image which the darkness would not allow them to distinguish, and which they were not suffered to approach, as none but the priests were allowed to enter; the latter advancing towards the image, with their finger pointing to it, twice called out "*Maria!*" (Mahadeo?) whereat the catval and his attendants fell flat upon the ground, but presently arose and said their prayers. The Portuguese thinking this to be some service of the Virgin, performed their worship in their accustomed manner. Thence they passed to another temple, equally magnificent; and from thence to the King's palace, trumpets and pipes sounding all the while. The throng was so great, that had not the guard, or *nairos*, made way with their swords, the procession could not have passed. At the gate they were met by certain nobles, called *Caimaes* (*Swamis?*); and when they approached the apartment in which the King was, an aged man, clad in silk from the shoulders to the ankles, came forth and embraced Gama: this was the chief of the Brahmins. The others entered first, and this Brahmin followed, holding Gama by the hand. The apartment was a large hall, with many benches, arranged one above another, in the form of a theatre. The floor was covered with silk; the walls were hung with curtains of silk embroidered with gold. The King lay on a rich bed (or couch); he had a tire (or head-dress) set with precious stones, and wrought with gold. His dress was of silk, with many gold clasps on his breast. Jewels of great value hung from his ears; and his fingers and toes were adorned with rings and gems. In person he was tall, comely, and majestic. Gama saluted him according to the custom of the country, and was placed on a seat near him; the other Portuguese were also seated. After water being brought to wash and cool their hands, and divers fruits had been set before them, the King inquired of Gama the object of his visit; he answered that it was not the custom of his country to discourse of these subjects in a public and promiscuous assembly, but to communicate with the King or his ministers in private; whereupon the King removed into a handsomer apartment, and there Gama announced to him that his master, King Emanuel, having heard of the renowned greatness of the King of Calicut, and of the rarities of India, out of desire of league and friendship had sent him to commence an intercourse, whence honour and profit might accrue to both parties, and had given him letters of credence. The King received the communication courteously, and promised to acknowledge the King of Portugal as his brother; he then gave orders to the catval to conduct Gama to the house appointed for his residence. Gama described the city as large, the houses not joining each other, but separated by orchards and gardens; they were meanly built, the King's alone being permitted to be constructed of stone. It is added that this king was chief of all the neighbouring princes in wealth and power.

After three days, Gama delivered the letter to the King, accompanied by a present: which the King seemed dissatisfied with; but it was explained to him that as the navigation was uncertain, they were ill provided, and moreover that no present was equal to the friendship of such a prince as the King of Portugal,

Portugal, from whom if profit was expected, it was to be gained by ships annually trading thither with merchandize. Gama requested that the King's letter might not be interpreted by Saracens (Mahometans), as he had intimation from Monzaida that they were hostile to him. The letter was accordingly translated by Monzaida himself, who was admonished by the King of the necessity of vigilance against the frauds of the Saracens. These Moors, plotting the ruin of the Portuguese, bribed the courtiers, and proclaimed Gama to be a pirate and a spy, in the character of a merchant. They were actuated in this, partly out of hatred to the Christian name, and partly through fear of losing their trade, by the intrusion of the Portuguese. The King, wearied by their importunities, fearing the loss of their customs, and intimidated by the example of the Moors and negroes in Africa, conquered by the Spaniards, and adverting to the beggary displayed in the contemptible present from the King of Portugal, and the poor merchandize brought by the ships; threatened also with the departure of the Moors to some other prince, and the removal of their trade, to his grievous injury; at length yielded, and sent the catval to persuade Gama, with professions of friendship, to bring his ships nearer, and deliver up his sails for security. Gama, who had written to his brother on board, that if he saw him long detained, he should sail homewards, after much contention agreed to send his merchandize on shore, with men to sell it; and thereupon he was dismissed to his ship. Gama, being dissatisfied with the catval's conduct, complained to the King; who gave him fair words, but directed his goods to be sent to Calicut, pretending there was a better market for them there.

Gama did not object: he sent every day two or three persons to observe the city, which gave no offence. He asked permission of the King to leave a factor at Calicut; this proposal was displeasing to the King, who returned an angry answer, and ordered two of Gama's men to be placed in custody, and the goods to be seized. Gama, not being able to recover his men by intreaty, attacked the next ship which arrived, and took out six of the principal men, and then put out farther to sea. The King sent to him, expressing his surprise that he should seize his servants, as he had detained the Portuguese only till he had written a letter to King Emanuel. Accordingly, next day, he sent them back with letters, but withheld the goods "for their factor, if he would send any, to dispose of." But Gama now declined leaving a factor, and told the King that he should keep the men till he had his goods again. The next day Monzaida came on board, and informed them he had been in danger of his life for their sake; he begged them to carry him to Portugal, which they agreed to. The King, subsequently, sent the goods in seven boats; but Gama refused to receive them, saying he would carry the Malabars to Portugal to testify how injuriously the King of Calicut had treated him; and he forthwith drove the boats away with his cannon.

Gama afterwards wrote a letter to the King, "with good words," from another port on the coast. He thence went to Anchediva. From this place he proceeded homewards, touching at Magadoxo, on the African coast, and at Melinda; and on the 27th Februry 1499, he arrived at Zanzibar. After refreshing at this island, the fleet doubled the Cape of Good Hope on the 27th April; and after being dispersed in a storm, arrived at Lisbon with the loss of 105 men out of 160, and one of the vessels, which Gama burnt as not being sea-worthy, and having too few mariners to man the whole. The vessels reached Lisbon at different periods in the year 1499.

Such was the unpromising and ominous commencement of the intercourse
between

between India and the maritime people of modern Europe. The first individual of the first discoverers of this new route who set foot on the shore of India was a criminal; and the love and amity promised on one side, and accepted on the other, ended in fraud, treachery, and violence; although both parties were doubtless sincere in their conviction that a friendly commercial intercourse would serve their mutual interests.

GREEK AFFAIRS.

THE triumph which has been afforded to foreigners by the conduct of the "Friends of Greece" in this country is complete. It is impossible to read the contrast exhibited in the following extract from a review of Count Palma's pamphlet, which has appeared in a Parisian journal, without being constrained to acknowledge, mortifying as it is to do so, that the reproach it implies against this country is just:—

"When Frenchmen consider what has been done for Greece by the different nations of Christendom, they ought to exult at beholding their native country holding so high a rank amongst the most generous. It was France that first claimed the protection of Europe in favour of our brethren in the East; it was France that aided them in their early triumphs, and that still, even in their reverses, manifests most interest and most sympathy for them. Germany has had its subscriptions for the Greeks; Prussia gave concerts for their benefit; the Netherlands and Switzerland have added their gifts to those of other nations; but the services of France have been the most numerous, the most universal, the most popular. Every class joined in the work of benevolence. Illustrious citizens, occupying the first ranks of society, have sanctioned, by the authority of their name, the insurrection of Greece; our orators have afforded her the aid of their eloquence; our poets have electrified the soul in singing the exploits or depicting the misfortunes of her heroic soldiers; and our painters have either exhibited or sold their pictures for the benefit of the holy cause; to serve which even French ladies, doing violence to their timidity and modesty, have gone about seeking aid, in the palace of the rich and in the hovel of the artisan. Certain English capitalists *lent* their money to Greece; thousands of Frenchmen *gave* her theirs. Cochrane receives 935,000 francs to go and fight for her; Fabvier serves her for three years without any remuneration whatsoever. Finally, when the capture of Missolonghi seemed to have extinguished all the zeal of the London merchants, it redoubled the fervour and the enthusiasm of the Philhellenics of Paris. At the former place, the departure of the chief and the vessels which might have saved Greece was stopped; at the latter, on the contrary, the philanthropic contributions towards her deliverance were redoubled.

"The pamphlet before us, which has given rise to the preceding reflections, is as degrading to the Greek Committee of London, as it is honourable to that of Paris. By the latter every effort is made to wrest the Morea from the sword of the Musulman; the former, on the contrary, seconds, in a marvellous manner, by delays and dilapidations, the projects of Ibrahim Pacha. The contractor of the loan of 1825, the engineer entrusted with the construction of the steam-engines, the Philhellenics who directed the disposal of the funds, seem all to have united for the ruin of Greece."

THE HINDU DRAMA.

THE scanty and imperfect knowledge we possess respecting the dramatic compositions of the Hindus, which is fatal to an exact acquaintance with the ancient manners of that very peculiar people, has been often lamented; but till now no Sanscrit scholar has thought it an object worthy of his regard to exhibit in an European dress a regular series of, or selection from, the dramatic pieces extant in the original language of Hindustan. The very few specimens hitherto translated have been calculated to excite, rather than allay, the curiosity of Europe.

This much-wished for event has, however, at length taken place, and the person who has undertaken the office of translation is in every respect so admirably qualified for it, that we can hardly now regret the delay which has occurred, but for which, some less able instrument might have been employed. We refer to a work which has recently appeared at Calcutta, entitled "Select Specimens of the Theatre of the Hindus," by H. H. Wilson, Esq., Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Calcutta. This gentleman is not only an excellent Sanscrit scholar, but is deeply imbued with a taste for the drama.

We have been disappointed in our endeavours to procure a copy of the first number of this work, which contains an ancient Sanscrit play, entitled "*Mrichchakati*," or "The Toy-Cart," translated into English, partly in blank verse, and partly in colloquial prose. Judging, however, that our European readers must be most anxious for an early account of this literary curiosity, we have had recourse to the very copious details and extracts which appear in the different journals of Calcutta.*

According to the translator, the "*Mrichchakati*" was written in the second century of the Christian era, although tradition assigns to it a date nearly 300 years earlier. He argues that it must have been composed prior to the date of the Puranas from the fact that one of the characters, Samst'hánaka, a pedantic personage, affecting to be deeply versed in literature, quotes frequently from the *Rámáyana* and *Mahabhárata*, but never once from the Purana legends: whence Mr. Wilson fairly infers that they were not then in existence. The antiquity of the drama is also shewn, the translator observes, from the fact of its containing a panegyric on a person, on account of his voluntary cremation at an advanced age: an act prohibited in the *kale*, or present period of the world, and which therefore would scarcely have been praised as it is in "*The Toy Cart*," and by a Brahmin. But the most unequivocal mark of its antiquity, he says, is the accuracy with which Buddha observances are adverted to, and the flourishing state in which the sect is described. Mr. Wilson, indeed, considers the "*Mrichchakati*" as the only Sanscrit work in which the Buddha doctrines appear without disguise.

The author of the play was Sudraka, a monarch celebrated in Hindu history. In a prelude or preface to the drama, the following particulars are given of this personage, apparently by some Hindu critic or biographer:—

There was a poet whose gait was that of an elephant, whose eyes resembled those of the *chakora* (Greek partridge), whose countenance was like the full moon, and who was of stately person, amiable manners, and profound veracity; of the Kshetriya race, and distinguished by the appellation *Sudra* (the additional syllable *ka* is pleonastic). He was well versed in the Rig and Sáma Védas, in mathematical sciences, in the elegant

arts, —

* Especially the *India Gazette* and the *John Bull*.

arts, and the management of elephants. By the aid of Siva he enjoyed eyes uninvaded by darkness, and beheld his son seated on the throne: after performing the exalted Aswamedha (sacrifice of a horse, one of the most solemn Hindu rites), having attained the age of an hundred years and ten days, he entered the fatal fire. Valiant was he in war, and ready to encounter with his single arm the elephant of his adversary; yet he was void of wrath; eminent amongst those skilled in the Védas, and affluent in piety: such a prince was Sudraka."

The title of the piece refers to some incident which is explained in the work itself, where every obscurity in the text or the allusions is cleared up by copious notes, evincing the learning, diligence, and research of the translator.

The play is distributed into ten acts, subdivided into scenes. The theatrical machinery of the period when it was written, the translator professes not to be able to explain; such as the entrance and departure of the actors, the change of scenes, &c. He conjectures that the moving of scenes was not attempted; that a description was given, and the rest left to the fancy of the spectators. He observes, however, that "in the spacious hall in which the piece was acted, one part of the stage was in all likelihood supposed to represent the exterior, and the other the interior of the dwelling." He adds, in another note, that perhaps the scenes might have consisted of curtains arranged after a certain manner.

The subject is thus briefly adverted to at the opening:—

"In Avanti (the modern Ougein) lived a young Brahman of distinguished rank, but of exceeding poverty; his name was Charudatta. Of the many excellencies of Charudatta, a courtesan, Vasantasena by name, became enamoured, and the story of their loves is the subject of King Sudraka's drama, which will exhibit the infamy of wickedness, the villany of law, the efficacy of virtue, and the triumph of faithful love."

Such is the simple report of the Hindu commentator; the plot, however, is rather complicated, and managed in a very artful though natural manner.

Charudatta, a brahman of rank, and famed for his generosity and goodness whilst in prosperity, falls into poverty; but is still faithfully attended by his friend Maitreya, a brahman, the *Gracioso* of the piece, a character compounded of shrewdness, simplicity, and affection. Charudatta is beloved by Vasantasena, a fair courtesan, who is plagued with the odious addresses of Samst'hanaka, the brother-in-law of the Rajah, an ignorant and pedantic, yet amusing coxcomb, though cruel.

Subordinate to these are many other characters.

The business of the plot begins with the pursuit of Vasantasena by her vehement admirer Samst'hanaka. She escapes the abhorred assiduity of her admirer, and in the obscurity of evening takes refuge in Charudatta's cottage. A recognition takes place between the lovers, which ends in Vasantasena's leaving her jewels in trust with Charudatta, upon the plea that she does not wish to have them about her person at such a late hour; but really to serve as a pretext for further intercourse with her lover.

Poor Maitreya appears to consider Vasantasena's jewels as fair prize; but for this he is duly rebuked by his virtuous friend; at length the hour of repose arrives, and after the golden casket has been delivered over in charge to Maitreya, he and Charudatta fall sound asleep. In the mean time, Servillaka, a dissipated, but not unkind-hearted brahman (reduced by his necessities, and his desire to obtain wealth that may procure him favour in the eyes of Madanika, the attendant slave of Vasantasena), breaks into the house, without being aware that it was Charudatta's, and escapes with the casket.

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H

Charudatta

Charudatta is in great confusion on awaking, and faints on discovering the loss of the casket. The following dialogue then takes place:—

Maitreya. Revive, revive, sir; though the thief has stolen the deposit, why should he so seriously affect you?

Chr. Alas! my friend, who will believe it stolen?
A general ordeal awaits me. In this world
Cold poverty is doomed to wake suspicion;
Alas, till now, my fortune only felt
The enmity of fate, but now its venom
Sheds a foul blight upon my dearer fame.

Mai. I tell you what, I will maintain that the casket was never entrusted to us. Who gave it, pray; who took it; where are your witnesses?

Char. Think you I can sanction thus a falsity?
No, no; I will beg alms, and so obtain
The value of the pledge, and quit its owner,
But cannot condescend to shame my soul
By utterance of a lie.

Charudatta's wife getting intimation of his misfortune, sends him a string of jewels, her own exclusive property. He reluctantly avails himself of this unlooked-for gift, and thus addresses his friend:—

Maitreya, hie thee to Vasantasena,
Tell her the casket, heedlessly impledged,
Was lost by me at play, but in its stead
I do beseech her to accept these jewels.

Servillaka, who, as we have seen, got possession of Vasantasena's jewel-casket, proceeded without delay to offer it as a love-gift to Madanika. Vasantasena listens at the window above, and observing her attendant in conversation with a man, exclaims:—

They appear to understand each other. He woos her probably to be his companion; well, be it so; never be genuine affection thwarted!

Servillaka shews his mistress the casket of jewels which he took for the purpose of purchasing her freedom; but upon her questioning him somewhat closely respecting the mode in which he obtained possession of it, he replies:

I was informed then, that near the bazar resided the chief of his tribe, one Charudatta.

[*Vasantasena and Madanika both faint.*]

Servillaka. Madanika, revive; what ails the wench?
Her limbs are all unstrung, her looks are wild.
Why girl, is this your love? is then so terrible
The thought to share your destiny with mine?

Mad. Avoid me, wretch!—yet stay,—I dread to ask:—was no one hurt or murdered in that mansion?

Ser. I touch not one who trembles or who sleeps:
Unharm'd by me were all in that abode.

Mad. In truth?

Ser. In very truth.

Vas. (Above) Do I yet live?

Mad. This is indeed a blessing.

His mistress, after some persuasion, prevails upon Servillaka to deliver up the casket to Vasantasena, who, having listened to the conversation between the lovers, was therefore aware how Servillaka came by the casket. In presenting it to the lady he states:—

The

The respected Charudatta informs you, that as his house is very insecure, he is apprehensive this casket may be lost, and therefore begs you will take it back again.

Vasantasena behaves very generously on the occasion, and presents her handmaid to Servillaka. They quit her presence: but immediately afterwards Servillaka learns that his own friend Aryaka, a cowherd, had become an object of jealousy to Palaka, King of Ujayin, in consequence of a prophecy which foretold that Aryaka should ascend the throne.

Maitreya, who had been despatched with the jewels by Charudatta, reaches the splendid mansion of Vasantasena, and is ushered in with much pomp. He presents the jewels, but Vasantasena observes with a smile:—

How is this? do drops of nectar fall from the mango-tree, after it has shed its blossoms? My good friend, tell that sad gambler, Charudatta, I shall call upon him in the evening.

Mai. (*Apert.*) So, so—she intends to get more out of him, I suppose.—(*Aloud.*) I shall so inform him, madam.—(*Apert.*) I wish he was rid of this precious acquaintance. [*Exit.*]

The weather is rather unfavourable, and Maitreya, in reporting his visit to Charudatta, calculates that nothing but avarice could cause a visit from Vasantasena at such a time.

Mai. Now I hope you are satisfied; to come out in such weather! you can have no doubt what brings her.

Char. I do not feel quite confident.

Mri. Depend upon it I am right; the casket was worth more than the necklace, and she comes for the difference.

Vasantasena pays her visit, and as she is about to depart, a carriage sent by Samst'hanaka for a different purpose arrives at the postern door. Thinking it was the one intended for herself, she enters it, and is thus carried to the garden of Samst'hanaka, just as Aryaka arrives, and throws himself upon the protection of Charudutta. Vasantasena reaches at the garden, where she is met by Samst'hanaka, who, incensed at her scornful treatment of him, solicits his vita, or parasite, to murder her; but not succeeding, addresses Sthavaraka, his servant, to the same effect.

The sentiments expressed in this scene render it a very striking and effective one.

Sams. (*Aside*) The wrath that her disdainful treatment justly kindled is now more violent than ever:—to be spurned! I am resolved, she dies.—(*Aloud.*) Master, if you have any relish for a mantle, with a broad border and a hundred tassels; or any curiosity to taste a bit of delicate flesh, now is your time.

Via. What mean you?

Sams. Will you oblige me?

Via. In any thing not unreasonable.

Sams. There is no more flavour of unreasonableness than of she-devils in it.

Via. Well, speak on.

Sams. Put Vasantasena to death.

Via. (*Stopping his ears.*)

Murder a young and unoffending female,
Of courteous manners, and unrivalled beauty,
The pride of all Ujayin? Where shall I find,
Believe you, a fit raft to waft my soul,
Safe o'er the river of futurity?

Sams. I will have one made for you.—Come, come, what have you to fear? in this lowly place, who shall see you?

Via. All nature: the surrounding realms of space,

The genii of these groves, the moon, the sun,
 The winds, the vault of heaven, the firm-set earth,
 Hell's awful ruler, and the conscious soul :
 These all bear witness to the good or ill
 That men perform, and these will see the deed.*

Sams. Throw a cloth over her, then, and hide her.

Vit. Fool, you are crazed.

Sams. You are an old good-for-nothing dastardly jackall:—very well, I shall find some one else. *Sthavaraka* shall do it.—Here, *Sthavaraka*, my lad, I will give you gold.

Stha. Thank your honour, I will take it.

Sams. You shall have a gold seat.

Stha. I will sit upon it.

Sams. You shall have every dainty dish from my table.

Stha. I will eat it, never fear me.

Sams. You shall be head over all my slaves.

Stha. I shall be a very great man.

Sams. But attend to what I order.

Stha. Depend upon me, in every thing, that may be done.

Sams. It may be done well enough.

Stha. Say on, sir.

Sams. Kill this *Vasantasena*.

Stha. Excuse me, Sir, I brought her here.

Sams. Why, you villain, am I not your master ?

Stha. You are, sir ; my body is yours, but not my innocence. I dare not obey you.

Sams. Of whom are you, my servant, to be afraid ?

Stha. Futurity.

Sams. And who is Mr. Futurity, pray ?

Stha. The requiter of our good and evil deeds.

Samst'hanaka, finding no one inclined to undertake the horrible deed, perpetrates the crime himself. His attendants being sent out of the way, he strangles *Vasantasena*. Anxious to remove the imputation of the crime from himself, he fixes the guilt of it on *Charudatta*. The latter is tried accordingly in open court for the murder ; and partly from suspicious circumstances that make against him, and partly from his indignant feelings on the occasion preventing his condescending to make a detailed defence, he is found guilty and condemned to death.

Just as he is led away to execution, *Vasantasena*, who had been merely in a swoon, breaks in, and her beloved *Charadutta's* life is thus saved from an ignominious doom. The termination is made more happy and triumphant by the dethronement of King *Palaka* by *Aryaka*, the consequent degradation of *Samst'hanaka*, and the restoration of *Charadatta* to his full rank and honours.

This sketch, imperfect as it is, of the plot, shews that it affords abundant opportunity for the display of poetical pathos and picturesque scenes. We subjoin some passages of the dialogue from the very copious extracts before us.

In the following passage, *Vasantasena* and the attendant, or *vita*, vie with each other in giving a poetical description of the rainy season. This passage, which is much longer than it appears here, will give a very favourable idea of the translator's talents :—

Vit. Like an invading prince, who holds his court
 Within the city of his humbled foe,

Yon

* This passage is, in fact, from *Menu*, with a slight deviation only in the order.

Yon mighty cloud, advancing with the wind,
With store of arrowy shower, with thundering drums,
And blazing streamers, marches to assail,
In his own heavens, the monarch of the night.

Vas. Nay, nay, not so, I rather read it thus :

The clouds that, like unwieldy elephants,
Roll their inflated masses grumbling on,
Or whiten with the migratory troop
Of hovering cranes, teach anguish to the bosom.
The stork's shrill cry sounds like the plaintive tabor
To her, who, while she wanders o'er its parchment,
Is lost in musings of her lord's return ;
And every tone that hails the rainy season,
Falls on her heart, like brine upon a wound.

Vit. Behold, where yonder ponderous cloud assumes
The stature of the elephant—the storks
Entwine a fillet for his front, and waves
The lightning, like a chouri, o'er his head.

Vas. Observe, my friend, the day is swallowed up
By these deep shades, dark as the dripping leaf
Of the tamála tree, and like an elephant
That cowering shuns the battle's arrowy aleet,
So shrinks the scattering ant-hill from the shower.
The fickle lightning darts such brilliant rays
As gleam from golden lamps, in temples hung—
Whilst, like the consort of an humble lord,
The timid moonlight peeps amidst the clouds.

Vit. There, like a string of elephants, the clouds,
In regular file by lightning-fillets bound,
Move slowly at their potent God's commands.
The heavens let down a silver chain to earth ;
The earth, that shines with buds and sheds sweet odours,
Is pierced with showers, like diamond-shafted darts
Launched from the rolling mass of deepest blue,
Which heaves before the breeze, and foams with flame :
Like ocean's dark waves by the tempest driven,
And tossing high their flashing surge to shore,

Vas. The stars are all extinct, as fades the memory
Of kindness in a bad man's heart. The heavens
Are shorn of all their radiance, as the wife
Her glory loses in her husband's absence.
In sooth I think the firmament dissolves :
Melted by Indra's scorching bolt it falls
In unexhausted torrents—now the cloud
Ascends—now stoops—now roars aloud in thunder—
Now sheds its streams—now frowns with deeper gloom,
Full of fantastic change, like one new raised
By fortune's fickle favours.

The effects of an elephant's breaking loose are thus ludicrously told :—

Your ladyship's fierce elephant k'huntamoraka killed his keeper, and broke his chain ; he then scoured off along the high road, making a terrible confusion. The people shouted and screamed “ carry off the children, get up the trees, climb the walls, the elephant is coming ! ” Away went girdles and anklets, and pearls and diamonds were scattering about in all directions ; there he was plunging about in Ujayin, and tearing every thing to pieces with his trunk, his feet, and his tusks, as if the city had been ;

been a large tank full of lotus flowers. All Ujayin, in a panic, like a boat ill-laden, was heaped on one spot.

The following sarcastic remark is from Maitreya :—

Now to me there are two things at which I cannot chuse but laugh ; a woman reading Sanscrit, and a man singing a song : the woman snuffles like a young cow when the rope is first passed through her nostrils, and the man wheezes like an old pundit, who has been repeating his bead-roll till the flowers of his chaplet are as dry as his throat : to my seeming it is vastly ridiculous.

As well as the following joke on a fat woman :—

A very portly dame indeed ! how did she contrive to get in here ? oh, I suppose she was first set up, as they do an unweildy Mahadeva, and then the walls were built round her.

Poverty is thus illustrated :—

How can that man be said to live, who lives
A pauper—and whose gratitude and wrath
Are barren both ! The bird whose wings are clipped,
The leafless tree—the dessicated pool—
The desolate mansion, and the toothless snake,
Are all meet emblems of the hapless wretch,
Whose festive hours no fond associates grace,
Whose brightest moments yield no fruit to others.

Charudatta, upon entering a court of justice, expresses himself thus :—

The prospect is but little pleasing ;
The court looks like a sea—its councillors
Are deep engulfed in thought ; its tossing waves
Are wrangling advocates ; its brood of monsters
Are these wild animals, death's ministers ;
Attorneys skim, like wily snakes, the surface ;
Spies are the shell-fish cowering midst its weeds ;
And vile informers, like the hovering curlew,
Hang fluttering o'er, then pounce upon their prey :
The bench, that should be justice, is unsafe,
Rough, rude, and broken by oppression's storms.

When his friend is accused of murder, Maitreya bursts out into the following indignant appeal to the court :—

How, sirs ! what is all this ? Can he who has beautified our city with its chief ornaments ; who has filled Ujayin with gardens, and gates, and convents, and temples, and wells and fountains—can he, for the object of a few beggarly ornaments, have done such an iniquitous act ?—(*In Anger.*) And you, you reprobate, you king's brother-in-law, Samst'hanaka, you, who stop at nothing, and are a stuffed vessel of every thing offensive to mankind, you monkey, tricked out with golden toys, say again before me, that my friend, who never plucked a flower roughly in his life, who never pulled more than one at a time, and always left the young buds untouched, say that he has been guilty of a crime, detestable in both worlds, and I will break thy head into a thousand pieces with this staff, as knotty and crooked as thy own heart.

The following dissuasive from suicide is remarkable in a Hindu :—

Mai. Think not, my dear friend, that I intend to survive you.

Char. My good Maitreya, the vital spark owes not
Obedience to our mortal will : beware
How you presume to cast that life away.
It is not thine to give or to abandon.

Short passages and detached sentiments show but imperfectly the quality of the piece. We subjoin the scene where Servillaka purloins the casket :—

Scene

Scene—CHARUDATTA'S HOUSE. (*Inside and outside.*)

CHARUDATTA AND MAITREYA asleep.

Enter SERVILLAKA (*outside.*)

Creeping along the ground like a snake, crawling out of his old skin, I effect with sleight and strength a passage for my cowering frame. (*Looking up.*) The sovereign of the skies is in his decline: 'tis well: night, like a tender mother, shrouds, with her protecting darkness, those of her children whose prowess assails the dwellings of mankind, and shrinks from an encounter with the servants of the king. I have made a breach in the garden-wall, and have got into the midst of the garden. Now for the house. Men call this practice infamous, whose chief success is gained from the sleep of others, and whose booty is won by craft. If not heroism, it is at least independence, and preferable to the homage paid by slaves. As to nocturnal attacks, did not Aswatthāma long ago overpower in a night-onset his slumbering foes? Where shall I make the breach; what part is softened by recent damp; where is it likely that no noise will be made by the falling fragments; where is an opening, *secundum artem*, most practicable; in what part of the wall are the bricks old, and corroded by saline exudations; where can I penetrate without encountering women; and where am I likely to light upon my booty? (*Feels the wall.*) The ground here is softened by continual sprinkling with water and exposure to the sun, and is crusted with salt. Here is a rat-hole. The prize is sure: this is the first omen of success, the sons of Skanda have laid down. Let me see; how shall I proceed? The god of the golden spear teaches four modes of breaching a house: picking out burnt bricks, cutting through unbaked ones, throwing water on a mud wall, and boring through one of wood. This wall is of baked bricks; they must be picked out: but I must give them a sample of my skill. Shall the breach be the lotus-blossom, the full sun, or the new moon, the lake, the swastika, or the water-jar? it must be something to astonish the natives; the water-jar looks best in a brick wall; that shall be the shape. In other walls that I have breached by night, the neighbours have had occasion both to censure and approve my talents. Reverence to the prince Kārtikēya, the giver of all good! reverence to the God of the Golden Spear! to Brahmanya, the celestial champion of the celestials; the Son of Fire! Reverence to Yogāchārya, whose chief scholar I am, and by whom, well-pleased, was the magic unguent conferred upon me, anointed with which no eye beholds, nor weapon harms me! Shame on me! I have forgotten my measuring-line; never mind, my brahminical thread will answer the purpose: this thread is a most useful appendage to a brahman, especially one of my complexion; it serves to measure the depth and height of walls, and to withdraw ornaments from their position; it opens a latch in a door as well as a key, and is an excellent ligature for the bite of a snake; let us take measure, and go to work; so, so (*extracting the bricks*); one brick alone remains—ha! hang it! I am bitten by a snake! (*ties the finger with the cord*) 'tis well again; I must get on. (*Looks in.*) How! a lamp! a light! the golden ray streaming through the opening in the wall shows, amidst the exterior darkness, like the yellow streak of pure metal on the touchstone. The breach is perfect: now to enter. There is no one. Reverence to Kārtikēya! (*Enters.*) Here are two men asleep; let me set the outer door open to get off easily if there should be occasion: how it creaks! it is stiff with age; a little water will be of use. (*Sprinkles the door and sets it open.*) So far so well: now, are these true sleepers, or only counterfeits? (*He tries them.*) They are sound: the breathing is regular and not fluttered; the eye is fast and firmly shut; the body is all relaxed; the joints are loose; and the limbs protrude beyond the limits of the bed: if shamming sleep, they will not bear the gleam of the lamp upon their faces. (*Passes the lamp over their faces.*) All is safe. What have we here? a drum, a tabor, a lute, pipes—and here are books: why, zounds! have I got into the house of a dancer or a poet? I took it for the dwelling of some man of consequence, or I should have left it alone. Is this poverty, or only the shew of poverty? fear of thieves, or dread of the king? Are the effects hid under ground? Whatever is under ground is my property. Let us scatter the seed, whose sowing leaves nothing undiscernible. (*Throws about seeds.*) The man is an absolute pauper, and so I leave him. (*Going.*)

Mai.

Mai. (Dreaming.) Master, they are breaking into the house ; I see the thief ! Here, here, do you take care of the gold casket.

Sar. How ! does he perceive me ? does he mock me with his poverty ? he dies. (*Approaching.*) Haply he dreams. (*Looking at Maitreya.*) Eh, sure enough ; there is in the light of the lamp something like a casket, wrapped up in a ragged bathing-gown ; that must be mine. No, no, it is cruel to ruin a worthy man, so miserably reduced already. I will even let it alone.

Mai. (Dreaming.) My friend, if you do not take the casket, may you incur the guilt of disappointing a cow, and of deceiving a brahman !

Sar. These invocations are irresistible ; take it I must. Softly, the light will betray me ; I have the fire-flapping insect to put it out. I must cast it into the lamp. (*Takes out the insect.*) Place and time requiring, let this insect fly. It hovers round the wick with the wind of its wings ; the flame is extinguished. Shame on this total darkness ! or rather shame on the darkness with which I have obscured the lustre of my race ! How well it suits, that Sarvillaka, a brahman, the son of a brahman, learned in the four Védas, and above receiving donations from others, should now be engaged in such unworthy courses ! and why ? For the sake of a harlot ; for the sake of Madaniká. Ah, well, I must even go on, and acknowledge the courtesy of this brahman.

Mai. (Half awake.) Eh, my good friend, how cold your hand is !

Sar. Blockhead ! I had forgotten ; I have chilled my hand by the water I touched ; I will put it to my side. (*Chafes his left hand on his side, and takes the casket with it.*)

Mai. (Still only half awake.) Have you got it ?

Sar. The civility of this brahman is exceeding ;—I have it.

Mai. Now, like a pedlar that has sold all his wares, I shall go soundly to sleep. (*Sleeps.*)

Sar. Sleep, illustrious brahman ; may you sleep a hundred years ! Fie on this love, for whose dear sake I thus bring trouble on a brahman's dwelling ! nay, rather call down shame upon myself, and fie, and fie upon this unmanning poverty, that urges me to deeds which I must needs condemn ! Now to Vasantaséná, to redeem my beloved Madaniká with this night's booty. I hear footsteps ; should it be the watch ? what then ? shall I stand here, like a post ? no ; let Servillaka be his own protection. Am I not a cat in climbing, a deer in running, a snake in twisting, a hawk in darting upon the prey, a dog in baying man, whether asleep or awake ? in assuming various forms, am I not Máýá herself, and Saraswati in the gift of tongues ? A lamp in the night, a mule in a defile, a horse by land, a boat by water, a snake in motion, and a rock in stability ? In hovering about, I compete with the king of birds ; and in an eye to the ground, I am keener than the hare. Am I not like a wolf in seizing, and like a lion in strength ?

A remarkable fact, and which affords a very powerful argument for the antiquity of this dramatic piece, is the simple and inartificial character of its style and the absence of that extravagant and bombastic embellishment which Europeans are apt to imagine belongs to Sanscrit composition. There is no turgidity in any part of it ; and a reader (says one of our informants) who sits down in expectation of meeting oriental bombast and inflation, will be agreeably surprised by the absence of both, and charmed by the sustained and easy elegance of the dialogue. The same writer states that the piece possesses such interest, that no person who reads on till Vasantasena, the heroine, comes upon the stage, can lay down the book until he has read it out. He adds :—“ The veil is, as it were, raised, and we see the Hindus as they are, or at least as they were ; we behold them in their domestic and unsophisticated state, and the impression produced is highly favourable to them. Indeed, for our own part, we confess that the general tone and inferences of this drama have raised the Hindus in our estimation.”

Reviews of Books.

Materia Indica, or some Account of those Articles which are employed by the Hindoos and other Eastern Nations in their Medicine, Arts, and Agriculture, &c. &c. By WHITELAW AINSLIE, M.D., M.R.A.S. London, 1826, 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 654, 604.

DR. AINSLIE'S "*Materia Medica of Hindoostan*," printed in India, 1813, must be so well known, that a review of the present work, which is but an enlarged and improved edition of that very valuable publication, is scarcely necessary to afford the profession in India a knowledge of its character and contents. The general reader may, however, be ignorant that it is one of the most useful books of reference in this branch of science; from which circumstance, as well as from the number of curious and interesting facts it contains, the "*Materia Indica*" deserves a place in the library of every oriental scholar.

The object of Dr. Ainslie, in his first work, was to furnish a correct list of the different articles employed by the natives of Hindoostan in their arts, manufactures, and medicines. In the present edition he has altered the arrangement, and divided the work into distinct parts; the first comprehends such of our drugs as are found in the East, with some account of their uses, and of several articles of diet fit for the sick and delicate, supplying "a kind of combining link betwixt the *materia medica* of Europe and that of Asia;" the other part contains a description of those medicines which are almost exclusively employed by the Hindoos and other oriental nations, with an account of articles used in their arts and manufactures; and of a vast variety of vegetables used by them for food.

Dr. Ainslie's knowledge of the oriental tongues has enabled him to obtain all the information which the native medical writers and practitioners could communicate; as well as to rectify many errors, and clear up many obscurities, arising from want of that knowledge in preceding authorities.

The science of medicine is, comparatively speaking, in a degraded state in the East; amongst the Hindoos, medicine, in common with all the arts and sciences, is treated of in their sacred writings: "a circumstance," as Dr. Ainslie observes, "which has been hitherto an insurmountable obstacle to improvement." As to surgery, the practice of dissection and examination of the dead subject is contrary to the tenets of the brahminical system, so that conjecture is their chief guide to a knowledge of anatomy.

Their preparations and chemical operations are awkward to us, owing to their utter ignorance of chemistry: the methods by which they obtain the agents known in Europe are original, and often very singular. For example, the Tamool vyrians, or physicians, procure muriatic acid in the following manner: to eight pollums of common salt and six pollums of alum, well dried and pounded together, add eight pollums of *cádáláy poolippoo neer* (an acid liquor wrung from cloths spread over Bengal gram, or *cicer. arietinum*, whilst growing, and exposed to night-dew); distil the ingredients till the whole of the muriatic acid is disengaged and condensed in the receiver. This mode of obtaining the acid is not, however, unlike that in use in the West, antecedent to Glauber's discovery of a better mode of distillation by means of sulphuric acid.

Dr. Ainslie has given a good account of the croton seeds, which are now introduced into European practice with great success as a powerful cathartic.

He subjoins an account received by him recently from India of the farther uses of this valuable drug. The seeds have proved, by experiment at Madras, to be in a singular manner emmenagogue; and in fifteen cases of *obstructio menses* they had the desired effect of bringing on the *catamenia*. The expressed oil of the seeds is considered a valuable external application in rheumatic affections. This oil is likely to prove a medicine of great value, he says, in apoplexy, convulsions, and mania, but great caution is requisite in exhibiting it; doses of one or two minims have excited the most frightful *hypercatharsis*.

Dr. Ainslie has shown that the native doctors of Lower India often confound dragon's-blood (the juice of the *calamus draco*) with kino, asserting the former to be an astringent, which it is not, though kino is. The two articles are often confounded in commerce.

There is a strange confusion amongst medical and scientific writers with respect to the tree which produces these two articles, so distinctly dissimilar in properties, uses, and external appearance. The plant whence kino is obtained is asserted in the *Remains* of Mungo Park, and proved by a specimen sent home, to be the *pterocarpus draco*, which grows in Africa, South America, and Java. The kino usually met with comes from New South Wales, where (under the name of *red gum*) it is obtained by means of incisions in the *eucalyptus resinifera*. Genuine kino, Dr. Ainslie says, is but partially known in India.

It is an opprobrium to science that the exact origin of many drugs very commonly met with is not yet ascertained. The galangals, bdellium, myrrh, gamboge, are all extremely common; but the plants which produce them are not yet accurately ascertained.

The want of correct information regarding the names and characters of drugs has produced some ludicrous absurdities in our custom statutes. For example, the article described by Dr. Ainslie under the title of *Sweet Flag* (the *acorus calamus*) was rated in the schedule of custom-duties under two denominations, *acorus* and *calamus aromaticus*, and was *subject to different duties*: namely, if entered as *acorus*, a duty of about 7d. per lb. was levied upon it; if as *calamus aromaticus*, it paid a duty of about 9d. per lb. The framers of the last customs' act have had the sense to put an end to this absurdity by expunging the latter term altogether.

Dr. Ainslie mentions a singular fact respecting this root: "It is a very favourite medicine of the Indian practitioners, and is reckoned so valuable in the indigestions, stomach-aches, and bowel-affections of children, that there is a penalty incurred by any druggist who will not open his door in the middle of the night and sell it if demanded."

The descriptions which Dr. Ainslie gives of the various articles, though necessarily brief, are often amusing to the general reader, being occasionally preceded by historical notices, which furnish particulars respecting their discovery, their early uses, and their imaginary virtues in the opinion of our ancestors. We may instance the articles "Sugar" (I, 407), "Tea" (I, 434), and "Wine" (I, 473). From the latter we extract the following as a specimen:—

The Hindoos never touch wine, except when it is prescribed to them medicinally. The Persians consider it as a most valuable stomachic and cordial, and place what they call شراب میوها *shérab meywaha*, which signifies all kinds of fruit wines, amongst their *adviyahcheezeh*.

Wines are much drank by such European inhabitants in India as can afford them, and are certainly more conducive to health than arrack, which, in former years, was but too liberally indulged in. Those chiefly brought to table are sherry, Madeira, port, claret,

claret, and Cape Madeira. The first has a degree of bitterness in it, and agrees better with delicate stomachs than Madeira, which is of all wines, in my opinion, the most liable to produce acidity in the first passages: a fact so well established, that of late years it is [has been] little drank [drunk] by the dyspeptic in India. Port, in that country, is apt to bind, and should be taken with caution. Where there is either general inflammation, as in simple fever, ardent fever; or organic inflammation, as in hepatitis, &c., wine is a poison. In cases of pure languor and debility, in India, the safest and most certain cordial is claret, which is at once antiseptic, gently stimulating, and aperient. It has appeared to me particularly indicated for such as are convalescent from typhus fever, in a great degree owing, perhaps, to its powerful anti-putrescent quality; and to prove how much nature herself seems to be in unison with this opinion, I may state that I knew an instance of a delicate lady, who, for several days together, after recovering from a nervous fever, took, while at dinner, and after it, a whole bottle of claret, without feeling in the slightest degree inebriated.

The Persians, by Sir John Malcolm's account, claim to themselves the discovery of wine, which, they say, was first made by the famous *Jemsheed*, one of the ancient kings of Persia; it has hence been called, in that country, *zéher-ekhoosh*, or delightful poison.

Dr. Ainslie is entitled to the thanks of the East-India Company for his liberal recommendation of their staple commodity, tea, which he thinks not only not prejudicial to the human constitution, but possessed of positive virtues; indeed, he goes beyond ordinary bounds in its praise: "To the sedentary and literary, tea is certainly a great blessing, as it enlivens without heating; nay, I should almost be inclined to go a *little* further, and partly ascribe to its prudent use some of that brilliancy of imagination and fineness of fancy, which so peculiarly distinguish the poets and novel-writers of our happy country, where so much is drank."

The second volume of this work contains an account of the medicines used in the East (which are thus kept apart from the drugs produced in India, and known in European practice, contained in the first volume); this part of the work is preceded by short but sensible preliminary observations upon the arts and sciences of the Hindoos; in the course of which Dr. Ainslie repels a rude attack of M. Sonnerat, upon the medical practitioners of India, who, so far from being "pretenders to some knowledge of medicine, and who had been washermen, weavers, or blacksmiths," as stated by the French traveller, our author says, are often doctors by descent, and are, generally speaking, acquainted with all the learning of the Hindoos.

We do not pretend (for the reason before stated) to give a detailed review of this work: we recommend it, however, as a valuable accession to science, and think it highly creditable to the research of the author.

We cannot quit the work without noticing the numerous typographical errors which it contains: proper names, for example, are disfigured strangely; Dr. Leyden's name is written Leydon and Leydan; the Abbé Rochon is also called Rochan and Rohan, not in a single instance, but repeatedly. We have Rhumphius, Colebroke, Fleeming, &c. &c. Such errors are sometimes unavoidable, in spite of the greatest care; but when so numerous, it proves negligence somewhere.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

December 2, 1826.—A general meeting of the Society was held this day at 2 o'clock; Andrew Macklew, Esq. (Member of Council) in the chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From Sir A. Johnston, Vice-President, two collections of dried plants; an anglo-meter; a chabuk; and a coiar rope for catching elephants.

From Capt. Melville Grindlay, Part II. of his work on the Scenery, &c. of Western India.

From Lieut. Col. C. J. Doyle, a sacred fish from Lake Manasarovara. The natives, it is said, believe that a fish of this kind will protect the possessor of it from all evil in this life, and secure to him eternal felicity in the next.

From John Fleming, Esq., the Oriental Miscellany.

From Mr. W. Huttman (Assist. Sec. R. A. S.), several Chinese curiosities.

The Rev. Geo. Keylock Rusden and Major John Smith, Madras N. C., were elected members of this Society.

Two papers by Dr. Buchanan Hamilton, the first being an account of a Jain inscription (the remarks upon which, by Mr. Colebrooke, were read at the last meeting); and the second, an account of the Srawacs, or Jains, in the province of South Bihar, were read.

December 16.—The general meeting was held this day, at the usual hour; Andrew Macklew, Esq. took the chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Astronomical Society of London, Part II. of Vol. II. of their Transactions.

From W. Evans, Esq., R. N., through Dr. Lyall, specimens of the following minerals from New South Wales: iron-stone (2), carbonate of lime, granite, and silix.

From Professor C. I. C. Reuvens, of Leyden, his *Verhandeling over drie Javaasche Beelden*, with plates.

From Lieut. Col. J. Monckton Coombs, *The Principles of Harrison's Time-Keepers* (printed, with plates); and an Account of the Observatory erected at Madras, by the late W. Petrie, Esq., MS.

From Lieut. Col. T. F. De Havilland, No. I. of a work now publishing by him, entitled *Delineations and Descriptions of Public Edifices in and near Madras, &c.*

The following foreign ambassadors were elected Foreign Members of the Society, viz. Prince Paul Esterhazy; Count Münster; Count St. Martin d'Agliè; Marquis Palmella; Baron de Cetto; Count Mandelslöh; M. de Falck; and also the following foreign professors: Professor G. H. Bernstein; Professor E. Rask; Professor Fræhn; and M. J. De Scherer.

The reading of Mr. Colebrooke's Fourth Essay on the Philosophy of the Hindus was commenced.

This paper forms the fourth of the valuable series of essays upon this subject, of which the two first have already been given to the public in the first part of the Society's *Transactions*; and the third will appear in the concluding part of the volume, which it is expected will be published early in the ensuing year.

The present paper is devoted to a consideration of the heterodox doctrines of JINA or BUDDHA; and of various other sects of inferior note, as the *Pasupatas*, *Charvacas*, &c.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday the 5th July, the Hon. J. H. Harington, Esq., the president of the Society, in the chair.

C. K. Robins, Esq., and Capt. Franklin were elected members.

Amongst the presents made to the museum and library on this occasion, were a statue of Santinath, the sixteenth Jina or Jaina pontiff of the present era, presented by G. Wellesley, Esq. The elements of Hindu law, presented by the author, Sir Thomas Strange, and various drawings of Bauddha shrines and temples in Nepal, of an interesting character, by — Hodgson, Esq.

The drawings of the Bauddha temples have been selected from several hundreds scattered through the valley of Nepal, and afford specimens of every variety of form : some are exclusively Buddhist, whilst others are partially or entirely Brahmanical, but adopted by the Buddhists, and consecrated to their inferior deities. The drawings are the work of a native artist, or *chitrakar*, one of a numerous and respectable class. The artists of Nepal commence their education at ten years of age, and hence acquire great manual dexterity, which is displayed in the minuteness and fidelity of their drawings. Their apparatus is of the simplest kind ; for outlines slightly shaded, a piece of charcoal, an iron style, and one small brush made of goat's hair, are all the implements employed, with which the artist seats himself on the ground, and without any support for his paper executes his drawings. The colours he uses are brilliant and durable ; but as the study of natural tints is no part of the artist's training, it may be easily conceived that this is a branch of the art in which he does not particularly excel.

At this meeting various valuable papers were laid on the table, consisting of reports presented to Government which were transferred to the Society, in conformity to a resolution of Government to make over to the Asiatic Society, for publication, all documents of a description calculated to illustrate the geography, statistics, or history of India, and which are wholly of a literary or scientific character. The papers presented on this occasion were the following :—

A notice of the occurrence of gypsum in the Indo-Gangetic tract of the Himalaya mountains, by Capt. Herbert. This gypsum, of which several specimens were submitted, is found in the clay slate formation, which constitutes the northern boundary of the vallies that stretch along

the foot of the great mountain tract, and which, as it possesses none of the characters of a secondary rock, must be regarded either as transition or primary. The position of this gypsum seems, therefore, decisive of its claim to be regarded as a primitive rock, as one description of it is entitled by Werner, although doubted or denied by some of the principal writers of his school. The most extensive deposit of the Himalayan gypsum occurs in the bed of a stream, which leaves the hills immediately below the village of Nagul in the Dehra Doon. It is of the variety called foliated granular, of a snow white colour, of a lustre a little superior to that of white marble, and scarcely, if at all, translucent : the specific gravity is 2.24. A second deposit is about two miles up the bed of another stream which falls into the valley ; and a third is on the ascent from the village of Rajpur, immediately below the hamlet of Juree Panee. In all these localities the rock in which it is imbedded develops, on fracture, a strong odour of sulphuretted hydrogen.

A second paper, by Capt. Herbert, contains notices of various metallic products of the Himalaya range : amongst these is magnetic iron-sand, disseminated very abundantly in mica slate. The grains are highly sensible to the magnet, and are readily separated after pounding from the matrix : their specific gravity is 4.81. This ore is smelted, and yields iron of a very superior quality. In the districts of Borela, Myyur, and Bhutnor, are lead mines, which have been long worked by the natives : the ore is in all three places a steel grey granular galena, having a specific gravity of 7.2. It is said that latterly these mines have been less productive than they formerly were, but this is possibly owing to the superfiicies of the veins being exhausted, and the absence of adequate means to penetrate further into the rock.

An extract from the journal of Lieut. Trant, in his march across the Youmah mountains, which separate Ava from Arracan, describing the Kicaan or Kiayn tribes by whom the mountains are inhabited. These people, upon the skirts of the mountains, are subject to Burman ; but in the less accessible districts have preserved their independence. According to their own traditions they are the aboriginal inhabitants of the Burma country, and were expelled by the present race, who were of a Tartar stock. They differ very widely in their habits and appearance from the Burmese, being inferior in form and feature to their neighbours. They have no chief, but in disputes amongst themselves appeal

appeal to a priest, who is reputed to be a descendant from the supreme pontiff: he is termed Passine, and acts as prophet, physician, and legislator. They have no written records, and a very rude form of faith; their chief homage being addressed to a particular tree, under which, at stated periods, they assemble and sacrifice cattle, on whom they subsequently feast. Another object of adoration is the aerolite, for which, after a thunder-storm, they make diligent search, and which, when found, they deliver to the priest, by whom it is preserved as an infallible remedy for every disease. Amongst their peculiar notions is that of estimating merit by animal appetite, and he is the man of most virtue who is the amplest feeder, and drinks to most excess. As connected with the ancient history of these regions, the mountain tribes are objects of considerable interest.

A paper on the geography and population of Asam, by Capt. Neufville, brings the progress of inquiry in that direction up to a certain point, and comprehends valuable accessions to our knowledge of the country. The course of the Brahmaputra is described to a considerable distance east from Seddeea: it has not yet been followed to its source. The greater size of the northern branch, the Dihong, and many peculiar circumstances relating to its course and passage, give this stream the strongest interest as connecting it with the northern origin of the Brahmaputra. The proper branch of the latter, or Lohit, is said to arise within the hills from the Brahmu Kund, and if this be correct, it cannot have any relation to the Sanpo, or river of Tibet; but the Dibong is said to come from a large river that runs at the back of the hills, called the Sri Lohit, in which, therefore, we have an approximation to the site of Sanpo of the Jesuits' charts. This river is said to rise from an upper and inaccessible Brahma Kund. A circumstance that confirms its connexion with the Dibong is the sudden enlargement of the latter about half a century ago, when the whole country was inundated, and vast numbers of people and cattle swept away. The flood continued for about fifteen days, during which time various agricultural and household implements, elephant trappings, and numerous articles belonging to a race far advanced in civilization, were washed down: these were referred to the Koolahs, or Kulitas, a powerful and independent nation, said to exist between the mountains bordering Assam and the districts of the Grand Lama.

The northern and eastern districts of Asam have been for some years past wrested from the original possessors by fierce and barbarous tribes, amongst whom the Sinphos, who occupy the eastern

tracts, are the most conspicuous. According to their own traditions they descended from heaven; but the plain truth seems to be that, about four or five centuries ago, they migrated from a mountainous region on the borders of China, gradually advanced to the mountains skirting Asam, and within the last forty years established themselves on the low lands which they at present occupy. They have little system of law or government, except being divided into tribes under different petty chiefs or gaums, equal in rank and authority. Their religion is that of Buddha, but intermixed with a variety of superstitious practices, the relics, probably, of their original creed. They offer a sort of worship to the spirits of those who die in battle, and to the elements and clouds. The Sinphos confine themselves chiefly to the practice of arms, and leave domestic occupations and the cultivation of the soil to their Asamese slaves, of whom they annually captured great numbers, to the gradual depopulation of the country. It is no unimportant consequence of British supremacy in Asam, that the natives are henceforth protected against all such aggression.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

The Society held its first meeting for the season on the 15th Nov.; there was a very full attendance.

An ingenious paper was read, communicated by Sir W. Ouseley. This paper consists of two parts; the former part being a discussion relating to several fabulous anecdotes respecting Alexander the Great, commonly considered as of eastern origin, but assigned by the present writer chiefly to Julius Valerius, author of the *Res Gestæ Alexandri Magni*, who is placed by the editor of that work, Signor Angelo Mai, in the third or fourth century of the Christian era. In the second part, Sir W. Ouseley reclaims, in favour of the oriental writers, a variety of popular fictions, such as Pope's January and May, Boccaccio's fourth story in the Decameron, Parrell's Hermit, the story of Santon Barsisa, several of the tales in the *Gesta Romanorum*, the story of Whittington and his Cat, the induction to Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew," &c., the praise of inventing which has been long usurped by Europeans.

The first fasciculus of hieroglyphics, prepared under the Society's auspices, to facilitate the interpretation of these mystic symbols, was announced as ready for distribution: it is splendidly lithographed.

ERAS AMONGST THE MAHRATTAS.

There are at present four eras used in the Mahratta country besides the Christian, viz. 1st, the Shalivahan; 2d, the Soorsum, or

or Arabic year; 8d, the Fusslee year; and 4th, the Raj-Abiahik, or from the date of Sevajee's ascending the throne. The era of Shalivahan commences with the accession of that prince to power in the year 77-78 of the Christian era. The Soorsun (generally written Shuhoorsun by Mahomedans) was introduced in the Mirg (or husbandman's year of the Hindoos) in the year of the Hejira 745, which corresponds with A.D. 1344-45. The Fusslee era commenced to the north of the Nerbuddah in the reign of Akber, and was introduced into the Deccan by his grandson, Shah Jehan, in the year of the Hejira 1047, or A.D. 1637-38. The Soorsun and Fusslee are merely solar years, setting out with the date of the year of the Hejira when they commenced, but without making allowance, in future reckoning, for the difference between the solar and lunar years; by which means they differ rather more than three years every century.—[*Duff's Hist. of the Mahrattas.*]

BORNEO ORE OF ANTIMONY.

This mineral is brought from two places in the island of Borneo; Sadang, and Sarawah, where it is found accumulated in large masses, or rather mountains, from which it is quarried, and not dug out of mines as in Europe. These are situated near the rivers, and are easily accessible by large boats, which carry the ore to the sea. From this it will appear that the supply of antimony from Borneo will only be limited by the demand; and as long as the price continues so high in England, the quantity required for this market will be considerable. We may add that we regard this as one of the most valuable discoveries which British energy and enterprise in this part of the world have ever brought into operation.—[*Sing. Chron., July 6.*]

Another number of this paper states that the Bornean traders were so well satisfied with the prices they obtained last season, that they have imported considerable quantities into Singapore; one prahu alone brought 1,000 peculs, which they offered at a dollar and a half per pecul (about 1½d per lb.), which is one-half less than the price of last year.

THE GANGES.

So much is this river revered among the Hindoos, that many Brahmins will not look upon it, nor throw saliva into it, nor wash themselves nor their clothes in its waters. In one of their books, among many other forms of praise to be offered to Ganga, is the following:—"O God-dess! the owl, that lodges in the hollow of a tree on thy banks is exalted beyond measure; while the emperor, whose palace is far from thee, though he may possess a million of stately elephants, and may have

the wives of millions of conquered enemies to serve him, is nothing."

RUSSIAN VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY.

Another Russian voyage of discovery is now in progress. The ships of war *Moller* and *Seniavin*, commanded by Captains Stanjikowich and Litke, are under orders to survey the coasts belonging to Russia in the North Pacific: the former taking the north-west of America and the Aleutian islands; and the latter the eastern coast of Asia, Beering's Straits, &c. The coast of Kamschatka, the Caroline islands, the sea of Otschoak, &c. &c. are all to be examined by the expedition, for the completion of which four years are allotted.

ON THE ORGAN OF BENEVOLENCE IN ANIMALS.

Dr. Paterson, of Calcutta, in a philosophical essay "on the Organ of Benevolence," has the following remarks in regard to the animal kingdom:—

"In the lower animals this feeling is manifested in very different degrees. Some species are very naturally good-tempered, others extremely wicked and ferocious. The chamois has not near such a peaceable disposition as the goat and sheep; the tiger is more cruel than the lion; the hyæna than the wolf; the wolf than the dog; the Angora cat is better natured than the common cat.

"In the race of apes, what mischievous creatures the baboons are, and what a softness of character has the orang-outang!

"With birds we still are sensible of a like difference. The guinea-fowl is much more mischievous than the common fowl of our poultry yards. There are species of paroquets who cannot leave off a natural habit of biting every one who approaches them; there are other paroquets who are delighted in caressing and in being caressed. In the horse the organ of benevolence is situated in the middle of his forehead. When this region is hollow or flat, we then predicate of a horse that he is vicious, not safe, and disposed to bite. Good-tempered docile horses have this region full. Gall says he has made a thousand observations on this subject, and never found one exception.

"At Berlin, Drs. Spurzheim and Gall distinguished, out of forty cows that were kept in the stables of the minister of state there, the most wicked of them all.

"The Marquis of Boisgelin presented to Dr. Gall the head of a tame wolf, which, from its youngest years, had been distinguished for its good-nature. At the moment that it was put to death, it licked the hand of its master to implore his pity, and the head of this wolf was fuller in this region than the generality of wolves' heads.

"If you compare the head of the Guinea-pig with the head of the mischievous hamster, you will find the latter is deprived of much brain in this part. Again, the brown bear has the head much more elevated than the white bear, which is excessively ferocious and savage. Amongst the pigeons the most wicked, *Columba nicobatica*, has the head at this region flatter than other species of pigeons.

"Moreover, crocodiles, fishes of prey, as the pike and shark; the eagle, the hawk, the chamois, have this region either plain or depressed: the sheep and the goat, on the contrary, have it full and prominent; and the same law prevails throughout all animal nature."—[*Bengal Weekly Mess.*]

TIN MINES OF JOHORE.

Some members of the Singapore "Yacht Club" made an excursion, in June last, to Johore. On ascending the river, they discovered an ancient tomb of one of the Malay rajahs, formed by piling up large flat stones and filling up the centre with earth. Two stones were standing erect about a foot apart, three feet high, of the same form, very handsomely carved, and in a good state of preservation: they are of hard sandstone. They afterwards landed at the village of Gongong, to visit the tin mines formerly worked by the Chinese under the sultan. The hill from whence the ore was taken is about 200 feet in circumference, and 600 feet from the river side. The ore lies about twelve feet under the surface, in a stratum of coarse quarry sand mixed with white clay, and about a foot deep, under which is a bed of rolled pieces of quartz and beautifully white indurated clay, of different sizes, from a few ounces to several pounds in weight; some pieces of the clay, when broken, showed traces of iron about the centre, but the outside remained colourless. Above the coarse sand is a bed of fine white clay, about six feet thick; above it a yellowish clay, and on the surface a thin layer of vegetable mould, in which grows fern, coarse grass, and some stunted shrubs. There is another mine said to be of the same description, the ore of which appeared to be in small quantities; the natives said they could only earn six fanams a day by washing the sand and collecting the ore, but the work has hitherto been carried on on a very confined scale, and a further trial might bring a richer bed to light; this might cheaply and easily be effected by boring in different places. The ore is in the form of very fine sand, the same as it occurs in the rich mines of Bangka; the clay appears well suited for the finer kinds of pottery.

COMMERCE OF THE BURMAN EMPIRE.

The natural products of the Burman empire which are articles of exportation,

or likely to become so, are the following: rice, gram, cotton, indigo, cardamoms, black pepper, aloes, sugar, saltpetre, salt, teak timber, sticklac, kut'h, or terra japonica, areca nuts, dammer, fustic, sapan wood, earth oil, honey, bees'-wax, ivory, rubies, and sapphires. The mineral products are iron, copper, lead, gold, silver, antimony, white statuary marble, limestone, and coal.

The teak forests are described by persons who have visited them to be of the most extensive description, and fully equal to any possible demand, for a period beyond computation. The sugar is manufactured by Chinese, and is white, and of good quality: the exportation of it was prohibited; but if this were not the case, and encouragement were given to the manufacture, it might be carried to a great extent. The price of the clayed sugar at Ava was thirty to thirty-six rupees the 100 vis, or 365 lbs. avoirdupois.

The lower part of the Burman territory, the districts of Sarwah and Sarawadi especially, is considered as particularly adapted to the cultivation of indigo: the plant grows wild, and is also cultivated by the natives for domestic use; more than one factory was about to be established by Europeans when the war broke out.

The principal articles of import by sea into the Burman dominions, are Bengal, Madras, and British piece-goods, British woollens, iron, wrought and unwrought, copper for sheathing, lead, quicksilver, borax, sulphur, saltpetre, gunpowder, firearms, sugar, arrack, rum, and a little opium, earthen-ware, Chinese and English glass-ware, cocoa-nut and betel-nut. The trade in British piece-goods has, of late years, much increased, whilst that of Madras piece-goods has proportionately diminished.

On the northern frontier of the Burman dominions an active trade is carried on with China and other eastern states; the chief emporium is at a place called Banmo, on the Chinese frontier, and at Midai, four or five miles to the northward of Amerapura. Mahomedan and Burman merchants of Ava go to Banmo to meet the Chinese, part of whom, not unusually four or five thousand, come down to Midai. The Chinese import copper, opium, quicksilver, vermilion, iron pans, silver, good rhubarb, tea, fine honey, raw silk, spirits, hams, musk, verdigris, dry and a few fresh fruits, with dogs and pheasants: the Chinese travel on small horses and mules, and are said to be two months on the road.

The tea brought by the Chinese is black, and made up in round cakes or balls: some of it is of very fine flavour, and it is all of a very different description from any that is sold in the market of Canton; the better qualities are well adapted for Europe;

Europe; the retail price is but one tikal, little more than a rupee, for one vis, or nearly four pounds. This tea is used by all who can afford it; but a cheaper sort, said to be the produce of some part of the Burman territory, is an article of great and general demand. It is eaten after meals with garlic and sesamum oil, and it is customary to offer it to guests and strangers as a token of welcome.

The returns of the trade with the Chinese are chiefly cotton, ivory, and bees'-wax, with a small quantity of British woollens, chiefly broad-cloth and carpets. The quantity of cotton is annually very considerable, it is estimated at not less than 70,000 bales of 300 lbs. each; the greater part of it is cleaned. The Ava cotton of the lower provinces is of short staple; but that of the upper long, and of a fine texture. The cotton of Pegu, it is said, is sent to Chittagong and Dacca, and is the material of the fine Dacca muslins.

Another line of traffic is that with the country of the Shans, or, as it is termed by Europeans, the kingdom of Lao. The Shan traders repair annually, in the dry season, to the Burman country, bringing with them sticklac, bees'-wax, a yellow dye wood, various drugs and gums, raw silk, lacquered ware, ready-made jackets stuffed with cotton, onions, garlic, turmeric, and a coarse sugar in cakes. The chief returns are dry fish, nappi, and salt. The chief fair at which the Shans attend is at Plek, six or eight miles south of Ava, on a small river which falls into the Irrawaddy under the walls of the capital: there are several small fairs along the east bank of the Irrawaddy, and one more considerable is annually held at the Dagon Pagoda, near Rangoon.—[*Col. Gov. Gaz.*, July 3.

THE TALLIPOT TREE.

A leaf of this extraordinary tree has lately been brought over from the island of Ceylon, of which place it is a native, and is now in the possession of the Rev. Richard Fletcher, of Hampstead. The leaf is in a good state of preservation; it measures fully eleven feet in height, sixteen feet across its widest spread, and from thirty-eight to forty feet in circumference. If expanded as a canopy, it is sufficient to defend a dinner party of six from the rays of the sun, and in Ceylon is carried about by the natives for that purpose.

THE BEEJAPPOOR GUN.

This great cannon is called Mullik-i-Mydan, or "Sovereign of the plain;" but the natives of Beejapoor insist on calling it Moolk-i-Mydan, or "lion of the plain." Its muzzle is 4 ft. 8 in. in diameter; the calibre 2 ft. 4 in. It was cast at Ahmednugur, A.D. 1549, by a native of Constantinople. —[*Asiatic Journ.* Vol. XXIII. No. 133.

noble, named Hoosein-khan. Aurungrzeb put an inscription upon it to commemorate the conquest of Beejapoor in 1685, which has led to the mistake of supposing it to have been cast at that time. It is alike curious from its dimensions and its history. The Bombay Government in 1823 was particularly desirous of sending it to the King of England, and an engineer was sent to examine it for the purpose; but the present state of the roads renders the difficulty of transporting such a large mass of metal to the coast almost insuperable.—[*Duff's Hist. of Mahrattas.*

FOLLY OF IDOLATRY.

Terah, the father of Abraham, says tradition, was not only an idolator but manufacturer of idols, which he used to expose for public sale. Being obliged to go out one day upon particular business, he desired Abraham to superintend for him: Abraham obeyed reluctantly. "What is the price of that god?" asked an old man who had just entered the place of sale, pointing to an idol to which he took a fancy. "Old man," said Abraham, "may I permitted to ask thine age?"—"Three-score years," replied the age-stricken idolater. "Three-score years!" exclaimed Abraham, "and then thou wouldst worship a thing that has been fashioned by the hands of my father's slaves within the last twenty-four hours! Strange that a man of sixty should be willing to bow down his grey head to a creature of a day!" The man was overwhelmed with shame, and went away. After this there came a sedate and grave matron, carrying in her hand a large dish with flour. "Here," said she, "have I brought an offering to the gods; place it before them, Abraham, and bid them be propitious to me."—"Place it before them thyself, foolish woman," said Abraham, "thou wilt soon see how greedily they will devour it." She did so. In the mean time Abraham took a hammer, broke the idols in pieces, all excepting the largest, in whose hands he placed the instrument of destruction. Terah returned, and with the utmost surprise and consternation, beheld the havoc amongst his favourite gods. "What is all this, Abraham? what profane wretch has dared to use our gods in this manner?" exclaimed the infatuated and indignant Terah. "Why should I conceal any thing from my father?" replied the pious son. "During thine absence there came a woman with yonder offerings for the gods; she placed it before them. The younger gods who, as well may be supposed, had not tasted food for a long time, greedily stretched forth their hands and began to eat before the old god had given them permission. Enraged at their boldness, he rose, took the hammer, and punished them for their want of respect!" —[*Medrash Bereshith Rabah.*

K

Aba.—Bhurtpore.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Fort St. George, 13th June 1836.

The Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to publish to the army the following letter from Brig. Gen. Cotton, on his retiring from the command of the Madras division of troops in Ava.

To David Hill, Esq., chief secretary to the Government at Fort St. George.

Sir: The command of the Madras troops in Ava, which I had the honour to hold during the greater part of the war, having terminated by the ratification of peace between the British Government and the King of Ava, it is impossible for me to take a final leave of the distinguished body with whom I have been associated without expressing to His Exc. the Hon. the Governor in Council my sense of the zeal, gallantry, and discipline which the troops from Fort St. George have displayed throughout a long course of arduous service.

2. It is not within the confined limits of a report possible to do justice to individual merit; but the exemplary conduct of every officer and soldier who has been employed, whether of H.M.'s regiments or of the H.C.'s European and native troops, has been so conspicuous as to preclude the necessity of selection, and to deserve that I should solicit to place my grateful acknowledgment of their services upon the records of government.

3. The fatigues of the various campaigns, and their uncommon privations, have been cheerfully shared by all indiscriminately; but the patient endurance by the native regiments of the vicissitudes of so novel a service, waving the prejudices of caste, and the customs by which they have been influenced by ages, are beyond the measured terms of praise, and evince how well they have deserved the truly paternal care and indulgence of an enlightened Government, which have been extended with equal liberality to the European and the native soldier.

4. The support which I have universally derived from Lieut. Col. Armstrong, C.B., Brodie, Pepper, Godwin, and Parib, has been only equalled by the gallantry with which they have led their brigades whenever opposed to the enemy, and I hope I may be permitted to pay the tribute of regret for the loss of Lieut. Col. Com. Macdowall, Lieut. Col. Conry, and the remaining brave officers and men who have fallen in the execution of their duty.

5. I have had repeatedly occasion to bring to the favourable notice of the Hon. the Governor in Council the zeal and ability with which their respective departments have been conducted by Capt. Hitchens, dep. adj. gen., and Capt. Steel, dep. quart. mast. gen.; and I beg to repeat that they have always deserved my confidence.

6. The indefatigable exertions which have been exemplified by Superintendent, Surg. Dr. Heward, and the subordinate medical officers; the regularity which has been preserved in the hospitals, and the professional skill which has been evinced, call for my best acknowledgments.

7. The Madras commissariat under Capt. Tulloch, assist. commis. gen., has been remarked for its efficiency in all emergencies; and I mention him to Government as an able and zealous officer.

8. To Major Stock, and subsequently to Capt. Tod, paymasters, I am indebted for the attention and regularity with which the duties of the pay departments have been carried on.

9. Lieut. Col. Hopkinson, commanding the artillery, and Lieut. Underwood, commanding engineer, having been always employed with the officer commanding the combined forces, the acknowledgment of their valuable services rests with higher authority.

10. Having gone through the pleasing duty of expressing my sentiments of the gallantry and meritorious exertions of the Madras division of troops, I beg respectfully to offer my sincere thanks to the Hon. the Governor in Council for the proud distinction of having been entrusted to so important a command; and to assure His Exc.

that the height of my ambition will be to find myself placed, upon any future occasion, in a post so flattering and so honourable.

I have, &c.

W. COTTON, Brig. Gen.
Calcutta. May 29th, 1836.

The Governor in Council deems it proper to repeat in G. O. the acknowledgments of Brig. Gen. Cotton's distinguished services in Ava, which have already been often conveyed to that officer. To zeal, judgment, and gallantry, and to the most active and unremitting attention to all the duties of his arduous and important command, Brig. Gen. Cotton has united, in a remarkable degree, the faculty of carrying other men's minds along with him, and has thus brought the division under his orders to act with one heart and hand. The Governor in Council is persuaded that the sentiments expressed in the foregoing letter will be peculiarly gratifying to every individual, both of the staff and in the line who served in that division.

The troops of this presidency who were engaged in foreign service against the dominions of the King of Ava have already been honoured by the approbation of the Governor-General in Council, and, although this Government is sensible that its praise cannot add any weight to that distinction, yet it is a grateful duty which it gladly discharges to follow the example of the Supreme Government in acknowledging the admirable military spirit displayed throughout the service in Ava and Arracan by every officer, non-commissioned officer, and private, of H.M.'s and the H.C.'s troops, European and native.

The expedition to Ava has been distinguished from every former expedition sent from India, by its duration, by its great privations, by difficulties of every kind arising from the climate and the nature of the country, by its constant harassing duties, and by its frequent conflicts with the enemy. The European troops, in meeting and overcoming all these obstacles, have nobly sustained the character of the British army. The native troops have proved themselves worthy of fighting in the same ranks with European soldiers.

In many former instances the native troops of this presidency have cheerfully gone on foreign service; but in none has the spirit of enterprise been so high, and the devotion to the service so universal, as in the late war. No less than seventeen regiments (the 1st, 3d, 7th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 16th, 18th, 24th, 26th, 28th, 30th, 32d, 34th, 36th, 38th, 43d), besides the head-quarters and two squadrons of the 1st Lt. Cav., detachment of Goolundaze and of gun-lascars, the head-quarters and four companies of the 35th N.I., and the head-quarters and seven companies of the 1st bat. pioneers, actually proceeded to Ava and Arracan. Two regiments more (the 24th and 31st), and the remainder of the 35th were in readiness to follow. The orders for foreign service were received by all of them with enthusiasm: whole regiments embarked without the deficiency of a man; and repeated instances occurred of extraordinary forced marches of parties absent from the head-quarters of a regiment about to embark, in order that they might not be left behind. Conduct so honourable to the native army, so gratifying to the government, does not cease to be of use with the occasion which called it forth; its influence will reach to future times, and it will long be regarded, both in India and in Europe, as a memorable example for imitation to the sepoys, and for emulation to the successors of those European officers who have made them what they are.

It is directed that this general order be translated and carefully explained to the native officers, non-commissioned officers, and sepoys, of every native regiment in the service.

By order of the Hon. the Governor in Council.
D. HILL, Chief Secretary.

Sir: Permit me, for the information of Maj. Gen. Nicolls, commanding the second division of the army, to give you a detail of the operations of the column which he did me the honour to place in at the head of on the morning of the 18th inst., for the assault of Bhurtpore, by the re-entering angle

angle formed by the long projecting gorge leading to the great bastion that was breached.

My column consisted of a company of pioneers with scaling-ladders, under Capt. Anderson, two companies of the H.C.'s 1st European regt., under Capt. Orchard, one company of the 35th regt. N.I., under Capt. Mercer, and one company of the 37th N.I., commanded by Capt. Herring.

So soon as it came to my turn (by the advance of H.M.'s 59th regt.) to quit the trenches, I moved short to the right and up the ditch to reach the point I was to attack. I suffered nothing till I reached the breach; but we now found ourselves exposed to a flanking fire from a bastion to our right: there was no time for hesitation, the word was given to advance, and I, Capt. Orchard and the men near scrambled up on our hands and feet, not delaying ourselves for the ladders, which however were there, and Capt. Anderson lost five men killed and wounded in placing them.

Having mounted the breach, our descent into the body of the place was quick and rapid; we now found ourselves along with the column of H.M.'s 59th regt.; as the column I commanded had a different purpose assigned it, I was anxious to prevent their intermixing, and in this I was greatly assisted by Capt. Orchard, and here the men of my party, who in the hurry of the storm had followed the 59th regt. instead of me, joined again.

The 59th passed on along the ramparts to the left; my object was to find the gate leading to Gopaul Ghur, under the wall of which I pushed along, driving the enemy before me, and much annoyed from the wall of Gopaul Ghur, whence, besides the usual missiles, we were assailed with bags and pots of powder and lighted matches attached.

At one time I made a demonstration of storming this wall, as no gate was to be seen on this face; but a party of the enemy shewing themselves close to us below, we charged on them, following them through the streets, and never giving them time to rally.

As they retreated to the left, we soon found ourselves again under the ramparts of the town, and here we came upon an enormous mass of the enemy descending from them, retiring, I presume, from before H.M.'s 59th regt.; this was close to the Muttra gate. The enemy were so numerous that they actually jammed *en masse*, in the street, under the ramparts leading past it; we were some minutes in destroying them. Just then seeing the enemy forcing into the town from the *outside*, by the wicket of the Muttra Gate, which alone was open, and thinking we had enough on our hands, with some difficulty and assistance I passed the heap of slain which choked up the street, made my way to the wicket, cut down the men who were entering, shut it, and ran to the top of the ramparts that we might the more easily destroy those that were shut out.

While in this act Col. Baddely came up, wishing to have the gate opened. I informed him from the ramparts what we were doing. I am ignorant when it was opened, for I now pressed on along the ramparts, accompanied by my brave associates, driving the enemy before us all the way, and taking bastion after bastion.

The seventh bastion counting from the Muttra Gate is connected, like others, by a neck or long gorge fifty-five yards in length; the enemy had turned a 9-p under down this, and from it we had two discharges before we could carry the bastion; on the second discharge we rushed in, and Lieut. Maginnis, of the 1st European regt., closed with a Goudauze who was coming down, sword in hand, and destroyed him, assisted by one of our native officers and my staff; Lieut. Kelly killed also an-

other with his own hand. Those who did not escape by the embrasures, to which a rope was attached, were shot or bayoneted. In the next bastion to this I left Capt. Herring with his company, as I understood that the Maj. Gen. wished that occasionally parties should be left in them.

From this there was no opposition, great bodies of the enemy flying by the Uttabund Gate, by the Neemdar Gate, over the walls, or dispersing in the town.

I now collected my party, as their ammunition was almost entirely expended; but seeing a body of the enemy's horse close assembled, as if not knowing which way to turn themselves, under Kurram Khan's bastion, I quickly moved thither and opened a fire on them; but perceiving a party of the 16th Lancers drawing near, ceased firing and cheered them on: the whole of the horsemen were made prisoners.

By the Maj. Gen.'s command I left sixty Europeans in this bastion with an officer, made over the remainder to Lieut. Col. Cartwright, on the ramparts, and the other companies to their respective officers, and so ended my command.

Where all deserved praise it is difficult to particularise any; but the Europeans being ever under my own eye, I can bear witness to their great gallantry and good conduct; the sepoys too did their duty. Of the officers I may distinguish Capt. Orchard, Lieut. Maginnis, and Lieut. Kelly, as being more immediately with me, their duty leading them to the head of the column; but to Capt. Anderson, of the pioneers, Capt. Herring of the 37th, Capt. Mercer, of the 35th, and Lieuts. Matthe and Jorden, of the 1st European regt., my warmest thanks are due for the devotion and willingness with which they performed their respective duties.

I am happy to say I lost no officer; the loss of the men, however, I am grieved has been rather heavy, it amounts to thirty-six killed and wounded; of these, twenty-six are Europeans and pioneers, the remainder sepoys.

I have to entreat the forgiveness of Maj. Gen. Nicolls for not sending this report sooner; but from the dispersed state of the army, it is only four days since I saw the division orders issued on the occasion of the assault, and it has taken me that period to collect the casualty returns. I am satisfied the Maj. Gen. will be pleased to know what actually the column performed which, with so much honour to me, he placed under my command; and I hope it is a pardonable effort, even at this late period, which I owed to the brave men under me.

I have, &c.

T. WILSON, Lieut. Col.

Camp, Bhurtpore, Jan. 31st 1826.

Adjutant-General's Office.

Sir: I have the honour, by directions of the Commander-in-chief, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 31st ult., transmitting a statement of the service performed by the column you placed under the command of Lieut. Col. Thomas Wilson on the morning of the 18th ult., and in reply, to request that you will acquaint Lieut. Col. Wilson that the service performed by the troops under his command is highly creditable to them, and that the share which he himself and his column had in the achievements of that day, is justly appreciated by His Exc.

I have, &c.

W. L. WATSON, Adj. Gen.

(A true copy.)

D. D. ANDERSON, Assist. Adj. Gen.

To Maj. Gen. Nicolls, C.B., commanding 2d infantry division, Camp.

College Examinations.

EAST-INDIA COLLEGE AT HAILEYBURY.

GENERAL EXAMINATION, December 1826.

ON Tuesday, the 5th Dec., a Deputation of the Court of Directors proceeded to the East-India College at Haileybury, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the College Council of the result of the General Examination of the Students.

The Deputation, upon their arrival at the College, proceeded to the Principal's Lodge, where they were received by him and all the Professors, and the Oriental Visitor.

At half-past twelve o'clock the Deputation attended at a confirmation of several of the Students at the Chapel, held by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, Visitor of the College.

At the conclusion of that rite, the Deputation, accompanied by the Right Rev. Prelate, the Principal, and other Members of the College Council, &c. &c. &c. proceeded to the Hall, where the following proceedings took place :—

The list of the Students who had gained prizes, and other honourable distinctions, was read.

Mr. Philip Francis delivered an English essay on “ *The immediate and subsequent effect of the taking of Constantinople by the Turks.* ”

The Students read and translated in the several Oriental languages.

The Chairman then delivered the Prizes of Medals and Books according to the following list :

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Report of Students who obtained Medals, Prizes, and other honourable Distinctions, at the Public Examination, December 1826.

Fourth Term.

Patrick Scott, medal in classics, medal in law, and medal in Sanscrit.

Robert Grote, medal in Persian, prize in Hindustani, prize in Bengali, prize in Arabic, and highly distinguished in other departments.

William Bracken, medal in mathematics, medal in political economy, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Third Term.

Robert J. M. Muspratt, prize in law, prize in Sanscrit, prize in Persian, prize in Arabic, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Eyles Irwin, prize in political economy, and prize in Bengali.

John Hugh Bainbridge, prize in classics, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Charles Allen, prize in mathematics, and with great credit in other departments.

Mathew McMahon, prize in Hindustani, and with great credit in other departments.

Second Term.

Wm. Arthur Inglis, prize in mathematics, prize in Sanscrit, and with great credit in other departments.

Samuel S. Brown, prize in Persian, prize in Hindustani, prize in Arabic, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Neil Benjamin Edmonstone, prize in Persian, and prize in Hindustani.

Alexander Frederick Donnelly, prize in law, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Wm. James Henry Money, prize in history, and highly distinguished in other departments.

John Muir, prize in classics, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Edmund Smith, prize in Bengali, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Philip Francis, prize for the English essay, and highly distinguished ; also prize in Persian writing and in drawing.

John Thornton, prize for an English essay, and highly distinguished in other departments.

First Term.

Wm. Francis Thompson, prize in classics, and highly distinguished in other departments.

George Sparks, prize in Sanscrit, prize in English composition, and highly distinguished in other departments.

John Gordon, prize in Hindustani, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Duncan McLeod, prize in mathematics.

Donald McLeod, prize in Bengali, and with great credit in other departments.

John F. Bishop, prize in Persian.

The following Students, though they did

did not obtain prizes, were highly distinguished in the examination :—

4th Term.	Mr. Mytton, — Udney, — Martin.
3d Term.	— Cornish, — Todd, — Smyth, — James, — Lean, — Timins,
2d Term.	— Fraser, — Popham, and prize in drawing, — Wilmot.
1st Term.	— Mackenzie.

And the following passed with great credit:

4th Term.	Mr. T. C. Scott, — Woodcock, — Deane.
3d Term.	— Bruce, — Harvey.
2d Term.	— Colvin, — Ewart, — Renny, — Quintin, — Lumsden, — Carnegie.
1st Term.	— J. Law, — Hallett, prize in Sanscrit writing. — Tyler, — Trench, prize in drawing.

The rank of the Students leaving the College was then read, it being previously announced that the certificates of the College Council were granted, with reference not only to industry and proficiency, but also to conduct; and that this latter consideration has always a decided effect in settling the order of rank.

Rank of Students finally leaving College, as settled by the College Council.

BENGAL.

1st Class.

4th Term.	Mr. Grote, — Bracken.
2d Term.	— Money.
1st Term.	— Francis.
	2d Class.
4th Term.	— Mytton, — Martin, — T. C. Scott, — Woodcock, — A. Udney,
3d Term.	— Allen, — McMahon, — James, — Bruce.
2d Term.	Mr. Quintin.

1st Term.	— Duncan McLeod, — McKenzie.
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3d Class.

4th Term.	— Deane, — Buller.
3d Term.	— Cunliffe.

MADRAS.

1st Class.

2d Term.	Mr. Inglis.
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2d Class.

3d Term.	— Smyth.
	3d Class.

4th Term.	— Dowdeswell.
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BOMBAY.

1st Class.

4th Term.	Mr. P. Scott.
3d Term.	— Muspratt.

2d Class.

3d Term.	— Bainbridge.
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3d Class.

4th Term.	— Stracey.
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It was then announced, that such rank would take effect only in the event of the Students proceeding to India within *three months* after they are so ranked; and "Should any Student delay so to proceed, he shall only take rank among the Students classed at the last Examination previous to his departure for India, whether that Examination may have been held by the College Council or the London Board of Examining, and shall be placed at the end of that class in which rank was originally assigned to him."

It was also announced that the next Term would commence on Friday the 19th January, and that the Students were required to return to the College within the first four days of it, unless a statutable reason, satisfactory to the College Council, could be assigned for the delay; otherwise, the Term would be forfeited.

The Hon. Chairman (Sir G. A. Robinson) then addressed the Students, expressing his gratification at the highly favourable result of the Examination, as well as at the creditable and decorous demeanour of the general body of the Students; and the business of the day concluded.

Wednesday the 10th, and Wednesday the 17th January, are the days appointed for receiving Petitions at the India House, for candidates for admission into the College, for the Term which will commence on Friday, the 19th January.

EAST-INDIA MILITARY COLLEGE.

ON Friday the 15th December, the half-yearly public examination of the gentlemen cadets educated at this institution, took place.

His Grace the Duke of Wellington, accompanied by Major-General Lord Fitzroy Somerset, arrived at the college at 11 o'clock, and was received with the usual military honours by the company of gentlemen cadets drawn up under arms in front of the college. On alighting from his carriage, His Grace inspected the company, after which, having lodged arms, they were marched into the great hall, and the examination immediately commenced in presence of his Grace, the hon. the Chairman and members of the Court of Directors, and an assemblage of distinguished visitors,

The first class, consisting of thirty-two students, were examined in mathematics, fortification, and the oriental languages; in all which they acquitted themselves with great credit. The various specimens of well-executed fortification plans, military surveys, and different styles of civil drawing, which were exhibited on this occasion, were very much commended. Previous to quitting the hall his Grace was pleased to express his satisfaction with the appearance and performance of the gentlemen cadets; he adverted in short but very impressive terms to his own military career in India, and to the interest he felt in the welfare of the East-India Company; and retired, leaving all connected with the institution deeply impressed with the distinguished honour conferred upon it by his visit.

At the conclusion of the examination the prizes were distributed; after which the hon. Chairman (Sir George Robinson, Bart.) addressed the students in very kind terms, expressing his approbation of their general diligence in study, and their marked good conduct and gentlemanly behaviour. It was then announced that the following gentlemen were recommended for engineer service, viz.

1. Mr. Thomas Louis,
 2. — William Baker,
 3. — Charles Guthrie,
 4. — Henry Lake,
 5. — Henry Berthon,
 6. — Frederick Dittmas,
 7. — Hugh Fraser,
 8. — William Garrard,
 9. — Robert Napier,
 10. — Henry Giberne,
- and that the following gentlemen, who

were conspicuous in progress and talent, should be allowed to return for another term as candidates also for the engineer service, viz.

1. Mr. James Wells Robertson,
2. — James Cruickshank,
3. — Thomas Smythe,
4. — John Glassford,
5. — Robert Henderson,
6. — John Fraser,
7. — George Casement,
8. — John Anderson.

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Distribution of Prizes at the Public Examination, viz.

First Class.

Mr. Thomas Louis, second prize in mathematics; first prize in fortification; first prize in military drawing; second prize in civil drawing; first prize in classics; first prize in Hindustani; prize for Persian writing; and first prize (a sword) for general good conduct.

Mr. William Baker, first prize in mathematics; second prize in classics and in Hindustani.

Mr. Charles Guthrie, second prize for good conduct.

Mr. H. Berthon, second prize in fortification.

Mr. H. Lake, first prize in French.

Mr. R. Henderson, second ditto.

Mr. James Brind, first prize in civil drawing; second prize in military drawing.

Second Class.

Mr. R. Master, prize in mathematics; prize in classics; and prize for good conduct.

Mr. R. Forster, prize in fortification.

Mr. G. Mann, prize in civil drawing.

Mr. B. Bailey, prize in French and in Hindustani.

Third Class.

Mr. M. Birdwood, prize in mathematics; and prize in civil drawing.

Mr. J. Moore, prize in fortification; prize in classics; and prize for good conduct.

Mr. S. Turnbull, prize in French.

The hon. Chairman and visitors now repaired to the parade, where the gentlemen cadets were reviewed in the usual manner.

COLLEGE OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

EXAMINATION, June 1826.

The Hon. the Governor in Council has much satisfaction in publishing the following extracts from the Board's report of of Superintendence for the college of Fort St. George, dated 4th July, and from the orders of Government in reply to it.

Extract from the college report.

2d. " Our classification of the students is as follows:—

Admission.	Names.	Increased Allowances.
MAHRATTA.		
Sept. 1824	H. V. Conolly ...	{ Nov. 1824 Aug. 1825
TAMIL.		
1st Class.		
Sept. 1824	R. Gardner	{ Nov. 1824 Dec. 1825
Aug. 1825	E. B. Thomas ...	Oct. 1825
Jan. 1826	R. T. Porter ...	Jan. 1826
2d Class.		
Aug. 1825	A. Maitland.....	Oct. 1825
July 1824	H. F. Dumergue...	Dec. 1824
Oct. 1825	R. B. Sheridan...	Dec. 1825
TELOGOO.		
1st Class.		
Aug. 1825	A. Maitland.....	Oct. 1825
2d Class.		
Sept. 1823	E. P. Thompson ...	June 1824
Nov. 1825	W. C. Ogilvie ...	Dec. 1825
Aug. 1825	E. B. Thomas ...	Oct. 1825
Feb. 1825	A. Mellor.....	May 1825
Apr. 1825	W. Douglas	June 1825
Nov. 1825	H. C. Montgomery...	Dec. 1825
Oct. 1825	W. A. Morehead...	Dec. 1825
3d Class.		
Oct. 1823	W. E. Underwood...	June 1824
HINDOOSTANEE.		
1st Class.		
Sept. 1824	H. V. Conolly...	{ Nov. 1824 Aug. 1825
Sept. 1824	R. Gardner	{ Nov. 1824 Dec. 1825
Jan. 1826	R. T. Porter.....	Jan. 1826
2d Class.		
Nov. 1825	H. C. Montgomery...	Dec. 1825
July 1824	H. F. Dumergue...	Dec. 1824
Apr. 1825	W. Douglas	June 1825
Feb. 1825	A. Mellor.....	May 1825
Sept. 1823	E. P. Thompson...	June 1824
Oct. 1823	W. E. Underwood...	June 1824
3d Class.		
Oct. 1825	W. A. Morehead...	Dec. 1825
Oct. 1825	R. B. Sheridan...	Dec. 1825
CARNATAKA.		
Nov. 1825	W. C. Ogilvie ...	Dec. 1825

3d. " Several weeks previously to the examination, Mr. Conolly met with a

serious accident, which materially interrupted his studies, and was the occasion of his being examined under great disadvantage; the result has nevertheless been highly satisfactory.

4th. " In Mahratta, Mr. Conolly has attained a very high degree of proficiency: he is well acquainted with the idiom of the language, and with the principles of its construction, and possesses a very extensive knowledge of words, which he used with readiness, and applies with judgment and discrimination. Mr. Conolly's translation of a difficult Mahratta paper was remarkable for its fidelity; the meaning, not only of every sentence, but of every word of the original, with one single exception, being fully expressed. Mr. Conolly was equally successful in translating from English into Mahratta. In conversation he expresses himself with correctness and propriety, and with a good pronunciation. He is also acquainted with the style of familiar and official letters.

5th. " Mr. Conolly's proficiency in Hindoostanee is equal to that which he has attained in Mahratta; he executed translations of the most difficult exercises, both into and from the language, in a manner the most creditable. He converses on various subjects with fluency and propriety, and explained with ease an original urzee written in an obscure style.

6th. " Mr. Conolly has already obtained the highest allowances of the institution; and, as he is fully qualified for the transaction of public business in two languages, we recommend that he may now be employed on the active duties of the public service. We beg leave further to state our opinion, that his acquirements in Mahratta and Hindoostanee are of so high an order as to entitle him to the honorary reward of 3,500 rupees; and we have much pleasure in recommending that this distinction may accordingly be conferred upon him.

7th. " The Tamil paper given to Mr. Gardner was of the same difficulty as those usually selected for students of advanced attainments, and was translated with great correctness. His translation from English into Tamil was also well rendered. He read a cutchery paper with tolerable facility, and conversed in such a manner as to shew that he had a great knowledge of words. Mr. Gardner's acquaintance with Hindoostanee is also extensive; he read, and with few exceptions explained correctly, the urzee presented to Mr. Conolly; but his pronunciation is defective, and he still wants practice in the colloquial use of that tongue. We consider his proficiency in these two languages to be such as to qualify

qualify him for the discharge of public business, and we accordingly recommend that he be employed in the public service. He has already obtained the highest college allowances.

8th. "Mr. Porter was admitted into the college on the 31st of January last, when he obtained his first increase of allowances for his knowledge of Hindoostanee, which he has continued to study with success. His acquirements in that language are equal to Mr. Gardner's; for, though he has not so extensive a knowledge of words, his exercises display greater familiarity with its idiom. In Tamil he chose for translation a more easy paper than that given to Mr. Gardner and Mr. Thomas, who in that language rank above him, but it was rendered into English in such a manner as to prove his having a considerable knowledge of words, and great skill in the construction of sentences. His translation into Tamil exhibits an excellent knowledge of the idiom of the language, and he speaks in a manner very creditable to him considering the short period of his study. The rapid progress made by Mr. Porter in Tamil, which he has studied for little more than four months, together with his successful prosecution of the study of Hindoostanee, leads us to hope that he will at the next general examination hold a distinguished place in our report. At present we consider him, by his superior attainments in two languages, to have established his title to the highest college allowances, which we accordingly recommend may be granted to him.

9th. "Mr. Thomas performed the same exercises in Tamil as those given to Mr. Gardner, and his knowledge of this language is nearly equal to that gentleman's. He spoke with considerable fluency and with a good pronunciation. A comparison of Mr. Thomas's present exercises with those executed at his last examination exhibits great progress in Tamil. Mr. Thomas's examination in Teloofoo was also satisfactory, considering his short period of study,

10th. "Mr. Maitland is the only student whose acquirements in Teloofoo entitle him to rank in the first class. His translation of a difficult Teloofoo paper is well executed, and his translation into Teloofoo is also a creditable performance. He speaks this language with considerable ease, and read and explained part of a Teloofoo urzee with correctness. Mr. Maitland translated into English the same Tamil paper as that given to Mr. Porter, and rendered it extremely well.

11th. "The progress made by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Maitland in Tamil and Teloofoo is so highly satisfactory, that we have reason to believe they will soon establish their claim to the highest allowances

granted to successful exertion at the institution.

12th. "Mr. Dumergue's translation of the Tamil paper executed by Mr. Gardner and Mr. Thomas shews that he has diligently applied to the study of the language; but his translation from English was not equally successful. Mr. Dumergue read a cutcherry paper, and acquitted himself tolerably in the colloquial part of the examination. Mr. Dumergue's exercise from Hindoostanee is not free from error, but his translation into that language is intelligible; we are of opinion that he should cultivate the colloquial use of that tongue.

13th. "Mr. Thompson has made some progress in Teloofoo since his last examination, and his Hindoostanee exercises are tolerably executed, evincing a grammatical knowledge of the language. He explained with success some parts of an official Hindoostanee paper, but his colloquial use of the language is limited.

14th. "Although Mr. Montgomery has been only seven months attached to the College, he has, in Hindoostanee, placed himself above many of his seniors, and the attention to study which he has evinced, holds out the prospect of future excellence. His advancement in Teloofoo is satisfactory; he has a good knowledge of its grammar, and with some aid translates easy Teloofoo papers.

15th. "Mr. Ogilvie received for translation an easier Teloofoo paper than that given to Mr. Mellor and Mr. Douglas, who are ranked below him; but his translation, notwithstanding this, has more merit than those executed by them, because it is very nearly correct. He speaks the language tolerably, considering the short period that he has studied; he did not, however, attempt any translation from English into Teloofoo. Mr. Ogilvie has only recently commenced the study of Carnataca, in which his progress is satisfactory.

16th. "Mr. Mellor translated from Teloofoo the same paper as Mr. Maitland, but his translation is defective and contains errors; his translation into that language is tolerably executed; he read, and with great difficulty explained, some portions only of a Teloofoo urzee, but his colloquial use of the language is confined. This gentleman has also made some progress in Hindoostanee.

17th. "Mr. Douglas translated from Teloofoo the same paper as Mr. Mellor, but his translation is also defective, and in some passages erroneous. He understands imperfectly what is addressed to him, and has great difficulty in making himself understood. In Hindoostanee, nearly the same remarks apply to Mr. Douglas as to Mr. Dumergue.

18th. "We consider it due to Mr. Dumergue,

mergue, Mr. Mellor, and Mr. Douglas to state that their studies have been much interrupted by illness.

19th. "In Telooogo, Mr. Morehead evinced a good knowledge of the grammar and general structure of that language, from which, with aid, he can translate easy tales. He has only recently commenced the study of Hindoostanee, and his progress in it is yet inconsiderable.

20th. "Mr. Underwood's knowledge, either of the written or colloquial use of Telooogo, is still imperfect; but in Hindoostanee he expresses himself intelligibly on common subjects, and comprehends what is said. His study of that language does not appear to have been systematic, and his exercises evince a defective knowledge of its idiom.

21st. "Mr. Sheridan, with some assistance, translated a Tamil story into English pretty correctly. He has only lately directed his attention to the study of Hindoostanee, and his progress in it is inconsiderable."

Extract from the Orders of Government.

2. "The Hon. the Governor in Council has observed, with much satisfaction, that the general result of the examination lately held at the College is highly creditable to the students attached to that institution, and is pleased, agreeably to your recommendation, to confer on Mr. Conolly the honorary reward of 3,500 rupees for his proficiency in the Mahratta and Hindoostanee languages, and on Mr. Porter the highest rate of College allowances from the fourth instant.

3. "Mr. Conolly and Mr. Gardner will be permitted to enter on the duties of the public service."

(True extracts.)

H. CHAMIER,
Acting Sec. to Gov.

On Saturday, the 8th July, the Hon. the Governor visited the College. He was received in the usual form by the Board of Superintendence, and conducted to the hall, where he thus addressed the students who were assembled on the occasion.

"Gentlemen: No act of government, I believe, has ever had a more beneficial influence on the service than the establishing of the College. For, by rendering the knowledge of the country languages general among the civil servants, it has made them much fitter than they were when this knowledge was more limited, to discharge the duties of the various offices to which they must necessarily be called in the course of their service.

"In former times, the junior civil servants, on their first arrival in India, were usually sent to some one of the public

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offices, where they seldom afterwards had an opportunity of gaining a competent knowledge of any of the country languages. There were, indeed, some distinguished exceptions; but they were too few to obviate the inconvenience which was experienced in the provinces, from the want of men qualified to hold direct communication with the people in their own language.

"Government, with a view to remove this evil, resolved to forego the benefit of the early employment of the younger civil servants, and to place them in the College, in order that by learning the languages, they might afterwards become more efficient servants of the state.

"The views of Government, however, cannot be accomplished, unless your proficiency on leaving college be such as, by qualifying you for immediate employment, shall compensate for the time you have spent here; but I am confident you will not disappoint the public expectation, and that you will by your fitness for public business, derived from your knowledge of the languages, amply make up for the time you have given to the College.

"Your studies, though intended solely for public objects, are likewise calculated to benefit yourselves no less than the public service; because, while they qualify you for office, they at the same time facilitate your promotion. They will also bring advantages of another kind; for by enabling you to converse with the natives on every subject which may attract your attention, connected with themselves or their country, they will open to you new sources of information and of rational amusement.

"The late examination, though it has not given so many students to the public service as some former examinations, has, on the whole, maintained the character of the College. Mr. Gardner has already obtained the highest rate of college allowances, and has now by his proficiency in Tamil and Hindoostanee, qualified himself to enter upon the active duties of the service; and Mr. Conolly's attainments in Mahratta and Hindoostanee are of so high an order as to have entitled him to the honorary reward. His example, I hope, will be successfully followed by many of you, when you have been longer in the College.

"I trust that you will at all times keep in mind that it is chiefly by the conduct of the civil servants, distributed over the country as judges, collectors, and magistrates, that the national character must be upheld; that this sacred duty must one day devolve upon you, and that your fitness to discharge it in a suitable manner must in a great measure depend upon your knowledge of the people and of their language."

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ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

DESERTION FUND.

Fort William, June 23, 1826.—The Right Hon. the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct, that all arrears of pay due on the abstracts companies to deserters at the time of desertion, shall, on being realized, be retained with regiments in the manner of a general fund, which is to be appropriated towards the payment of all rewards claimable for the apprehension of deserters from the regiment. Should any surplus remain on the 1st of January of each succeeding year, it is to be remitted to the paymaster of the district, who will credit Government with the amount.

PUNISHMENT OF DESERTERS.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, June 30, 1826.
—The following letter is published in General Orders for the information and guidance of all concerned:—

Horse Guards, Jan. 25, 1826.
Gen. Lord Combermere, G.C.B., &c. &c.
My Lord: it having been decided by his Majesty's government that the Royal African Colonial Corps shall not receive any more deserters or culprits, but shall, hereafter, be recruited on the west coast of Africa, it becomes impossible to carry into effect the provisions of the 6th section of the Mutiny Act, there being no corps now to which soldiers adjudged to general service can be attached.

It is expedient, therefore, that court-martial should in future abstain from awarding sentences of "general service," and confine themselves to the other modes of punishment recognized in the army; and with this view I am to signify the Commander-in-chief's desire, that you will direct the attention of the members of every general court-martial assembled under your orders to the purport of this letter.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. TORRENS. Adj. Gen.

SUPERINTENDING SURGEONS.

Fort William, July 14, 1826.—The Right Hon. the Governor General in Council is pleased to abolish the appointment of deputy superintending surgeon, and to authorize an addition of three superintending surgeons to the medical establishment of this presidency, pending the pleasure of the Hon. the Court of Directors.

The superintendents here sanctioned are to be stationed respectively, as their head-quarters, at Agra, Allahabad, and Barrackpore.

His Exc. the Commander-in-chief is requested to issue such instructions for distributing the stations within the medical circles of Cawnpore and Meerut as will equalize the duties of the four superintendents, and also give directions for relieving, by the presidency superintending surgeon, the third member of the Medical Board from such duties of superintendence as interfere with his higher functions.

These arrangements in the medical department, are to have effect from the 1st proximo.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Political Department.

June 9. Mr. R. Hunter, senior commissioner in Arracan.

Mr. C. Paton, junior ditto in Arracan.

Capt. R. H. Phillips, 49th N.I., assistant to commissioners in Arracan.

July 7. Lieut. Chas. Chester, 33d N.I., assistant to envoy to Court of Ava.

21. Mr. W. A. Edmonstone, assistant to political agent and superintendent of Ajmere.

Territorial Department.

June 8. Mr. T. Richardson, deputy salt agent and collector of land revenue and customs of Chittagong.

29. Mr. H. Newnham, 2d member of Board of Revenue in western provinces.

Mr. M. Moore, collector of land revenue and customs at Furruckabad.

Mr. D. Scott, junior, collector of Burdwan.

Mr. W. H. Valpy, collector of northern division of Bundlecund.

Mr. Fraser, secretary to the Board of Revenue in western provinces.

Mr. J. Davidson, sub-secretary to ditto.

Mr. A. F. Lind, collector of Futtehpore.

Sir J. B. Stonehouse, Bart., collector of Rajeshahye.

Mr. J. P. Ward, collector of Bhangulpore.

Mr. C. Pattenson, superintendent of salt golahs at Sulkea.

Mr. R. W. Maxwell, collector of Jessore, deputy salt agent, and superintendent of south-eastern chokies.

Mr. S. G. Palmer, 2d assistant to Board of Customs, salt and opium.

Mr. W. Dent, joint magistrate, and deputy collector at Balasore.

Mr. J. H. Patton, assistant to salt agent in southern division of Cuttack.

July 20. Mr. R. Torrens, assistant to collector and salt agent of 24-Pergunnahs.

Judicial Department.

July 6. Mr. C. J. Middleton, judge and magistrate of Furruckabad.

Mr. Abercrombie Dick, ditto ditto of Midnapore.

Mr. Wm. Crawford, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Seharumpore.

General Department.

July 13. The Rev. R. Ewing, district chaplain at Dum Dum.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, June 9, 1826.—Lieut. Col. Com. J. R. Lumley, to be designated brigadier whilst commanding Meywar field force.

June 16.—Capt. Colvin, of engineers, to officiate as superintendent of canals in Dehly territory during absence of Capt. Tickell on furlough.

Asst.-surg. appointed. R. N. Burnard to civil station of Benares, v. Watson prom. R. Rankine to ditto of Sarun, v. Smith prom. J. M'Gaveston to ditto of Meerut, v. Leslie prom. H. Guthrie to ditto of Allahabad, v. Corbyn prom. M. Nesbet to ditto of Shahjehanpore, v. Haley prom. J. Ronald to be attached to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

Head-Quarters, June 9, 1826.—Capt. Leadbeater, 53d N.I., to be 2d in command of Sirmoor Bat.

June 10.—3d L.C. Lieut. J. Christie to be adj., v. Drummond who has resigned adjutancy.

June 12.—Maj. Gen. Shuldham to command Cawnpore division of army.

Brig. Gen. Knox to command div. of army employed on Sirhind frontier.

Maj. Gen. Nicolls to be relieved from command of Agra div. on 1st July, when the command will devolve upon Brigadier Burnet.

Brigadier J. W. Adams to command eastern frontier.

Capt. and Dep. Asst. Adj. Gen. Shuldham removed from eastern div., and app. to Sirhind div. of army; and Capt. and Brig. Maj. Fell removed from Sirhind frontier to eastern frontier.

The designation of Capt. Anderson, now dep. asst. adj. gen. of Agra div., and of Capt. Fitzgerald, now deputy ditto of western div., to be changed to that of maj. of brigade.—Capt. Anderson posted to Muttra and Agra frontier, and Capt. Fitzgerald to Rajpootana field force.

Fort William, June 16.—Lieut. Col. Com. J. J. Aldin, 48th N.I., transf. to Invalid estab., and app. regulating office of invalid Tannahs at Bhaugulpore and Tirhoot.

June 22.—Corn. T. H. Pearson, H. M.'s 11th Drapp., to be an extra aide-de-camp on Gov. General's staff.

Capt. J. Davies, 3d extra N.I., to officiate as fort adj. of Fort William during absence of Capt. Broughton.

Surg. J. N. Rind transf. to Inv. estab.

Infantry. Lieut. Col. E. Cartwright to be lieut. col. com., v. Aldin transf. to Inv. estab. Maj. R. C. Andre to be lieut. col., v. Cartwright, both dated 16th June.

7th N.I. Capt. W. R. C. Costly to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. S. Walker to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. H. J. McGeorge to be lieut., from 18th June, in suc. to Andree prom.

68th N.I. Lieut. J. E. Watson to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. H. C. Gilmore to be lieut., from 10th June, v. Fitzgerald dec.

Asst.-surg. J. Jeffreys to have med. charge of civil station of Furruckabad, v. Taylor; and *Asst.-surg.* W. Taylor to have charge of med. dep. at Cawnpore, v. Jeffreys.

Head-Quarters, June 13.—Asst.-surg. J. Brown to afford med. aid to troops at Lohargong.

Lieut. Bamfield, 56th N.I., to act as adj. to Mahrwarrah Local Bat. as a temp. arrangement.

Fort William, June 30.—46th N.I. Lieut. J. Jones to be Capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. H. W. Midford to be lieut., from 30th April, in suc. to Barnett dec.

Asst.-surg. H. S. Mercer to be surg., v. Rind invalided.

Lieut. R. W. Wilson, 65th N.I., to be capt. by brevet, from 16th June.

Lieut. W. Brownlow, 46th N.I., to be an aide-de-camp on Gov. General's staff, v. Clayton.

Head-Quarters, June 22.—Lieut. P. C. Anderson, 64th N.I., app. to corps of pioneers.

June 25.—Asst.-surg. Bowran and Offic. Asst.-surg. Duncan to do duty with 2d Europ. regt. at Cheduba.

Fort William, July 7.—4th Extra N.I. Ens. St. G. D. Showers to be lieut., v. Campbell dec.

Asst.-surg. Temple to have med. charge of salt agency at Jessore, v. Ronald.

Head-Quarters, June 30.—Capt. H. A. Newton, 68th N.I., to do duty with Kemaon Local Bat.

Ensigns appointed to do duty. T. Bennett with 57th N.I. at Dinapore; C. Brown with 53d do. at Bareilly; G. W. Stokes and J. R. Flower with 57th do. at Dinapore; W. Lamb with 51st do. at Jubulpore; J. H. Le Feuvre with 26th do. at Cawnpore.

July 3.—Superintend. Surg. J. Browne re-appointed to Sirhind frontier div. of army.

Asst.-surg. J. A. Lawrie to have med. charge of 3d or Blair's Local Horse.

Fort William, July 14.—Army Commissariat Department. Capt. W. W. Gairdner, supernum., to be a sub-assist. com. gen., and Lieut. B. W. Ehhart, 10th N.I., to be a supernum. sub-assist. com. gen., in suc. to Chester, app. assist. to envoy to Ava.

Cavalry. Maj. T. Shubrick to be lieut. col. from 26th June, v. Gall dec.

1st L.C. Capt. W. Pattle to be maj., Lieut. H. L. Worrall to be capt. of a troop, and Corn. S. B. Good to be lieut., from 26th June, in suc. to Shubrick prom.

Head-Quarters, July 6.—Asst. Carr to do duty with H.M.'s 47th regt.

July 7.—Removals in Artillery. 1st-Lieut. P. B. Burlton from 3d comp. 4th bat. to 4th comp. 5th bat. 1st-Lieut. J. H. M'Donald from 5th comp. 5th bat. to 3d comp. 4th bat. Lieut. J. D. Crommelin from 2d comp. 3d bat. to 1st comp. 2d bat. Lieut. A. Campbell from 3d comp. 2d bat. to 2d comp. 2d bat. Lieut. G. Twemlow from 1st comp. 2d bat. to 3d comp. 3d bat. 2d-Lieut. H. Sturrock from 15th comp. 6th bat. to 1st comp. 2d bat.

Postings and Removals in Infantry. Lieut. Col. Com. W. Croxton from 34th to 3d N.I.; Lieut. Col. Com. W. Logie from 3d to 34th N.I.; Lieut. Col. Com. E. Cartwright (new prom.) to 1st Europ. regt. Maj. Gen. J. Cunningham from 1st Europ. regt. to 48th N.I. Lieut. Col. E. Simcoe from 5th extra to 48th N.I. Lieut. Col. J. Pester from 48th N.I. to 1st Europ. regt. Lieut. Col. C. Peach from 7th N.I. to 5th extra regt. Lieut. Col. R. C. Andree (new prom.) to 7th N.I.

July 8.—Cornets and Ensigns (recently prom.) appointed to do duty. Cornet Tweedie with 8th L.C. at Kurnal. J. S. G. Ryley, W. J. J. Fane, and W. B. Kelly, with 1st do., Benares. H. Voules and J. Hamilton with 9th do., Cawnpore.

—Ensigns A. Methven, 41st N.I., Muttra. W. Mitchell, 42d do., Barrackpore. A. Macdougall, and P. J. Chiene, 42d do., Cawnpore. T. D. Martin, E. C. P. Beaumont, and J. G. A. Rice, 4th extra N.I., Mirapore. J. T. Ferguson, 3d N.I., Lucknow; W. Mayhew, H. H. Lloyd, and J. Cooper, 49th do., Benares. E. Ironside and W. Dunlop, 53d do., Benares. H. C. Reynolds, 4th extra N.I., Mirapore. M. J. Laurence, E. E. Davis, G. Borralldale, and G. Cecil, 46th do., Dinapore. P. Abbott and H. H. Say, 57th do., Dinapore. J. Ansell, J. Lock, and C. Clark, 6th extra N.I., Dinapore. K. Hume, 10th N.I., Barrackpore. E. F. Smith, 26th N.I.

Fort William, July 21.—7th N.I. Lieut. W. Buttanshaw to be capt. of a comp., v. Costley prom. Ens. T. R. Dalrymple to be lieut., v. Walker dec., with rank from 16th June, v. Buttanshaw prom.—(The prom. of Brev. Capt. and Lieut. S. Walker on 23d June is cancelled.)

Asst.-surg. J. Hardie to have med. charge of Oudeypore Residency.

Mr. H. Donaldson admitted an assist.-surg. and app. to do duty with 7th N.I. at Berhampore.

Head-Quarters, July 14.—Ens. F. Cookney L 2 (late)

(lately tried by court-martial) posted as Junior Ens. to 26th N.I., at Cawnpore.

July 20.—Surg. J. Evans posted to 49th N.I.

Fort William, July 21.—Assist.-surg. E. W. W. Raleigh, directed to accompany the Governor-general to the Upper Provinces.

July 26.—*Cadets admitted.* Messrs. T. N. Yule, T. M'Mahon, R. E. Jones, E. Marriott, and C. C. Dunbar, to Inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Ens. R. S. T. Cunyngnam, 25th N.I., permitted to resign service of Hon. Comp.

July 27.—*Acting Superintend. Surgs.* to be Superintend. Surgs. J. Ridges (dec.) from 21st Jan. 1826, v. Ogilvy app. member of med. board. R. Limood, from 22d Jan., in suc. to Robinson on furl. to Europe. J. Langstaff, from 24th Jan., in suc. to M'Dowall ditto.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—June 16. Lieut. G. W. Bonham, 25th N.I., on private affairs.—July 13. Lieut. H. T. Wheelar, 45th N.I., for health.—July 14. Lieut. W. Hope, 57th N.I., for health.—Lieut. A. C. Scott, 3d extra N.I., for health.—21. Lieut. H. M. Lawrence, of artill., for health.—Lieut. J. Robertson, 2d extra N.I., for health.—26. 1st-Lieut. J. H. Middleton, of artill., for health.

To Singapore.—July 26. Capt. G. M. Cooke, maj. of brig. at Berhampore, for six months, for health.

To New South Wales.—June 15. Capt. G. Ollphant, 22d N.I., for twelve months, for health.—16. Lieut. F. C. Robb, 22d N.I., for eighteen months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—June 12. Brev. Capt. Hamilton, 16th Lancers, for purpose of exch. on h. p.—Col. Maclean, 54th F., for health.—23. Capt. Eden and Ens. Curties, 6th F., on private affairs.—Lieut. Layard, 14th F., for health.—30. Lieut. Martin, 6th F., on private affairs.—July 15. Ens. Hayes, 13th F., for health.—July 17. Maj. Smith, 11th L. Dr., on private affairs (via Calcutta).—Capt. Tronson, 13th F., for health.—Lieut. Bedinfield, 41st F., for health.

To China.—June 30. Lieut. Urmston, 36th F., for six months, on private affairs.—July 15. Capt. Taylor, 13th Drags., for six months, for health.

To Bombay.—July 7. Lieut. Wainwright, 47th F., for six months, on private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, June 15, 1826.

Jas. Minchin, Esq. was sworn in prothonotary and clerk of the crown.

The grand jury for the sessions were chosen this day, and were charged by the Hon. Sir John Franks. The learned judge adverted to three cases of assault which, he thought, would require the serious attention of the gentlemen of the jury; they concerned the subjects of the Emperor of China. In some of those cases, words were used which indicated the existence of a party spirit among that class of society, and a desire to criminate each other. It was impossible they could persist long in maintaining such a feeling, and the jury ought not to find a true bill unless they were convinced, after the most patient and scrutinizing inquiry, of the truth of the several charges.

July 10.

Amongst the prisoners brought up for sentence at the general gaol delivery this day was Rammohun Sircar, who was thus addressed by the Chief Justice:

"Rammohun Sircar: you have been found guilty of a conspiracy of a most malicious and audacious nature; you entered into that conspiracy with the object to oppress a private individual. As a means of effecting that object, it was necessary that you or one of you should commit perjury before one of the judges of this court, and pollute the sanctuary of justice. If there was any case which could excite the indignation of the judges, it is your's; but the court at present only notice that which interferes with the public safety: and, though they think that your punishment will be very inadequate to such a serious offence, yet, if they find that such offences are repeated, they will certainly be obliged to inflict some severer punishment. The sentence on you is, that you be imprisoned one year in the common gaol of Calcutta, and that you pay a fine of one thousand rupees to the king, and that you be imprisoned until such fine be paid."

After his Lordship had passed sentence upon this man, he observed that, in consequence of the many gross perjuries which had of late been committed for the purpose of procuring *capiases*, the court found itself called upon to make an order, that whenever a party came in to swear to an affidavit for such a process, the attorney whom he employs should accompany him, and make a certificate that he has made inquiries, and has satisfied himself that the demand is just and legal. They had such an order in contemplation, and unless some valid objection was shewn against it, they should probably establish it on the last day of term.

[The Gov. Gaz. of July 20, contains the following paragraph in respect to the intimation at the close: on Monday last, we learn, it was made a rule of the Supreme Court, that no writ of *capias* should be henceforth issued, unless a certificate was tendered by one of the attorneys, stating that he had made personal inquiries into the case, and believed the debt to be a just one, and that the attorney of the plaintiff should attend personally to answer any questions put to him for the satisfaction of the court.]

July 19.

Baboo Goopeenauth v. Charles Maclean Pratt. This was an action on a bill of exchange, drawn by the defendant and his partner on Messrs. Palmer and Co. and indorsed to the plaintiff. The bill had been protested for non-acceptance. The defence set up was, that the defendant was not a British subject, and consequently not subject to the jurisdiction of the court. The plaintiff proved, however, that written applications had been made in February 1825 to Government, through the head of the judicial department

ment, by the defendant, who had represented himself as an Englishman born; and on the other hand there were his own verbal declarations to two different witnesses that he was an American citizen, and these witnesses also expressed their own belief that he was an American; that belief however was chiefly founded on his own declarations, and on his associating with Americans.

The Chief Justice ruled, that the jurisdiction was sufficiently proved on two grounds:—1st. That though any admission of a party was evidence against himself, yet it was clear that his own declarations could not be made evidence for himself.—2d. That upon grounds of public policy, a person should not be allowed to set up his own fraud and falsehood as a defence. It was clear that he had been permitted to go up the country on his own representation that he was a subject of Great Britain, and he should not be permitted now to deny the fact he had then asserted, for the purpose of defeating a clear claim. It was not besides a light matter, for if this person were now permitted to prove himself an American citizen, he would not be subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, as the law now stood, since he was not a resident of Calcutta, and it might be a matter of doubt whether he would be subject to the jurisdiction of the Mofussil Courts: and thus the most serious inconveniences might arise, and it was no doubt a sense of this that made the government of this country cautious how they admitted foreigners up the country.

The *Bengal Hurkaru* has the following remarks on this trial. "The course of defence in this case, we may be permitted to observe, was much more according to to law than morality. It is not often that we see, even in courts of justice, a man relying, as a defence, upon the proof that he has asserted a deliberate untruth, and we briefly report the case for the public information, and not without the hope that it may attract that notice in the proper quarter to which it seems richly entitled. We are no friends to narrow systems of exclusion; but, with regard to foreigners, some restriction is clearly necessary, and the government of the country cannot well be too cautious in admitting men who, while they receive here all the protection, and enjoy all, nay more than all, the privileges which Britons enjoy, are as it would seem a kind of wholesale outlaws, with unlimited power to commit unpunishable mischief, unpunishable at least except by transmission."

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTRACTS FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

The Punjab.—Maharaja Runjit Singh

left Lahore on the 14th of April, and proceeded to Amritser; he remained there until the 19th, when his tents were carried to Pind Pindareh, where the vakeel of the hakeem of Pind arrived with suitable presents. The agent at Ludhiana had paid a visit to the residence of the ex-King of Cabul, Shah Shujah-ul-Mulk.—[*Jami Jehan Numa*.

On the 26th April, Maharaja Runjit Singh marched from Amritser, and had his tents pitched at the garden of Raghunath Singh, ten coss from that city; here he received an envoy from Yar Mohammed Khan, who had a private audience, the subject of which is supposed to have been the insurrection of the Chief of Derreh Khyber. The vakeel of Sirpureh brought word, that the Prince Gorakh Singh, having reached the district of Khoshab, and put to death about fifty or sixty persons, had levied on the district of Gondi about forty lacs of rupees in money and effects: the zemindars of the parts adjacent had come in and paid their dues.—[*Ibid*.

Maharaja Runjit Singh was at Dina Nagar on the 3d of May. On the 1st, letters from Peshawer were received, which stated Lal Mohammed Khan had sent word to Yar Mohammed Khan, hakeem of Peshawer, that Purdil Khan had collected a force in Kandahar, and was levying contributions; his objects were to send an army against Dost Mohammed Khan whilst he himself marched to Cabul. The Maharaja, having held a council, gave orders that preparations should be every where made for war.—[*Ibid*.

Maharaja Runjit Singh continued at Dinanagar to the 10th of May. On the 5th the envoys of Yar Mohammed Khan, ruler of Peshawer, reported that the Prince Gorakh Singh was in the mountains of Kashmir, and marching upon Cabul; they also stated that an action had taken place between the troops of Purdil Khan and the chiefs in the service of Dost Mohammed Khan, and that the people of Cabul were in the interest of the latter. On the 7th, advices were received from the governor of Kashmir, stating that he had placed people in charge of the house of the late Mr. Moorcroft. An application had been received from Dost Mohammed Khan for reinforcements, in consequence of his being attacked in Cabul by Purdil Khan.—[*Ibid*.

On the 20th May, the Maharaja marched from Lahore ten coss, and pitched his tents at the foot of the mountain Kondi. The French officers reported, upon the authority of mercantile letters, that in the direction of Cabul some encounters had taken place between the Ubeks and the Kandaharis. On the 27th, letters were received from the Prince Ayub and the chief of Bhawalpur, and the vakeel of the

the Sindb chief stated that Shuja ul Mulk had quitted his master's districts for those of the Maharaja. On the 29th the army marched sixteen coss. Orders were despatched on the 10th to the governors of Rawel Pindi and Atek to provide supplies. — [*Ibid.*]

Yar Mohammed Khan is said to have sent off troops to protect the districts threatened by the forces of Maharaja Runjit Singh. Dost Mohammed Khan, before marching from Cabul to his aid, had sent his despatches to the other brother Purdil Khan, with whom he had been previously engaged in hostilities.

On the 6th June the Maharaja advanced eight coss from Amritser, and in the evening alighted in the Ram Bagh. From the 1st to the 5th he was occupied in transacting business with his chiefs; the troops of the district of Derbend had moved towards Peshawer; a battalion, under Hijun Singh, was ordered to Ake. On the 7th, the agent of Khoshal Singh reported that Yar Mohammed Khan having summoned Hakem Pund Dadar Khan to his presence, he had answered, that he was master of what was proper to be sent to the Serkar, on which a force had been sent from Peshawer against him; orders were accordingly given that a letter should be sent to him to desire him to be of good courage, and to remain in his post, and call for such reinforcements as he might require from the governor of Atek. — [*Ibid.*]

Runjit Singh was at Amritser on the 14th of June; advices from the chief of Sindb were communicated by his envoy, that the army was stationed in the districts of Peshawer. The purveyors were directed, after carefully supplying the troops, to dispose of the surplus daily in the bazar. Information was received from the governor of Khairabad, that the people of Baluzian Gerh were prepared to point out where some treasure was hidden, but that he could not dig it up without orders; he was desired, in reply, to await the arrival of Siwai Singh, the brother of the governor of Atek. The envoy of Yar Mahommed Khan, the ruler of Peshawer, produced a letter to his address from his master, requiring to know why he had received no reply to his former address to the Maharaja. His Highness replied, that as his master had been so far misled by his advisers as to collect forces and make preparations for war, it was unnecessary to send him any reply. On the 12th June Nunhal Singh, the son of Prince Gorakh Singh, was presented with complimentary gifts, and the French officers submitted two thousand flints for sale by a merchant. The envoy of the chief of Rohas Gerh took leave, and besides an honorary dress for himself, received an English-made writing-desk for his master. On the 14th, alms were

distributed on occasion of the approach of the Dasahara. — [*Ibid.*]

Our extracts from the native papers leave no doubt that the Punjab is again the scene of military operations, and that Runjit Singh has resumed his purpose of attempting to extend his dominions at the expense of the Afghans: the distracted state of that country is highly favourable to his views. The rival kings, Mahmood and Shuja, are equally fugitives; the former, with his son Kamran, being in inconsiderable force at Herat, and the latter living privately within the British territory, or at least till lately. The country is divided between the sons of Fateh Khan, who are always at variance with each other, and who have no hereditary nor personal claim to the allegiance of the Afghan tribes. At the same time religious differences, and a spirit of independence, are likely to animate the Afghans against the Sikhs, and may supply the place of a legitimate and consolidated government. Possibly Shuja's recent departure from Ludhiana, if correctly reported, may have been the work of Runjit Singh, whose policy it obviously is to offer to the Afghans a king whom they have obeyed, and to whom they were as much attached as their capricious and lawless character permitted them to be to any ruler. For reinstating him in part of his possessions, the eastern portion, or Peshawer, and its dependencies, may be the price, and they will be more easily purchased, we should think, in this manner than by a hostile collision with the whole body of the Afghans. — [*Cal. Gov. Gaz. July 3.*]

Scindia's Territories. — On the 30th March Ramzan Khan arrived from Hyderabad, and on the next day had the honour of performing before the Maharaja, he and his assistants singing Hindi songs, suited to the Holi, the composition of Nawab Foulad Jung Behadur; also some quatrains, written by Raja Chundoo Lall, and various Dekhni airs. The Maharaja was much pleased, and, presenting him with 200 rupees and a shawl, offered to retain him: but Ramzan Khan respectfully declined it, being only on leave of absence for a year on a pilgrimage to the shrines of Ajmeer. On the 4th April advices were received of an action between a body of the Maharaja's troops and the followers of a refractory Talookdar near Oujein. — [*Jami Jehan Numa.*]

On the 4th of May, a messenger arrived from Jikem Sahib, stating that Mohen Singh Subahdar, with two hundred of his men, having advanced to assault the fort of Aleng, the semindars of that place came to his encounter, and an engagement ensued, in which twenty were killed and wounded; amongst the latter was Mohen

Mohen Singh himself. The zemindars of the surrounding country were flocking to the assistance of the besieged; a battalion with guns was accordingly ordered off against the place. On the 9th advices were received from Mohen Singh, stating that he had occupied Sinhari, after killing eighty of the insurgents and putting the rest to flight.—[*Ibid.*

Hydrabad.—Many houses have been injured in this city by an earthquake. A disciple of the Nawab having paid a visit of compliment to Raja Chundoo Lall, was presented with valuable gifts; the Raja also distributed property to the value of about 25,000 rupees in alms to the indigent.—[*Ibid.*

Bharatpur.—The chief people have addressed, through the Rani, a petition to the Resident to be allowed to repair their houses which were injured in the late siege, no order to that effect having yet been issued.—[*Ibid.*

TAVOY.

We have seen letters from Tavoy of the 10th May. They speak of our officers being on the whole well pleased with the place, and having plenty of rain every day. The commissioner, Mr. Maingy, is spoken of in high terms for his attention and civility. The natives at Tavoy will not believe that we have beaten the Burmese; they say we have been driven from Ava, and consider our countrymen at Tavoy regular victims, and many of them are removing their families to Pinang. Several plots among the Burmese at Tavoy had been discovered, and our troops were busy building a small brick fort.—[*Cal. John Bull, June 30.*

Penang papers mention, as a proof of the value of the settlement at Tavoy, that the *Carnatic* was loading there for Pinang with upwards of 5,000 bags of rice.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. July 17.*

WEATHER IN THE MOFUSIL.

We hear of nothing from the Mofussil, but the deluges of rain that have fallen in Jamore and other districts, and the rapidly rising state of the rivers. Letters from Cawnpore and that part of India pour out their complaints against the drought and the hot winds that have again set in; and speak of the season in that part of India as most unseasonable.—[*Ibid. July 12.*

SERAMPORE COLLEGE.

The sixth report of this institution contains the following passage:—"The committee would embrace this early opportunity of stating, that they contemplate the creation of a body of native fellows and tutors from among the Christian students of the college, who will be required to reside in its immediate vicinity, and will

undertake the tuition of the students in the various branches of study. Of these, three or four will superintend the Sungskrita studies of the youth, and gradually supersede the necessity of employing any instructors for this purpose beside those trained up in the college itself. Two of the fellows, one junior and one senior, will be attached to the department of chemistry; two to that of general history; two to that of divinity; while others will occupy other departments of literature and science. In this manner the committee propose to create eight senior and ten junior fellows and tutors; and to allow to the former about thirty, to the latter about twenty rupees monthly, together with the occupation of a house and divers privileges; the advantages of this arrangement are obvious. Unless the college be able to retain within its establishment a portion of that talent which it may produce, the professors will be perpetually fettered with the labour of giving elementary instruction to every fresh succession of students. From this labour the fellows will relieve them; and, as their attention will be directed almost exclusively to that particular branch of study with which their fellowship is associated, it may be hoped that, in a series of years, their proficiency will qualify them to supply *pro tempore* the place of any professor, who may be removed by death or constrained to travel for his health. This body of learned fellows will serve to strengthen the college, while the prospect of rising to this dignity will act as a stimulus to the zeal and industry of the students in no ordinary degree. If the emoluments of these situations be inferior to those which men thus qualified may reasonably expect to enjoy in secular situations, it may still be hoped that many will prefer a life of literary leisure and retirement, to the temptations of ambition and the accumulation of wealth; and that not a few will acquire such collegiate habits as to be satisfied with an honourable residence to the end of life in an academy, with which their feelings and affections will have become identified.

"It is highly desirable, however, that these fellowships, so important to the permanent utility of the college, should be independent of the fluctuation of subscriptions. The committee hope to be able to assist in the endowment of a certain number of them, when the heavy expense of completing the buildings shall cease to press on their private funds; and they would respectfully solicit the aid of gentlemen, both in India and Europe, towards the accomplishment of the design. The late excellent Mr. Grant, one of the directors of the Hon. East-India Company, having bequeathed to them, as the Serampore missionaries, 2,000 rupees, they have determined to devote this sum to the foundation

dation of a fellowship, to be denominated 'The Grant Divinity Fellowship.' This sum will be permitted at present to accumulate at interest, and, with the aid of a donation from themselves, will in about ten years be equal to the perpetual maintenance of one individual."

COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM.

We understand that the annual disputations of the college of Fort William will not take place this year: there is less occasion for this ceremony now than formerly, when the writers who were qualified left college only upon the anniversary of the examination. The examinations are now held whenever a candidate presents himself, and the young men who undergo the ordeal successfully, quit the college at all seasons of the year. They are for the most part, therefore, absent from the presidency when the disputations and distribution of prizes should take place.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.* July 27.

BURMESE WAR.

We understand that a work is in course of preparation which, we have no doubt, will be highly acceptable to the public, and particularly to such officers as have taken a part in the late campaigns. A collection of documents, official or demi-official, illustrative of the Burman war, preceded by a brief summary of events, and comprehending, as an appendix, a selection of interesting papers hitherto unpublished. The work will form a quarto volume, and will be published by subscription. The novelty as well as the intrinsic interest of the incidents of the war, and the accumulation of statistical and geographical details with regard to the entire seat of it, from Assam to Tavai, will give to this compilation a value of a diversified description, and it may be expected to be as serviceable to science as to history.—[*Ibid.*

BANKRUPT LAWS.

A question of very great importance has been receiving notice from several of our cotemporaries, viz. whether the bankrupt laws of England extend to British India. It does seem very singular to us that, at this time of day, even the shadow of a doubt should hang over this subject. In the very great number of Europeans who have suffered in the most severe and cruel manner under the operation of the law as it affects debtor and creditor in this country, some one would surely have been found to try a point in which so many have so near an interest; and we can only account for the absence of every thing like a judicial decision on the point, to unanimity of legal opinion as to the bankrupt laws not applying to British

India. Legal opinion, worthy of the greatest respect, is now however referred to, as finding the bankrupt laws to extend and apply to India; and as our own is grounded solely on the absence of any attempt to establish their operation, when surely all will admit their necessity, if they can be extended, with a regard to vested interest and rights, we should be much pleased to see the grounds more at large on which it is now contended that it is at least a doubtful point, whether these laws embrace British India or not. Our cotemporaries have mooted the question—certainly highly important; but they have done nothing more.—[*Cal. John Bull*, June 19.

DURBAR.

A durbar was held by the Right Hon. the Governor General on the 19th May; on this occasion the following persons received honorary dresses:

Moulavee Mohummud Khullil-Ood-Deen Khan, on the occasion of his appointment as vakeel of his majesty the King of Oude.

Rajah Shib Chunder Raee, on the occasion of his receiving the titles of rajah and buhadur.

Rajah Nursing Chunder Raee, on the same occasion as the preceding.

Roy Girdharee Loll, on the occasion of the marriage of his highness the Nuwab Nazim.

Mirza Mohummud Kaamil Khan, on the same occasion as the preceding.

Kriparam Pundit, on his appointment as vakeel of the Nuwab Fyze Mohummud Khan.

Deby Pershaud Tewary, on his first introduction.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, May 22.

THE INDIANA.

We are glad to hear that Government has awarded Captain Walker, of the *Macqueen*, and the officers and men of the *Macqueen*, and the other ships—the *Berwickshire* and *Thames*—one-third of the value of the government property saved on the *Indiana*, as a mark of the sense entertained of their zealous exertions on that occasion.—[*Cal. John Bull*, July 11.

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

On Friday evening the comedy of "The Way to Get Married" was performed at the Chowringhee Theatre; the house was respectably filled. The Governor-General was not present, his health not permitting him to venture to the theatre; the Commander-in-chief was amongst the audience.

The comic characters of the play were very ably and amusingly represented; Tangent was elegant and spirited throughout; and his scene in the prison, where he

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is embarrassed between the double application of his pocket-handkerchief to dry his tears and hide his fetters, very divertingly managed. The testiness of Caustic, and his fluctuation between resentment at his nephew's extravagancies, and the feelings of his natural affection, were forcibly given; we look upon the part as one of this amateur's happiest efforts.

Dashall introduced a new member of the corps dramatique, who is no inconsiderable addition to its strength; the felicity with which he assumed the cool effrontery and vulgar gentility of the character, evinced theatrical powers of a more than ordinary cast. Toby Allspice was as amusing as usual, particularly in the first scene with Dashall, and in exhibiting the effects of the 'little bottle.' The other characters of the piece were all very respectably sustained—we must not omit to specify the Shopman, who made the most of his part, and extracted humour out of very unpromising materials. From the inefficiency of the female characters much could not be expected from their representatives, and it is sufficient to say that they did full justice to the author.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, June 26.

On the 13th July, a meeting of the proprietors of this theatre was held at the Town-hall, Mr. Richardson in the chair; when a report of the committee of management was submitted, of which the following are extracts:—

"The total receipts of the year, exclusive of money drawn upon account, amount to 8,442 rupees, the total expenses to 8,356. 9; leaving a balance therefore in favour of the year of 85. 13. 4. On the other hand, we have the interest account with Alexander and Co., at 8 per cent., amounting to 881. 2. 10, and the net expense of the year to the proprietors is therefore 795. 5. 6, making the debt due by the house 10,122, which, as an interval of two years has elapsed without a call upon the proprietors, it may be now as well to discharge.

"Besides the debts due to the theatre for admission, of which an inconsiderable portion will be realized, there is a considerable sum still due upon the contributions of 1824, of 3,700 rupees. The managers have made several attempts to procure payment of such of these as offered a prospect of recovery, but without success; and it now remains with the proprietors to determine how those shares are to be disposed of; a list of the defaulters is submitted. The most regular course will be to sell them for as much beyond the amount of the contribution, with interest, as they will realize; the surplus being carried to the credit of the proprietors in arrears. As far as the amount of the contribution and interest on it extend the theatre should become the purchaser, and

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cancel the shares, by which the value of the remaining shares will be enhanced."

Upon the report being read, the following resolutions were adopted by the meeting:

That the debt due by the theatre, amounting to 10,122 rupees, be forthwith discharged.

That, although it appears that there are expected assets to the extent of about 5,000 rupees, yet, as the recovery is remote, and in the course of a short time the amount may be required for unavoidable expenses connected with the repairs of the theatre, &c., it is not desirable to consider the above sum as a deduction from the net amount of the debt to be discharged by the preceding resolution.

That, to meet the amount of the debt, 10,150 rupees shall be levied from the proprietors, in the proportion of 100 rupees for each single share, and 50 rupees for each share more than one.

That notice shall be given to the proprietors who are or who may be in arrears, or to their representatives, agents, and assigns, agreeably to the 13th clause of the original agreement; and in failure of their discharging the arrears on the contribution of 1824, and the contribution now voted, their shares be sold by auction, the proceeds to be carried to the credit of the house, as far as the amount of the contribution and charges, and any surplus to be paid to the defaulters or their estates.

That the present arrangement with Mr. Linton be continued for the ensuing year, subject to the following modification.

The free admission of the proprietors shall be relinquished for two performances, at such seasons as Mr. Linton may select in the course of the year, on condition of his paying to the proprietors the annual sum of 1,600 rupees.

That Mr. W. Prinsep be requested to take the entire management of the pecuniary interests of the theatre up to the present date.

That the thanks of the proprietors be presented to the amateurs who have kindly lent their aid to the theatre during the past year.

That the thanks of the proprietors be presented to the managers of the past year.

That the managers be re-elected.

That the thanks of the meeting be voted to Mr. Richardson, for his able conduct in the chair.

LOSS OF THE "EAST INDIAN."

We are sorry to have to announce the total loss of the transport ship *East-Indian*, Captain Peter Roy, on the morning of the 26th inst., on Saugor Sand. This vessel, we understand, left Masulipatam on the 11th, and, after a very boisterous passage, took a pilot on board on the tail of the western reef. It was blowing at the time

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a fresh breeze from the eastward, which increased on the following day to a gale, occasioning the ship to drive with a whole chain cable veered out. The pilot, after being induced by the appearance of the weather to slip and put to sea, again made Point Palmiras, and crossed the eastern reef, at about half-past three on the 25th, bringing up shortly before sunset in six fathoms water abreast of the spit-buoy with fifty fathoms of chain. In about two hours the chain unfortunately parted close to the anchor, and the pilot was under the necessity of bringing up with a coir-cable and the last anchor on board. This too parting almost immediately, the only alternative left was to endeavour to beat against a flood-tide, but in the attempt the ship struck twice on the middle ground, before the pilot could get her into six fathom water, where however she remained during that night. On the 26th the ship again struck on the Saugor Sand, and continued driving until ten P. M., at which time no probability existed of her being saved, the rudder having been knocked to pieces, and other severe damage sustained. The long boat and cutter were accordingly hauled out, the captain taking charge of the former, and Mr. Wamer of the latter. No land was at that time visible from the ship, but Edmonstone's Island was shortly afterwards descried, and the captain succeeded in landing all the people in his boat in safety, not however without having encountered some dreadful breakers, in which the cutter, we lament to state, was swamped. Of those in her, only Mr. Wamer and the poop tindal were saved, after having been in the water upwards of an hour. The ship is now stationary within a mile of the island, with all sail set, and her poop just discernible above water. Captain Roy proposes to remain on the island for two or three days, with a view to save what he can from the wreck for the benefit of those concerned.—[*Cal. John Bull*, July 29.]

EDUCATION OF CADETS.

The *Calcutta Government Gazette* contains the following observations upon the debate at the East-India House on the 25th January last :

The mistakes and misrepresentations which occur at home on subjects connected with this country, would be highly amusing, if they were not calculated to do mischief and to mislead the public mind from a just appreciation of the merits of any case in which India is concerned, particularly as they are apt to pass without contradiction or comment. The debate at the India House, on the education of cadets, furnishes ample illustration of this assertion, and statements were advanced by almost every speaker that evinced great want of acquaintance with the real state

of things in this country. It must be confessed that Mr. Hume was pre-eminent in inaccuracy, and we cannot avoid noticing one of his misprisions, as it was so deliberately and palpably made.

Colonel Lushington, in reply to the necessity of a cadet's acquiring Hindoostanee before joining his regiment, states that this by no means existed, as there was not a single corps in the service in which there were not native sepoys well acquainted with the English language, and capable of giving instruction in their own. He also observes, that he considers there never was a period when knowledge of the native languages was more generally diffused, particularly among the junior branches of the army. To this Mr. Hume replies, that such might be the case with regard to the officers of the Bengal establishment, between whom and the officers of the other presidencies there was a great difference as to the knowledge of the native language; in this respect the officers of the Bengal establishment had the superiority. Instead of this, however, if Colonel Lushington's statement require no qualification, the very reverse is the case, and the *Madras* officers must claim the superiority. There can be no question as to the establishment to which the gallant officer's remarks apply, for Mr. Hume himself, so long in the Bengal army, ought to have known that the Bengal sepoys have never acquired, and are never likely to acquire, a familiar knowledge of the English language. It is only in the *Madras* army that this qualification is to be found: and Mr. Hume's admission of its effects, as it respects the army of Bengal, is therefore altogether a mistake.

In like manner, Colonel Lushington's expression, "not a single corps in the service," was evidently calculated to mislead the Court of Proprietors, most of whom look upon the Indian army as one, and are not aware of the characteristic peculiarities of the forces of the different presidencies. His remark can apply only to the *Madras* army, in which, too, so far from contributing to promote the study of native languages, it rather tends to beget a notion—a very mistaken one it is true—that the study is the less essential. Such an impression is counteracted perhaps by the active interest taken in the subject by the local government, by the half-yearly reports sent in by the officers commanding corps, reporting the proficiency of individual officers in the Hindoostanee and other native languages, and by the regulation which directs, that no officer shall hold any staff situation in his corps without undergoing an examination, before three competent persons, as to his familiarity with the language of the country. These of course are strong inducements to study, and

and may have promoted that extensive cultivation of it which Colonel Lushington describes. We quite agree with him however as to the efficacy of a regulation, formerly in force, encouraging proficiency by a pecuniary remuneration: for, as he observes, however fond military men may be of glory, they are not, on that account, to look to glory as their only reward.

Mr. Randle Jackson seems to have formed an amusing idea of the office of interpreter in the Bengal army, when he supposed that he was to be liable to be employed on all occasions of communication between the officers of a corps and the natives; this duty would be rather embarrassing, and would require at least as many interpreters as officers.

As to Mr. Hume's discovery, that the late war took place because the magistrate could not speak Burmese, it has the merit of novelty at least to recommend it.

ACCIDENT.

A distressing accident happened a few evenings ago, which shews the necessity of taking every possible precaution with vicious horses, especially in taking them along public roads.

An animal of this kind, in going along the Ballygunge road, threw and killed his rider, and rushed furiously against a buggy that was proceeding in the path, in which sat a lady and a gentleman. In the most ferocious manner the brute laid hold of the buggy horse by the lip, and tore, bit, and lacerated him in the most dreadful manner, until he succeeded in driving the buggy and the horse into a tank close by. The lady and gentleman were precipitated into the tank before they could possibly extricate themselves, and were for some minutes in a most alarming state, especially the lady, who became insensible. The infuriated horse followed the animal that drew the buggy into the water, and killed him. Fortunately some natives, who witnessed the dreadful situation of the lady and the gentleman (who were beyond their depth in the tank), by their prompt and humane efforts succeeded in saving them. The lady has been seriously indisposed ever since the accident.—[*Ind. Gaz.*, June 26.

BENGALIE GRAMMAR.

A grammar of the Bengalee language has just been published by Rammohun Roy. It is a work that indicates much philological acuteness and philosophical research, and is, so far as we can comprehend, every way highly creditable to the celebrated and worthy author.—[*Ibid.*

TREASURE AT BHURTPORE.

The following is an extract of a letter from Mr. Morris, a native of Aylesbury,

staff serjeant in the horse artillery, to a friend in that town, dated Meerut, May 1, 1826:—"The 14th Regiment found an immense treasure, and helped themselves to as many gold moirs (a coin worth about sixteen rupees) as they could carry; and several that I know have diamonds of great value. *** ***** got five diamonds, and one of them of great value; but, I am sorry to say, he has fooled the whole of them away. The large one he sold the other day for 300 rupees, which was worth some thousands of pounds, and I do not believe that he has a farthing of the money left. I told him all I could to make him keep them, but it was of no use—he would not take my advice; he is too fond of the bottle. He was one of the men who got into the place where the money was found. The way they discovered it was as follows:—a shot or shell had penetrated the wall of the building where this treasure was found, and the men began to make the hole larger with their bayonets until a man could get in; they then discovered the gold moirs in large boxes, and they commenced helping themselves, and began by putting the gold into the flap of their trowsers by handfuls, but as fast as they put it in it ran out at the bottom of the legs! I often laugh at the idea of the thing. Artillery and cavalry stand but a poor chance of getting any thing at the storming of a town; infantry are the only men likely to get any thing.—[*Herts Mercury*.

ARRIVAL OF TREASURE AT CALCUTTA.

Yesterday evening Captain Guy, of the H. C.'s marine, reached town from Chittagong, which place he left in a pinnace on the 2d instant, with five lacs and a half of specie on board (packed in chests), for the use of the Supreme Government. The treasure was safely landed in course of yesterday.—[*Ind. Gaz.*, June 17.

We have to report the arrival of the *Enterprise* with 5,15,000 rupees, from Akyab the 22d instant.—[*Cal. John Bull*, June 26.

Treasure to the amount, as stated to us, of seventy lacs of rupees, arrived at Calcutta from Bhurtpore on Sunday, afternoon, under a strong escort, and was landed on Monday morning.

Fifty lacs from Lucknow are also, we understand, daily expected. This supply, in addition to the ten lacs which have arrived from Chittagong and Arracan, and the twenty-five that may be daily expected from Rangoon, must effectually relieve the money market, already indeed in a recruiting state.—[*Ibid.*, July 3.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

We hear preparations are making on a grand scale for his Lordship's tour; and several of the public departments with their

their heads, are to accompany the Governor General. We have not learned whether his Lordship's tour has in view any great political ends, or is merely one of those visitations of the Upper Provinces, which almost every Governor General during his administration is expected to undertake.—[*Cal. John Bull*, July 17.

The Right Hon. the Governor General left the presidency on Saturday, for Barrackpore, whence he will proceed, it is expected, on Wednesday morning. We understand that his Lordship purposes returning to the presidency at the end of the next rains, and will at the latest be here about October or November.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, July 31.

CATASTROPHE ON THE RIVER.

To the Editor of the *India Gazette*.

Allahabad, 25th June 1826.—Mr. Editor: The following is an account of a melancholy catastrophe, which I beg leave to make you acquainted with.

"On the 7th instant, the 1st company of European Invalids left Chunar, pursuant to a general order, directing it to proceed to Allahabad to be permanently stationed at that place.

"The company arrived at a place called Juesey, within sight of its destination, on the forenoon of the 22d, without any thing particular happening to it, and in consequence of the high winds were obliged to put to for that night and most part of the next day. About five o'clock on the evening of the 23d, the wind falling a little, the boats ventured to put out with a view of gaining the fort; but had scarcely hoisted sail when a strong squall arose, which tossed them about with such violence that we expected every moment they would have been driven to the bottom. The men on board the several boats immediately commenced pulling down the sails, but so awkwardly were they set up, it took nearly ten minutes before they could effect their purpose.

"The winds continued to blow with increased violence, and although the most of the boats were fortunate enough in getting their sails down, yet they were in as much danger as ever. Several of them took in a great quantity of water over the gunnels, so that we dreaded being swamped every moment. The stoutest hearts on board the fleet became now appalled, and those who could not swim and such as were disabled looked upon death as their certain fate. Every one crowded upon the top of the choppers, which increased the danger, as the boats thereby became top-heavy, and consequently more liable to be upset.

"We had only been out about ten minutes, when one of the boats filled full of water and immediately after sunk, leaving only the thatched covering, or chopper,

afloat, on which a few poor souls were seen to hold fast: this was an awful moment; the sight of the wreck struck terror to the heart of every one present. The circumstances of the family that was on the wreck made the sight peculiarly distressing. Walker was so far reduced by sickness that he was unable to hold himself on; he was supported by his poor wife, who had an infant hanging at her breast; while two children more, one a beautiful boy of about eleven years of age, and the other a little girl of about three, were clinging to her clothes, with the waters breaking over them every moment, and they descending at the rate of more than three miles an hour with the current. It was impossible to afford the unfortunate sufferers the smallest relief; several Europeans and natives ran down the bank after them, while the rest of the boats endeavoured to reach the nearest land. Happily they all succeeded in gaining the shore, some on one side and some on the other, having their rudders broke, sails cut away, and such like damages.

"Next morning the Europeans returned who followed the wreck, and brought us the melancholy news of the death of the whole family. They followed along the shore until ten o'clock, eagerly watching for an opportunity for relieving the poor souls, when the chopper was carried towards the off shore by a strong current, which from the darkness of the night caused them to lose sight of it. The woman and children were heard to scream violently; but all in a moment the cry ceased, and no more was either heard or seen of the sufferers. We arrived the next day at the fort, and, thank God, are now out of danger."—[*Ind. Gaz.*

OPIMUM SALE.

At the sale of the Hon. Company's Malwa opium, which took place on the 15th July, at the Exchange Rooms, 1,500 chests were disposed of; the average price was Rs. 1,418, the highest being 1,515, the lowest 1,355.

INDIGO CROP.

A correspondent in the *John Bull*, dating from near Comercolly, July 5, says:—"It will be useful to speculators in indigo, both in this country and England, to learn in time the almost total failure of the indigo crop in Bengal. A great portion of the plant that had survived the drought has now been swept away by the flood, and the rain, which we needed so much a short time since, is falling in such quantities, as to render the little plant remaining almost unfit for the purpose of manufacturing. In general, the factories commanding the range of the river from Baugwanolah to Dacca, had a fair prospect

pect of doing well. They cannot now be expected to produce one-half of what the owners a month ago anticipated. The prospect of the planters on the Maluhangah and Jellinghy, always bad, are just *in statu quo*. All circumstances considered, the produce of the present cannot exceed a third part of the quantity manufactured last season. It is very well known that the land cultivated for indigo in Bengal this year falls short by upwards of a third of last year, on account of the high price of seed and want of rain, and no person acquainted with the facts will accuse me of exceeding, when I state that more than one-half of the crop has been destroyed one way or other by the unpropitiousness of the season.

The prospects of the indigo planters in Bengal continues gloomy and unpromising. The accounts from the upper provinces are more favourable, much rain has fallen about Mirzapore, but not enough to injure the crop.—[*Cal. John Bull*, July 22.

The following comparative statement of indigo, made last year in the different districts with what is expected this, may be relied on as correct as far as at present can be ascertained:—

	1825. Maunds.	1826. Maunds.
Bengal Proper	80,000	28,000
Tirhoot and neighbouring districts	29,000	13,000
Benares and ditto	12,000	13,000
Oude	22,000	28,000

Mds. 143,000 Mds. 82,000

[*Ibid.*, July 26.

LOSS OF THE "BOMBAY MERCHANT."

We regret to notice the loss, in the Bengal river, of the brig Bombay Merchant, Capt. Hughes. It appears by recent accounts from Calcutta, that 35 persons perished on this melancholy occasion—27 only having been saved.—[*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

June 23. *Earl of Balcarras*, Cameron, and *George the Fourth*, Barrow, both from London.—25. *Cadbury*, Noyes, from N. S. Wales.—26. *Prince of Wales*, Dare, from Bombay and Madras.—27. *Sir David Scott*, McTaggart, from London.—28. *Sherburne*, White, from the Mauritius.—30. *Georgiana*, Haylett, from London and Madras.—July 5. *Lady Melville*, Clifford, from London.—12. *Circassian*, Boothwaite, from London.—14. *Clydesdale*, Rose, from London and Madras, and *North Briton*, Richmond, from Liverpool.—27. *Dunira*, Hamilton, from London.—29. *Euphrates*, Scott, from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

June 14. *Mediterranean*, Stephen, for Ceylon.—24. *Princess Charlotte*, M'Kean, for Liverpool.—July 12. *William Young*, Morrison, for Liverpool.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- May 23. At Dinapore, the lady of Lieut. Alex. Murray, H.M.'s 59th regt., of a daughter.
 28. At Agra, the lady of P. Cortlandt Anderson, 64th regt., of a son.
 31. At Bareilly, the lady of Lieut. W. Beckett, 9th N.I., of a daughter.
 June 1. At Agra, the lady of H. G. Burnet, Esq., of a son.
 2. At Goruckpore, the lady of R. W. Bird, Esq., of a daughter.
 7. At Cawnpore, the lady of the late Dr. H. Smith, M.D., of twins, a boy and girl, the latter since dead.
 8. At Benares, the lady of Capt. R. Home, of a son.
 9. At Tipperah, the lady of G. P. Thompson, Esq., of a son.
 11. At Lucknow, the lady of Capt. J. Smallpage, major of Brigade, of a daughter.
 15. At Burrissol, the lady of James Shaw, Esq., civil service, of a son.
 22. The lady of Alex. Colvyn, Esq., of a son.
 23. At Chowringhee, the lady of Capt. H. B. Henderson, of a daughter.
 25. At Balasore, the lady of W. Blunt, Esq., of a son.
 27. The lady of L. Clarke, Esq., barrister at law, of a son.
 28. The lady of Capt. G. M. Greville, 16th or Queen's Lancers, of a son.
 — The lady of Capt. D. Kitchener, of a son.
 — The lady of Capt. Maddock, secretary to the Clothing Board, of a son.
 — The lady of Lieut. Col. D. Bryant, judge advocate general, of a son.
 30. On board his pinnace, near Peerpainty, the lady of Capt. Reynolds, 63d regt., of a son.
 — At Agra, the lady of Lieut. Col. John Delamain, 58th N.I., of a son.
 July 1. At Sylhet, the lady of E. J. Smith, Esq., civil service, of a son.
 — The lady of the Rev. A. F. La Croix, of a daughter.
 — At Sulkea, Mrs. J. Mackey, of a son.
 3. The lady of Quart. Mast. Bailes, of H.M.'s 47th regt., of a daughter.
 5. At Dacca, the lady of Lane Magniac, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 — At Almorah, the lady of Capt. J. S. Jones, 5th N.I., of a daughter.
 6. At Lucknow, the lady of Mordaunt Ricketts, Esq., of a son.
 7. At Dacca, the lady of Capt. Shuldham, dep. assist. adj. gen., of a daughter.
 — At Allipore, the wife of Mr. J. Burrridge, H. C.'s Bengal marine, of a son.
 — At Lollunge, Singhea, the lady of H. Fitzgerald, Esq., of a daughter.
 8. At Mullye, in Tirhoot, the lady of W. Hawes, Esq., of a son.
 — The lady of E. Hickman, Esq., assis. surg., of a daughter.
 9. Mrs. T. P. Whittenberry, of a daughter.
 11. At Dacca, the lady of G. G. Wiguelin, Esq., of a daughter.
 — The lady of Mr. J. Cox, of a son.
 12. Mrs. John Moore, of a son.
 — At Barrackpore, the wife of Mr. A. Mart, gardener to the Governor General, of a son.
 14. The lady of M. Petrie, Esq., of a son.
 15. At Allipore, the lady of C. R. Barwell, Esq., of a son.
 18. Mrs. David Stalg, of a son.
 21. The lady of R. Fleming, Esq., of a son.
 22. Mrs. M. Siret, of a son.
 23. At Chittagong, Mrs. J. C. Fink, of a daughter.
 24. The lady of E. S. Ellis, Esq., of a daughter.
 — The wife of Mr. T. Barfoot, of a daughter.
 — At Serampore, Mrs. G. Surita, of a son.
 27. The wife of Mr. C. Boyce, H.C.'s marine, of a daughter.
 28. The lady of Maj. Streetfield, H.M.'s 87th regt., of a daughter.
 — The lady of J. Drew, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 Late. In Fort William, the lady of Dr. Mouat, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

MARRIAGES.

May 29. At Kurnaul, Mr. J. Higgins, of the 19th division of public works, to Matilda Foylett, daughter of Mr. M. F. Wren, riding master, 7th regt. L.C.

30. At Kurnaul, Lieut. Nicholl, Bengal Horse Artillery, to Ann, youngest daughter of J. Satterthwaite, Esq., late of Woodside, Devon.

June 10. At St. John's Cathedral, Dr. H. H. Miller, to Margaret, second daughter of Mr. M. Lyons.

15. F. W. Hands, Esq., of the 38th Madras regt., and under the Resident at Nagpore, to Miss Agnes Leech.

20. At the Cathedral, Mr. John Browne, of the Military Board Office, to Catherine, daughter of the late Lieut. Paterson, H.C.'s service.

25. At the Cathedral, Capt. Gillespie, aide-de-camp to the Right Hon. the Governor General, to Miss Casement.

— At Chandernagore, L. Cheron, Esq., to Mademoiselle Aménalde D'Embrun D'Arbelles.

— At Futtighur, E. Dudman, Esq., agent to Messrs. Mercer and Co., Chipramow Factory, to Louisa Elisabeth, eldest daughter of the late C. Tetley, Esq., Indigo planter.

27. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. John Stark, of the General Post-Office, to Miss E. Mackintosh.

July 1. At Meerut, J. Jeffreys, Esq., of the H.C.'s Medical establishment, to Ellen, second daughter of J. Dougan, Esq., of London.

3. At the Cathedral, H. Stainforth, Esq., of the civil service, to Isabella, daughter of Lieut. Col. Fraser, formerly of the Bengal Cavalry.

10. At St. John's Cathedral, Capt. G. H. Nash, of the 66th N.I., to Mary Anne, daughter of Maj. Costley, commanding Calcutta native militia.

— Mr. A. Pratt, to Mrs. A. Desmond, widow.

12. Francis William, youngest son of Dr. Durand, Dean of Guernsey, to Elizabeth Theresa, fifth daughter of J. A. Savi, Esq., of Molangunge, Kishnagur.

13. At the Delhi Residency, T. T. Metcalfe, Esq., of the civil service, to Miss Browne, eldest daughter of J. Browne, Esq., superintending surgeon.

14. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. Rabeholm, to Miss Sarah Ruff.

18. At the Cathedral, the Rev. J. C. Proby, H. C. Chaplain, to Lydia Martyn, fifth daughter of the late Rev. D. Brown, senior chaplain of Calcutta.

28. At St. John's Cathedral, J. T. Field, Esq., to Miss Arabella Nash.

DEATHS.

May 15. At Agra, Eliza Maria Louisa, infant daughter of Maj. Brown, 1st Europ. regt.

21. At Cawnpore, Charlotte Matilda, infant daughter of Mr. C. Jones.

3. At Delhi, Richard Wells, Esq., of the civil service, aged 25.

8. Bridget Maria, wife of Mr. J. A. Sandom, H. C.'s marine.

— At Bauleah, George Robert Bohem, son of R. B. Berney, Esq., of the civil service, aged 14 months.

— At Patna, Mr. J. F. Le Vasche.

9. At Goruckpore, Jane Penelope, infant daughter of R. M. Bird, Esq.

— At Patna, of the cholera, Peter, eldest son of Mr. J. Elly.

10. At Lucknow, the infant daughter of Lieut. Col. H. Bowen, 14th regt.

11. At Coolbarriah Factory, John Henry, infant son of J. H. Savi, Esq.

— At Patna, of the cholera, Mrs. R. Rebelro, mother of Mrs. J. Elly.

13. At Allpore, Sarah, wife of Mr. Bowser, head master Lower Orphan School, aged 25.

14. In Fort William, Eliza Mary, daughter of Lieut. G. H. Cox, aged 10 months.

— At Patna, George, youngest son of Mr. J. Radcliffe.

20. John Mackean, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Boyd, Beeby, and Co., aged 37.

22. Cecilia, youngest daughter of Lewis Betts, Esq., aged 8 months.

25. William Augustus, son of Mr. F. Rodrigues.

26. Of fever, at Kurnaul, Lieut. Col. Gall, 8th Bengal L.C.

— Mr. J. F. Rodrigues, son of Mr. A. Rodrigues, assistant at the General Post-Office.

26. Maria, third daughter of Mr. W. Smith, of the Political Department, aged 19.

— Miss M. A. Debreit, aged 33.

27. At Sulkes, Mr. G. Fairweather, ship-builder, aged 92.

28. At Allahabad, Emma, infant daughter of F. Corby, B.M.S.

29. At Behar, Gys, Charles, infant son of Mr. J. Vallente.

— At Sulkes, Master John Tomkyns.

30. Matilda Caroline, infant daughter of Mr. J. F. Swaine.

— Master R. Balne.

July 3. Capt. R. S. Fielder, of the country service, aged 34.

4. Mrs. Mary Carraplet, an Armenian lady, aged 57.

5. At Benares, Henry Cox, infant son of John Row, Esq., assistant surgeon.

6. At Sulkes, the daughter of Mr. G. Chiene, ship-builder, aged 3 years.

7. Mrs. C. L. Savage, aged 40.

8. Anne, daughter of the late Capt. James Hill, of the country service, aged 2 years.

— At Boolunsheer, E. Bradford, Esq., of the civil service, aged 25.

11. Mary, infant daughter of the Rev. James Hill, of the Union Chapel.

14. At Howrah, John Mackenzie, son of the late Capt. T. Rose, of the country service, aged 17.

16. Of the Arracan fever, Mr. J. Pereira, aged 26.

18. At Dacca, D. Elias, Esq., merchant, aged 65.

20. T. Aiken, Esq., merchant and agent, aged 52.

— Mrs. Louisa Harding, relict of the late T. B. Harding, Esq.

21. At Chittagong, of consumption, Capt. James Purvis, aged 34.

— At Rampore Bowleah, Alex. Falconer, Esq., of Belnaberry.

21. At Berhampore, G. Richardson, Esq., of the civil service, commercial resident at Rungpore.

24. At Chandernagore, Mrs. J. L. Vaughan, wife of C. M. Vaughan, Esq.

29. R. Haley, Esq., owner of the ship *Arethusa*, aged 54.

Lately. On the river Hooghly, on his way to the presidency, Mr. W. Forth.

— Drowned at sea, whilst proceeding to Arracan, Lieut. M. Richardson, 2d Gren. Bat.

Madras.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

OFFICERS' HOUSE-RENT.

Fort St. George, May 12, 1826.—Referring to the General Orders of the 13th May 1825, by which officers drawing travelling or full batta on account of temporary detached duty were exempted from the forfeit of house-rent, the hon. the Governor in Council desires it may be understood, that such exemption is only considered applicable when the officers are to return to the stations from which they may be detached, as in such cases it is supposed they remain subject to the expense of house-rent; but when drawing batta on account of removal to another corps or station, or when proceeding to the field, or to a field station, house rent is to cease from the date of their departure, and to recommence on their arrival at the new station to which they may be removed.

KING'S PAY.

Fort St. George, June 2, 1826.—The hon. the Governor in Council deems it expedient

expedient to direct, that the practice of charging King's pay in advance to the 24th of the month shall be discontinued, and that all regiments of his Majesty's service shall in future draw pay (subsistence) for all ranks, in advance for the entire month, as prescribed for the Company's army, which will place the two services precisely on the same footing in regard to periodical payments.

The military auditor general is accordingly directed to issue the requisite subsidiary instructions for giving effect to this regulation, and the musters of his Majesty's troops will in future take place on the 1st, in place of 24th of each month.

NEW DOOLY CORPS.

Fort St. George, June 16, 1826.—The hon. the Governor in Council has been pleased to resolve, that the enlistment of recruits for the Dooly corps shall cease, and that another corps, the strength of which will be determined hereafter, shall be gradually formed under the regulations issued this day to the army.

OFFICERS' ALLOWANCES.

Fort St. George, July 21, 1826.—The hon. the Governor in Council considering it improper that any officer serving regimentally should, under any circumstances, be entitled to higher personal allowances (on account of regimental duties) than those which are attached to the command of his corps; it is directed, that when an adjutant, or quarter-master, may become senior officer, and entitled to the command allowance, he shall temporarily transfer his regimental staff duties to the next senior or other officer who may be regimentally present with the corps at the same station; but, if it should happen that no other officer is available, the personal staff allowances are not to be drawn in addition to the command allowances by the same officer; he is however permitted, in such cases, to receive the office allowance of his staff appointment, in order to defray the charges of writers and stationery incidental to the vacant staff office.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

June 1. Capt. H. Harkness, 25th N.I., secretary to Committee of Public Instruction.

23. Sir James Home, Bart., head assistant to accountant general.

Mr. W. A. Neave, head assistant to principal collector and magistrate in northern division of Arcot.

July 6. Mr. G. A. Smith, head assistant to collector and magistrate of Rajahmundry.

Mr. E. B. Glass, assistant to collector and magistrate of Masulipatam.

Mr. H. V. Conolly, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Bellary.

Mr. R. Gardner, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Tanjore.

Mr. W. E. Underwood, assistant to collector and magistrate of Guntoor.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, May 9, 1826.—Infantry. Sen. Maj. A. Balmaln, from 7th N.I. to be lieut. col. v. Nixon, dec.; date 11th April.

7th N.I. Sen. Capt. G. Spinks to be maj.; Sen. Lieut. (Brev. Capt.) B. R. Hitchins to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. Scotland to be lieut., in suc. to Balmaln prom.; date 11th April.

1st N.I. Sen. Ens. J. R. Graham to be lieut., v. Babington, dec.; date 3d April.

May 16.—Cornet J. G. Ogilvie, H. M.'s 13th Drags., to be an extra aid-de-camp to Hon. the Governor.

Assist.surg. W. Browne, acting gar. assist. surg. of Fort St. George also attached to Gen. Hosp. at Presidency.

Head-Quarters, May 3, 1826.—Ens. J. St. V. M. Cameron removed from 1st Europ. Regt. to 8th N.I.

May 17.—Capt. A. Derville, 31st or T.L.I. posted to Rifle Corps.

Lieut. T. E. Gells removed from 2d to 1st brig. Horse Artil., and Lieut. J. Maitland from 1st to 2d brig. ditto.

Lieut. G. J. Richardson, 31st or T.L.I., to rejoin 2d bat. Pioneers, to which he stands appointed.

Lieut. W. H. Budd removed from 1st to 2d bat. Pioneers.

Ens. E. J. Gascoigne removed from 2d to 1st bat. Pioneers.

May 19.—Assist.surg. J. G. Coleman posted to 1st Brigade Horse Artil., and will join B. troop at Jaulnah, v. Alexander.

May 20. (ornets (recently prom.) posted to Regts. H. F. Lord to 5th L.C.; W. R. Strange to 2d do.; J. Whistler to 8th do.; H. Fraser to 4th do. J. K. Macdonald to 5th do. P. T. Cherry to 6th do.

Ensigns (recently prom.) posted to Regts. J. Nixon to 7th N.I.; G. G. MacDonell to 27th do.; B. M. Giraud to 22d do.; W. T. Furlonge to 34th C.L.I.; T. W. Jones to 11th N.I.; T. Staupole to 40th do.; J. S. Mathews to 2d Eur. Regt.; H. C. Barrow to 28th N.I.; J. H. Kennedy to 47th do.; S. Marshall to 1st Eur. Regt.; W. K. Babington to 39th N.I.; S. Talman to 1st do.; W. H. Welch to 28th do.; C. T. Hill to 29th do.; C. S. Babington to 15th do.; A. Wallace to 38th do.; J. A. Stoddart to 5th do.; T. M. Christie to 18th do.; D. Bayley to 43d do.; F. Kayvett to 31st T.L.I.; H. S. O. Smith to 42d N.I.; C. Davie to 7th do.; E. Umher to 17th do.; T. P. Walsh to 16th do.; C. H. Frith to 21st do.; J. Mullar to 27th do.; C. Mackenzie to 48th do.; A. C. Wright to 8th do.; J. A. Church to 20th do.; F. Russell to 22d do.; F. R. Trewhman to 13th do.; A. Brooks to 14th do.; W. Pennefather to 46th do.; D. MacD. Macleod to 50th do.; G. Broadfoot to 34th or C.L.I.; F. B. Macleod to 12th N.I.; W. O. Pellowe to 10th do.; W. H. Yarde to 11th do.; C. W. Burdett to 40th do.; J. Bower to 44th do.; H. Harriott to 3d Eur. Regt.; J. A. Macartney to 35th N.I.; A. Barker to 25th do.

May 22.—2d Lieut. W. Ward removed from 3d bat. to 1st brigade of Horse Artillery.

Ens. E. Umher removed from 17th to 40th N.I.

Fort St. George, May 16.—Assist.surg. J. R. Alexander to afford medical aid to collectorate of Coimbatore on Neilgherry Hills, v. Coleman.

May 19.—Capt. L. McDowall, 23d or W. L. I., to be paymast. in Malabar and Canara, v. Spinks prom.

Lieut. F. W. Hands, 38th N.I., permitted again to place his services at disposal of resident at Nagpore.

Lieut. H. E. Kenny, 10th N.I., re-admitted on estab., from 10th Feb. last.

May 23.—Lieut. D. Flyter, 41st N.I., to be adj. to Seringapatam Local Batt., v. Mitchell resigned.

7th N.I. Sen. Ens. H. C. Gosling to be lieut. in suc. to Balmaln prom.; date 11th April.

40th N.I. Sen. Ens. R. B. Dickinson to be lieut., v. Bennet, dec.; date 7th May.

May 30.—1st N.I. Lieut. J. Bisset to be adj., v. Babington, dec.

7th N.I. Lieut. H. C. Goeling to be quart. mast., interp., and paymast., v. James, dec.

June 2.—Capt. H. C. Cotton, of Engineers, to act as superintend. engineer in Malabar and Canara, and as civil engineer in western division.

Lieut. A. T. Cotton, of Engineers, to act as civil engineer in centre division.

Lieut. Col. F. P. Stewart, 46th N.I., to be paymaster of stipends at Vellore, v. Andrews proceeded to Europe.

June 6.—Assist.surg. J. Dalmahoy to be assist. assay master, v. Hyne, dec.

Assist.surg. J. Brown to afford medical aid to residency of Travancore, v. Dalmahoy.

Head-Quarters, June 2.—Lieut. Col. A. Balmain, (recently prom.) posted to 1st N.I., v. Nixon, dec.

Fort St. George, June 13.—Lieut. T. B. Forster, 8th N.I., to be mil. secretary to His Exc. the Commander-in-chief, v. Cosby, dec.

Capt. G. Norman, 9th N.I., to resume his app. of Persian interpreter to officer commanding Hyderabad subd. force.

June 16.—Surg. W. Peyton, first member of Medical Board, permitted to resign the Hon. Company's service, in compliance with his request.

June 20.—Medical Board. Surg. C. Stirling, 2d member, to be first member, v. Peyton resigned. Surg. W. Prichard, third member, to be second member, v. Stirling. Surg. S. Howard to be third member, v. Prichard.

Capt. W. J. Bradford, 35th N.I., to be aid-de-camp to His Exc. the Commander-in-chief, v. Forster.

Capt. H. White, 7th N.I., to resume his situation of dep. assist. quart. mast. gen. in centre division of army.

Capt. G. Jones, 32d N.I., to resume his app. of major of brigade in northern div. of army.

36th N.I. Sen. Ens. W. H. Simpson to be lieut., v. Hart, dec.; date 1st May.

Mr. P. T. Cherry admitted to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. C. H. Frith, J. A. Macartney, A. Barker, H. Harriott, and J. Bower admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Mr. W. G. Maxwell admitted an assist.surg., and app. to do duty under gar. surg. at Fort St. George.

Head-Quarters, June 19.—1st-Lieut. J. T. Ashton removed from 1st to 3d bat. artil., and 1st-Lieut. H. Newman from 3d to 1st bat. ditto.

June 22.—Lieut. Col. C. Hopkinson, 2d bat. artil., to command artillery with Hyderabad subd. force.

Removals and Postings in Artillery. Capt. T. T. Paske from 2d to 1st Horse Brigade; Capt. J. N. Abdy from 3d to 2d bat.; Capt. D. H. Mackenzie from 1st to 2d bat.; Capt. E. Bond from 2d to 3d bat.; Capt. J. Dickinson from 2d to 1st bat.; Capt. R. S. Seton from 1st to 2d Horse Brigade; Lieut. G. W. Y. Simpson, and Lieut. D. A. Campbell to 2d bat.

Assist.surg. D. B. Birch directed to join 3d or Palamcottah Light Inf.

Cornet F. F. French (recently prom.) appointed to do duty with 3d L. C. at Arcot.

Ensigns (recently prom.) appointed to do duty. D. Birley with 10th N.I.; J. H. Robley with 16th do.; W. Buckley with 18th do.; J. W. Nixon with 10th do.; G. A. Tulloch with 33d do.; H. Wilson with 18th do.; J. Y. Wilkinson with 10th do.; C. A. Butler with 18th do.; P. Penny with 10th do.; T. J. Ryves with 18th do.; W. Fyfe and H. O. Marshall with 20th do.

Fort St. George, June 27. Lieut. A. Mackworth, H.M.'s 48th regt., to be aid-de-camp to His Exc. the Com.-in-chief, from 3d March last.

Infantry. Sen. Lieut. Col. T. Stewart, 32d N.I., to be lieut. col. com., v. Hewitt dec.; Sen. Maj. G. M. Stewart, from 17th N.I., to be lieut.col., in suc. to Stewart prom.; both dated 17th April.

17th N.I. Sen. Capt. G. Ogilvie to be maj.; Sen.

Lieut. (Brev. Capt.) J. Thullier to be capt., and Sen. Ens. A. R. Horne to be lieut., in suc. to Steuart prom.; date 17th April.

Assist.surg. C. Jameson permitted to remain attached to service of his Highness the Nizam.

Memorandum. The following officers are entitled to shares of off-reckonings in consequence of the death of Maj. Gen. Hewitt.—Infantry. Col. R. Scott, a half share from gen. treasury from 17th April 1836; Lieut. Cola. Com. C. Deacon and J. Welsh, each a half-share from off-reckoning fund from same date.

Sen. Assist.surg. C. Desormaux prom. to rank of surg., v. Peyton ret.; date 17th June.

Assist.surg. T. Bond app. to sillah of Chicacole, v. Desormaux prom. Assist.surg. C. Price to act at Chicacole during absence of Assist.surg. Bond.

June 30.—Capt. J. Kitson, 23d L. Inf., to be assist. adj. gen. to light field div. of Hyderabad subd. force, v. Bradford.

8th N.I. Lieut. T. D. Rippon to be adj., v. Bird dec.

Lieut. C. W. Nepean, 7th N.I., to resume duties of cantonment adj. at Wallajahabad.

17th N.I. Sen. Maj. M. Cubbon, from 16th N.I., to be lieut. col. from 16th Apr., in suc. to Stewart prom.

16th N.I. Sen. Capt. J. Anderson to be maj., and Sen. Lieut. F. B. White to be capt., in suc. to Cubbon prom.; date 17th April.

8th N.I. Sen. Ens. W. Tudor to be lieut., v. Bird dec.; date 15th June.

Lieut. W. Watkins, 36th N.I., prom. to rank of brev. capt., from 27th June.

Assist.surg. D. Archer and D. Vertue permitted to place their services at disposal of Resident of Hyderabad.

July 4.—Capt. H. P. Keighly, 3d. L.C., to be judge adv. gen. of army, from 1st July, v. Nixon dec.; and to continue to act as assist. adj. gen. of army until further orders.

Capt. J. R. Godfrey, 1st N.I., to be dep. assist. qu. mast. gen. in ceded districts, v. Jackson dec.

16th N.I. Lieut. S. A. Grant to be adj., v. White prom.

Acting Superintend. Surg. S. Dyer to be a superintend. surg., in suc. to Howard, to complete estab. Superintend. Surg. M'Cabe to continue to act in presidency division. Superintend. Surg. Dyer, to continue to act in centre division during absence of Superintend. Surg. M'Cabe.

12th N.I. Sen. Ens. R. T. Cox to be lieut., v. R. D. Napier ret.; date 31 Aug. 1824.

14th N.I. Sen. Ens. H. Walker to be lieut., v. Jackson dec.

Head-Quarters, June 24.—Lieut. R. Lambert posted to 16th N.I., in which regt. he will rank between Lieuts. O. F. Sturt and E. Peppercorne.

June 28.—Ens. A. Barker removed from 25th N. I., to 2d Europ. Regt.

June 30.—Cornets and Ensigns (recently prom.) appointed to do duty. Cornet J. M. McDonald and C. Ferrers with 3d L.C.—Ensigns H. J. Willm with 16th N.I.; N. Spence with 10th do.; E. L. Durant with 18th do.; W. H. Pigott with 10th do.; J. Wright with 16th do.; B. Pogson with 18th do.; J. M. Madden with 10th do.; H. R. Dardis with 18th do.; W. N. Fortesque with 10th do.; J. Cannon with 16th do.; J. S. Greenwell with 18th do.; A. B. Johnstone with 16th do.; H. A. Kennedy with 3d or P.L.I.; H. Pritchard with 16th N.I.

July 4.—Ens. W. K. Babington removed from 39th to 17th N.I.

July 5.—Lieut. G. H. Milnes, 31st or Trichinopoly L.I., app. to 2d bat. pioneers, v. Clendon.

Surg. C. Desormaux (late prom.) posted to 50th N.I.

July 8.—Capt. T. T. Paske removed from 1st horse brigade to 1st bat. artil., and Capt. J. Dickinson from latter to former.

Fort St. George, July 7.—Capt. R. L. Highmoor, 5th L.C., to be a dep. judge adv. gen., v. Keighly.

Lieut. C. G. Otley, 39th N.I., to be adj. to 2d extra N.I., v. Hamond permitted to return to Europe.

41st N.I. Sen. Ens. T. Dale to be Lieut., v. Clenden dec.; date 27th June.

Messrs. M. B. Pollock and J. Mack admitted on estab. as assist. surgeons, and app. to do duty under gar. surgs. at Poonamallee and Fort St. George respectively.

Lieut. P. A. Reynolds, 38th N.I., permitted again to place his services at disposal of resident at Hyderabad, with a view to his resumption of his app. in service of H. H. the Nizam.

July 11.—33d N.I. Sen. Ens. H. P. Clay to be Lieut. in suc. to Lambert rem. to 16th N.I.; date 26th June.

July 14.—Lieut. G. A. Underwood, of engineers, to be 1st assist. to chief engineer, from date of Lieut. Lake's departure for Penang.

Lieut. G. A. Underwood, of engineers, to act as civil engineer in southern division.

Capt. J. J. Underwood to resume his situation of superintend. engineer in southern division.

Capt. Purton and Capt. Drewry, of engineers, relieved from their superintendence over Lieut. W. G. Nugent, acting superintend. engineers in Mysore, and Lieut. C. E. Faher ditto at Jaulnah, and those officers will conduct the duties of their respective situations on their own responsibility.

2d Europ. Regt. Sen. Lieut. J. E. Puget to be capt., and Sen. Ens. R. T. Welbank to be Lieut., v. Brown dec.; date 7th July.

July 13.—43d N.I. Sen. Lieut. T. M. Claridge to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. Grantham to be Lieut., v. Crowe dec.; date 10th July.

Mr. W. Poole admitted as an assist. surg., and app. to do duty under surg. of 3d bat. artil.

July 21.—Lieut. W. Shaipr, 8th L.C., transferred to Invalid estab.

38th N.I. Sen. Ens. H. T. Yarde to be Lieut., v. Currie dec.; date 21st June.

Head-Quarters, July 26. — *Ensigns (recently prom.) appointed to do duty.* J. E. Hughes, T. W. Cooke, W. G. Yarde, J. Martyr, A. R. Rose, R. Taylor, and J. E. Glynn, with 7th N.I.; J. Wilkinson, T. M'Goun, T. H. Hull and T. L. Place with 16th do.; C. H. Warren and F. Hamilton with 33d do.

Surg. T. Owen removed from 2d to 15th N.I., and Surg. R. Nelson from latter to former; Assist. surg. J. Trail removed from 2d to 15th ditto.

July 23.—Assist. surg. T. Bond removed from 34th or Chicacole L.I., and posted to 1st Europ. regt.

July 31.—Ens. J. W. Nixon, removed from doing duty with 10th N.I., to do duty with 27th.

Aug. 1.—Ens. J. Millar removed from 27th to 43d N.I., and will rank next below Ens. D. Bayley.

Aug. 3.—*Removals in Artillery.* Lieut. Col. C. Hopkinson from 2d to 4th bat. Lieut. Col. S. Cleveland from 4th to 2d bat. Capt. J. Ketchen from 4th to 2d bat. Capt. T. T. Paske from 1st to 4th bat. Capt. J. N. Abdy from 2d to 1st bat. Capt. T. H. J. Hockley from 1st to 2d bat. Capt. F. Bond from 3d to 1st bat. Capt. F. Blundell from 2d to 3d bat. Lieut. J. C. M'Nair from 1st to 2d bat.

Capt. J. Ketchen, of 2d bat. artil., to command artil. with Hyderabad subd. force.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—May 16. Capt. R. J. Marr, 2d Nat. Vet. Bat., for health.—June 2. Lieut. Col. A. Andrews, 46th N.I., for health.—13. Lieut. M. Beauchamp, 2d N.I., for health.—23. Lieut. H. Gould, 38th N.I.—30. Capt. G. Story, 37th N.I., for health (via Calcutta).—Lieut. P. Chambers, 1st Europ. Regt., for health.—Ens. W. S. Mitchell, 22d N.I., for health.—July 7. Capt. W. H. Rowley, 11th N.I.—Lieut. M. Stephenson, 36th N.I., for health.—Lieut. G. Hammond, 50th N.I., for health.—11. Lieut. W. Gray, 21st N.I., for health.—14. Lieut. E. W. Holland, 9th N.I., for one year.—18. Capt. J. Tucker, 11th N.I., for health.—21. Lieut. F. A. Reid, 6th N.I., for health.—Lieut. W. H. Trolope, 42d N.I., for one year (via Bombay).—23. Lieut. F. W. Hoffman, 10th N.I., for health.

To Calcutta.—July 21. Lieut. G. M. Floyer, 2d L.C., for six months.

To Bombay.—July 18. Capt. J. Luard, 16th N.I., for six months, for health.

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To Sea.—May 26. Capt. W. J. Bradford, assist. adj. gen. to light field div. Hyderabad subd. force, for nine months, for health (eventually to Cape of Good Hope).—July 7. Capt. J. Gorton, 8th L.C., for six months, for health.—18. Capt. R. J. H. Vivian, 18th N.I., ditto, ditto.

To Penang.—Capt. J. K. Clubley, 3d L.C., for six months, for health.

Cancelled.—Lieut. O. St. John, 31st N.I., to sea.—Lieut. E. J. Dusanoy, 49th N.I., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, April 17.

The sessions commenced this day; Mr. Justice Comyn delivered an elaborate charge to the grand jury, who, after having gone through the business before them, made a presentment to the court consisting of the following heads:—

1. They presented certain brick-kilns, lately established near the Spur Tank, as a nuisance.

2. That the crime of burglary had very much increased at Madras lately; that many cases, within their personal knowledge, had not been brought before them for investigation, and consequently they feared the offenders had escaped the police and justice; and they alluded to a very daring case which occurred at a house occupied by Captain Keighly, near the Spur Tank, where the robbers compelled the inhabitant to flee from his house and to take shelter under a neighbour's roof.

3. They presented the danger and impropriety of foot-passengers, palankeens, &c. keeping in the middle of the roads, and expressed their hope that this would be remedied.

4. They next presented what is in all countries a popular grievance, namely, the expense of law proceedings.

Lastly, they presented the great extent to which the crime of perjury had arisen, and the evil consequences thereof; and as the best remedy they could suggest of putting a stop to it, they expressed their anxious hope that the very excellent charge delivered to them by Mr. Justice Comyn might be published.

[The *Madras Courier* has the following remarks upon the last head:—"Perhaps we shall not be considered very presumptuous in stating that, according to our view of things, the grand jury have been a little officious, and have rather outstepped their office, in presenting the whole body of lawyers as excessive in their charges; at all events, if such is part of their duty, they ought to have gone farther and have stated that the servants of the Honourable Company, the houses of agency and shopkeepers, in fact all Europeans in India, were extravagantly paid; for we will venture to affirm, that in proportion to labour performed, the gentlemen of the law are not half so well paid as agents and those in the public service; but we will not be invidious; all we say is,

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ia, let the grand jury compare law expenses with the salaries of all public servants in India, and with the profits of houses of agency or of shopkeepers, and they will find they have not increased in nearly so great a degree as others. To remedy the evil, we advise all men to be honest and plain dealing and to pay their debts without being litigious, which will be the surest way of knocking up the trade complained of."]

MISCELLANEOUS.

PHRENOLOGICAL LECTURE.

Dr. Paterson delivered a lecture at this presidency, April 18, on the science of phrenology, which was attended by many of the first characters in the settlement, with no inconsiderable number of the fair sex.

The professor, after some introductory remarks upon the foundation of the science and its origin (namely the discovery by Dr. Gall, whilst a schoolboy, of the relation between the memory of words and the development of that portion of the brain subjacent to the eye), proceeded to general and individual demonstrations.

The heads (busts) of Shakespeare and Joseph Hume, M. P., were then measured, demonstrated, and compared, and the great development of the organ of ideality in the former, and its smallness in the latter, shewn as proving that the characters of these individuals corresponded with their organization.

The head (skull) of a Burmese, the late sanguinary governor of Assam, and the head (skull) of a Hindoo were measured, compared, and demonstrated; the skull of the latter was extremely small in all its parts and proportions; having, when compared with the former, a larger proportion of the intellectual and less of the animal regions; but varying from negation and imbecility to an irregular elliptic sphere, expressive of mental activity.

The skull of the Burman was considered as possessing much development in the animal region; the phrenological deductions of character, which have been made from such organization, again being justified and borne out by the national as well as the individual character of the sanguinary monster whose skull was exhibited.

The skull of the passive Hindoo was demonstrated, as being an approximation to the animal organization of the herbi-vorous tribe of animals.

The heads (busts) of Dr. Dodd and Mr. Airy * were next compared, measur-

ed, and demonstrated; in the bust of Mr. Airy, a great mathematician and profound lover of truth, the organ of conscientiousness forms a striking feature, being remarkably developed at the upper or rather lateral and back part of the head, or in the posterior part of the intellectual region; whereas, in the bust of the unfortunate Dr. Dodd, it seems to be quite wanting; the head at that part sloping off so much that even to an uninitiated eye and an ignorant manipulator it would give the impression of a something wanting.

The phrenological method of valuing a head was then shewn, and the head (bust) of the Rev. Mr. Martin demonstrated; in this gentleman and in his bust the organ of acquisitiveness is much developed. He was remarkable for a peculiar care of his property; a few years before his death he became insane, and the hallucination consisted in the reverse of his former propensity, or a marked disposition to squander away his property. After death his brain was examined, and the organ of acquisitiveness found to be the seat of organic disease; the brain was examined by the celebrated surgeon, Mr. Chevalier, at that time an antiphrenologist, but since then a convert to its doctrines and science.

The heads of the brute creation were next past in review; the organization of several, as the dog, the fox, the ape, were noticed, and the superior magnitude and additional portion of the cerebral organ in man pointed out.

The learned professor then proceeded to the more immediate, or first object of phrenology, requiring the student's attention; namely, organology, or the site, magnitude, and functions of the different organs.

The professor, in speaking of the organ of adhesiveness, characterized it as the organ of attachment, and attempted to shew that the female of man is destined by this organization not to be a mere slave, and that if this organ were cultivated women might become intelligent companions, but that at adult age woman is rarely capable of supporting permanent friendship!

PORT OF TELlichERRY.

The following notice is important to traders:—

Public Department.—Notice is hereby given, that the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East-India Company, in virtue of the power vested in them by the act of the 4th of Geo. IV., cap. 80, sec. 8, have been pleased to declare that the port of Tellicherry, in the province of Malabar, shall be considered, for the purposes of the said act of parliament only,

* A native of Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, who, at a very early age, has recently been chosen to fill the chair of the Great Newton, at Cambridge.—*Et.*

only, as one of the principal settlements of the said Company.

H. CHAMIER, Act. Sec. to Govt.
Fort St. George, 30th June 1826.

THEATRICALS.

We are extremely happy to understand that the revival of amateur theatricals at the presidency is again in contemplation. Often as we have been disappointed in our anticipations on this subject, we cannot but consider them very likely to be realized on the present occasion. The general wish of the society of Madras is decidedly favourable to the measure contemplated; and the circumstance of several up-country amateurs being now at Madras holds out a prospect of the attempt being made with considerable success.

We understand the principal obstacle to the speedy realization of the wishes of the amateurs is found in the present dilapidated state of our Madras Drury: but when we recollect the many pleasant evenings we have passed in it, we sincerely hope that fine building will neither be suffered to decay nor be devoted permanently to meaner purposes than those for which it was originally intended and for which it is so admirably adapted. We beg to suggest to the lovers of the drama that a meeting be immediately convened to consider of the most feasible plan for reviving the theatre at Madras.—[*Mad. Cour.*, April 25.

BISHOP HEBER'S MONUMENT.

The total amount of subscriptions, on July 27, was Rupees 28,946. 8. 8.

BISHOP HEBER'S LETTER TO THE HEAD OF THE SYRIAN CHURCH OF MALABAR.

The *Missionary Register*, last month, contains a letter addressed by the late Bishop to Mar Athanasius, metropolitan of the Syrian church, dated in December 1825, of which the following is an extract:—"Moreover, I beseech thee, brother, to beware of the emissaries of the Bishop of Rome, whose hands have been dipped in the blood of the saints, from whose tyranny our Church in England hath been long freed by the blessing of God, and we hope to continue in that freedom for ever: of whom are they of Goa, Cranganor, and Verapoli; who have, in time past, done the Indian Church much evil. I pray that those of thy Churches in Malabar who are yet subject to these men, may arouse themselves and be delivered from their hands. Howbeit, the Lord desireth not the death of a sinner, but his mercies are over all His works, and He is found of them that sought Him not."

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

June 19. *Castle Huntly*, Drummond, from London.—24. *Marquess of Huntly*, Fraser, from London.—July 2. *Ann*, Worthington, from the Mauritius.—12. *General Palmer*, Truscott, from London.—13. *Euphrates*, Scott, from London.—22. H. M. S. *Vulgar*, Dundas, from London.—23. *Juliana*, Innes, from London.—30. *Venus*, Hogue, from London.

Departures.

June 22. *Georgiana*, Haylett, for Calcutta.—30. *Clydesdale*, Rose, for Calcutta.—July 5. *Ann*, Worthington, for Rangoon.—6. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, for Calcutta.—19. *Euphrates*, Scott, for Calcutta.—27. *Juliana*, Innes, for Calcutta.—30. *General Palmer*, Truscott, for London.—Aug. 4. *Castle Huntly*, Drummond, for Penang and China.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

June 9. At Kamptee, the lady of Capt. Hunter, dep. adj. gen. of the Nagpore Subsid. Force, of a daughter.
10. At Bolarum, Hyderabad, the lady of R. R. Rickets, Esq., 48th N.I., of a son.
12. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. G. W. Thompson, H.M.'s 30th regt., of a son.
15. The lady of Capt. W. Strahan, assist. qu. mast. gen. of the army, of a son, still-born.
17. Mrs. W. W. Wilkins, of a daughter.
18. At the presidency, the lady of John Dent, Esq., of the civil service, of a son.
23. At Belgaum, the lady of Capt. Poulton, 5th N.I., of a son.
24. At Tranquebar, the lady of Capt. J. Smith, 4th N.V.B., of a son.
— At Tellicherry, the lady of F. Lascelles, Esq., of a daughter.
25. At Jaulnah, the lady of G. Sandys, Esq., 6th cavalry, of a son.
26. At Kamptee, Elizabeth, the wife of First Dresser Henry Eason, horse brigade, of a daughter.
27. At Aurangabad, the lady of D. S. Young, Esq., Madras Medical Establishment, of a son.
29. At Coctayam, Mrs. Penn, of a son.
July 2. Mrs. J. Bacon, of a son.
4. At Woodville, on the Neelgherry Hills, the lady of J. C. Morris, Esq., of the civil service, of a son.
6. At Bellary, the wife of Mr. David Ross, revenue surveyor, of a daughter.
9. The wife of Mr. J. S. Harvey, of a son.
11. At St. Thomas's Mount, the lady of F. Gulham, Esq., of a daughter.
13. At Tranquebar, the lady of Capt. G. Hutchison, Trichinopoly light infantry, of a son.
14. At Palamcottah, Mrs. Rhenius, of a son.
— Mrs. Thomas Barker, of a daughter.
21. At Trichinopoly, Mrs. E. G. Albany, of a daughter.
22. The wife of Mr. J. E. Childs, of a son.
23. The wife of Mr. John Nagle, first dresser, of a son.
24. The lady of G. E. Russell, Esq., of a son.
25. The lady of H. Byrne, Esq., of a son.
— The lady of J. Arathoon, Esq., of a daughter.
26. In Fort St. George, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Naylor, 80th regt., of a daughter.
Aug. 2. At Arcot, the lady of Capt. Purton, engineers, of a daughter.
— At Bellary, Mrs. C. Sharlieb, of a daughter.
6. At Chittoor, the lady of W. Harington, Esq., of the civil service, of a son.
7. At Kilpauk, Mrs. C. P. Gordon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 20. At Secunderabad, James Benwell, Esq., 40th Madras Inf., to Margaret, eldest daughter of Col. Limond, Madras artillery.
June 17. At Vellore, Lieut. Col. G. Maunsell to Charlotte Barclay, third daughter of the late J. D. White, Esq., of the Medical Board of this establishment.

28. At St. Mary's Church, Lieut. Henry Lee, 11th N.I., to Miss Innes.
 29. At St. George's Church, Lieut. J. U. Colebrooke, 43d N.I., to Miss J. M. Balfour.
 July 3. At St. George's Church, Lieut. P. J. Begbie, 2d bat. of artillery, to Charlotte Ward, youngest daughter of the late R. H. Morphet, Esq., of Mallow, in the county of Cork.
 — At Trichinopoly, Capt. E. A. McCurdy to Eliza, second daughter of Maj. Gen. H. Hall, commanding the southern division of the army.
 8. At the Black-Town Chapel, Mr. W. Kelly to Charlotte, daughter of the late Mr. C. L. Battle.
 10. At St. Thomé, Lieut. J. Campbell, 33d N.I., to Barbara Adair, fourth daughter of the Rev. A. Laurie, D.D., minister of the parish of Loudon, Ayrshire.
 15. At St. Thomé, Lieut. W. S. Mitchell, 22d N.I., son of the late Dr. Mitchell, A.M., and H. P., naturalist and botanist of this establishment, to Eliza, daughter of the late G. Barnes, Esq., of Armagh, Ireland.
 18. At Cuddalore, Lieut. Col. J. S. Fraser, to Miss Henrietta Stevenson.
 20. At St. George's Church, Lieut. Prendergast, H.M.'s 19th regt. and his H.R.N. service, to Miss Maria Arata, daughter of the late Major Arata, H.M.'s Royal Rangers.
 29. At Vepery, Mr. R. Green, Medical Department, to Miss F. Dashwood, eldest daughter of the late Capt. R. Dashwood, H.M.'s 80th foot.
 31. At Tranquebar, Miss Augusta Maria, eldest daughter of the late Capt. F. Wickede, of the Danish service, to Capt. F. Plowden, 20th N.I.
 — At Black Town, Mr. John Piellow to Aurora, eldest daughter of Mr. John Cabau, senior.
 Aug. 2. At Trichinopoly, Lieut. C. H. Graine, 5th L.C., to Sarah, second daughter of the late Lieut. Col. R. Brice, Madras establishment.
 7. At St. George's Church, Capt. F. F. Whinnyates, horse brigade, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of J. Campbell, Esq., of Ormidale, Argyshire.
 Late. At St. George's Church, Miss Read, daughter of Lieut. Col. Read, dep. quart. mast. gen. to H.M.'s forces in India, to Major Perry, 31st N. regt.

DEATHS.

April 20. At Nundy cantonment, Amherst, Lieut. G. Hart, 36th N.I.
 May 4. At Trichinopoly, Robert Septimus, infant son of John Bird, Esq.
 June 12. Capt. Phillips Cosby, military secretary to his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, aged 27.
 14. Camp at Jaulnah, Lieut. and Adj. R. J. Bird, 8th N.I., of cholera.
 — George William Frederick, second son of Capt. Moberly, dep. sec. mil. board.
 15. At Belgaum, the infant son of Capt. J. Wallace, 46th regt. N.I., post-master, Doobab field force.
 16. Laura, the eldest daughter of T. V. Stonhouse, Esq., in her sixth year.
 23. John Parry, only son of T. V. Stonhouse, Esq., in his fifth year.
 26. At Belgaum, Lieut. T. Clendon, 41st regt. N.I.
 — Of the liver complaint, Mr. C. Clayton, examiner in the military board office.
 July 3. At Bolaram, near Hyderabad, of the spasmodic cholera, Sophia, second daughter of Mr. Sub-assist. Surg. T. Peacock.
 4. At Khanapoor, near Hyderabad, of cholera, Maryanne and Harriet, and at Secunderabad, on the morning of the 5th, of the same disease, Elizabeth, an infant, daughters of Mr. Charles Browne, quarter-master of H.H. the Nizam's engineers.
 6. At Bolaram, at the house of Dr. Meikle, Capt. P. Browne, 2d Madras Europ. regt., and paymaster of Hyderabad subsid. force.
 12. The wife of Mr. Martin, jeweller.
 13. At Pulicat, after a lingering illness, Louisa Ann, fifth daughter of R. W. Meppen, Esq., master attendant at that station.
 — At Vepery, New Town, after child-birth, Mrs. T. Davidson, aged 17 years.
 16. At Palaveram, Mrs. P. Vernon, relict of the late Lieut. Col. J. R. Vernon, H.C.'s service, on the Madras establishment.
 17. At Pondicherry, Mr. Fras. Rencontre (father of Mrs. Marten) of apoplexy, an old resident of that place.

19. At Royapettah, Eunice, wife of the Rev. T. J. Williamson, Wesleyan missionary, second daughter of David Watson, Esq., of Kingland, near London, aged 21.
 20. Of consumption, Mr. Lewis Moorhouse, aged 23.
 21. William Richard, son of the Rev. F. Spring, chaplain of this establishment.
 — At Secunderabad, Mrs. Mary Bergin, aged 17.
 25. At Arnee, Lieut. Col. Swayne, commanding Arnee, aged 41.
 — Lieut. Col. H. H. Pepper, in the 43d year of his age. Whilst exercising the arduous command of the force in Pegu, he contracted the disease which has terminated an honourable and uninterrupted career of twenty-seven years' service.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS,
PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, July 1, 1826.—2d L.C. Lieut. D. Cunningham to be capt. on new estab.; date 1st May 1824. Corn. W. J. Otley to be lieut., v. Torin dec.; date 2d Feb. 1826.
 July 4.—10th N.I. Lieut. C. Cathcart to be capt., and Ens. E. Maish to be lieut., in suc. to Palm dec.; date 30th June 1826.
 July 6.—Capt. G. Graham, H.M.'s 2d or Queen's R. Regt., to be aide-de-camp to Hon. the Governor, from 1st May, v. Gillespie app. to staff of Governor-general.
 12th N.I. Lieut. R. M. Hughes, interp. and qu. mast., to be adj., v. Reed prom., relinquishing his present app.; date 16th May.
 July 12.—Capt. A. W. Pringle, dep. qu. mast. gen. at Poonah, to be assist. sec. to Military Board, v. Palm dec.
 July 18.—Lieut. A. Johnson, 18th N.I., and 2d Assist. to Auditor Gen., to be Sec. to Military Fund.
 July 20.—Lieut. Marsh, 10th N.I., to be Assist. Superintendent of Bazzars to Poonah Div. of army.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—July 8. Lieut. F. B. B. Keene, 8th N.I., for health.—14. Maj. J. Elder, 1st Europ. Regt. for health.—Assist. Surg. J. P. Arnot, for health.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MAHABULESHWUR HILLS.

The *Bombay Gazette* contains a communication respecting the qualities of the climate in these hills, which the writer recommends as a retreat for invalids. We extract the following passages: "The situation is almost equi-distant from Mahara and Sattara, and forming a table-land of nearly 5,000 feet, it gives rise to the different branches of the Krishna river, and is therefore the most elevated point of the Ghauts in these parts. The breadth of this table-land, from where the road beginning at the ghaut leads from the valley of Sattara until it again descends on the opposite side into the Konkun, is about eight miles. The distance from Mahara to the hills is little more than thirty miles, or three easy stages.

"I have seen the Madras reports of the Nilgherry mountains, of which the climate is colder than that of Mahabuleshwur, and the elevation greater, I should think, by

by 3,000 feet; but, if permitted to institute a comparison and to speak theoretically, I should prefer that of the latter, as it is more temperate, and therefore better suited to restore lost energy to invalids, debilitated from the effect of heat, and who require an immediate change.

"Those who have enjoyed the usual cold weather of the Deccan, during December and January, will be able to form a much better general idea of the Mahabuleshwur climate, from March to June, than could be possibly conveyed to them by any more minute or laboured description. The minimum of Fahrenheit's thermometer is, sometimes, at night 64°; a range of temperature which is only four degrees less than the maximum heat, in May, on the Neilgherry hills. Though the average heat at Mahabuleshwur, a little after noon, is 80°, in a house, or twelve degrees greater than the extreme heat of the Neilgherries, the temperature of the former, when there are clouds, does not exceed 70°; the average variation, during the day is about 12° of Fahrenheit. The maximum, in tents, for this month was sometimes above 80°; but this increase of heat seldom exceeded two hours' duration, and was not at any time oppressive nor exhausting. When the wind blows from the eastward the heat is greatest, and at such times the air is very dry. In general, however, it blows from the west, or north-west, bearing along occasionally, after sunset, white clouds which render the atmosphere damp and chilly. These fleecy masses of snow-like vapour, collecting over the deep ravines, hang on the brows of the mountain summits, until the succeeding morning sun have acquired sufficient power to dissolve them; they are thus dissipated for a time, only again to re-assemble when he shall have withdrawn his influence at his setting.

"The soil of the hills is a red iron clay, which does not appear to communicate any chalybeate properties to the water of the place. The water, which is soft, and contains little or no gypsum, is found a few feet below the soil, where there are hollows and ravines.

"The only inhabitants here are a few poor villagers, who smelt iron, and the Dunder tribe, or cowherds, who live in small huts, and pasture their cattle during the rains. These people report favourably of the healthiness of the climate, even at that season when fevers are usually present in other hilly situations."

NAUTCH.

On Saturday last, Deo Si Soonderjee entertained a number of his European, civil and military, friends at a nautch and supper at Sunkersett's garden house. The guests who attended on this occasion received the most polite and hospitable atten-

tion from the generous host. The garden was splendidly illuminated; a supper was served up in the European style, with all the appropriate accompaniment; and the party retired highly pleased with the treat that had been provided for them.—[*Bom. Cour.*, May 20.

BOMBAY ORIENTAL CLUB.

An attempt is making at Bombay to establish there an institution similar to the Oriental Club in London. It is intended for the accommodation of persons arriving from out-stations, on leave, duty, or sickness.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

July 8. *Diadem*, Cotgrave, from London.—12. *Columbine*, Tuit, from London.

Departures.

July 17. *Milford*, Jackson, and *Caledonia*, Johnston, both for China.—29. *Norfolk*, Greig, for China.—31. *Mary Ann*, M'Donald, for London.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

June 27. At Aurungabad, the lady of D. S. Young, Esq., Madras Medical Establishment, of a son.

July 3. The lady of Lieut. Billamore, assist. revenue surveyor, of a son.

11. At Mhow, the lady of Lieut. S. Athill, H.C.'s engineers, of a son and heir.

14. At Surat, the lady of W. A. Jones, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

16. At Hingolle, the lady of Capt. C. St. J. Grant, Nizam's cavalry, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

June 26. At Surat, Katharine, wife of Alex. Bell, Esq., civil service.

29. At his house at Masagon, of epidemic cholera, Capt. T. Palin, assist. sec. to Military Board, aged 41.

July 2. At Surat, Alex. Bulkley, infant son of Alex. Bell, Esq., civil service.

6. At Aurungabad, Dr. C. C. Cheyne, of his Highness the Nizam's medical establishment.

13. At Kaira, James Home Brutton, youngest son of Maj. Browne, 4th L. Drags., aged four years.

14. Of cholera, at Colabah, James Travers, son of J. Morley, Esq., aged six months.

27. Anne, wife of Maj. Gen. Wilson, aged 32.

Ceylon.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

June 24. W. J. Lushington to be assist. to collector of Chilaw and Putlam.

C. R. Buller, Esq., to be assist. to agent of Gov. for province of Seven Korles.

30. C. R. Buller, Esq., to be assist. to revenue commissioners in Kandyan provinces.

July 8. R. Wells, Esq., to be an extra assist. in Chief-Secretary's Office.

ELEPHANT SHOOTING.

Extract of a note from a sporting friend on his way to the Kandy races.—"I could not resist a report of some tuskers and waited here to-day. We started late, went across

across the Deddra Oyer, got into a very large herd in thick jungle, B—, S—, and self, were soon at work; I floored five, including a good tusker, B— five, and S— one.

I was taken by surprise and had only time to fire a shot into an elephant's head, when he was on me, and knocked your double rifle out of my hand: I fell, but my friend was satisfied with pushing me out of the way with his foot or his trunk, I know not which; I was not hurt, but he dashed the gun against me and broke the left cock off. There was one tusker with the largest tusks I have ever seen; I had two wild shots at him and floored him with his tusks deep in the ground, but he was only stunned and got off. The tusker I bagged is about the size of the one you killed close to the same spot."—[*Ceylon Gaz.*, July 22.

BIRTHS.

May 13. At Batticotta, Jaffna, the wife of the Rev. B. C. Meigs, American missionary, of a son.

24. At Kandy, the lady of Lieut. Oldershaw, Royal Engineers, of a daughter.

June 11. At Colombo, the lady of Capt. Braybrooke, assist. commissary, of a daughter.

July 23. The lady of Lieut. Deacon, staff-officer at Galle, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

June 26. At Malwane, in the Hina Corle, Don Abraham Wijeyesinhe Jayewardene, Modilar, of the Chillaw Cutcherry, to Miss Rosa Maria Perera.

Lately. At Kalta, R. Atherton, Esq., superintendent of the Government stud, and sitting magistrate of Delft Island, to Eleanor Toler, fourth daughter of the late G. Burleigh, Esq., surg., half-pay 2d Ceylon regt., and sitting magistrate of Kalta.

DEATHS.

July 1. At Colombo, Justinus Adrianus Loos, eldest son of Mr. P. A. Loos, deputy registrar, aged 20.

5. At Colombo, John, eldest son of Major Fraser, aged 1 year.

Penang.

LAW.

The first session of oyer and terminer for the present year was opened on the 1st May, by the Hon. the Governor and Members of Council, with the usual ceremonies.

Previous to the grand jury being discharged, after finding several bills of indictment, the foreman made a presentment to the court of the serious injury arising to the lives, property, and morals of the community from the want of strong and efficient gaols to confine persons under judicial sentences from other parts of India: and also from the present system of permitting those persons to be employed in private service or public work of a description which admits of their

being in a great measure at large in the night-time and the hours when they are not kept at labour.

Ingah Manid, a Malay, who had long been the head of a gang of a robbers, and the terror of the opposite shore, was convicted of burglary, and executed on the 20th May.

DEATHS.

May 6. The lady of Lieut. C. Fowle, 65th regt. B.N.I.

June 12. Mr. J. E. M'Intyre.

Singapore.

TRADING JUNKS.

A few of the Siam and Cochin-China traders have sailed for their respective countries, and all the junks in the harbour are making active preparations for their departure. The whole of these vessels, immediately after their arrival at this port, are covered with a roof of attaps or thatch, in which state they continue until about the middle of May, when the monsoon having set in, in the China sea they prepare for their homeward voyage. During this long interval the greater portion of the crew of each vessel live on shore, and the unoccupied parts of the sea-beach, in the vicinity of the town, present a busy and active scene; these men being here employed in preparing agar-agar, mangrove bark, and fire-wood for their return cargoes. Large quantities of the two last may now be seen piled up along the beach. Procuring new masts and rudders also occupies a great deal of time and labour. Before the cession of the sovereignty of the island to the East-India Company, the Tumungung possessed a monopoly of cutting down trees for masts, &c. and he accordingly charged 500 dollars for each main-mast, and 100 dollars for a rudder. The crews of the junks themselves now procure the trees from the forest, and fashion them rudely into masts, rudders, and anchors, the whole of which each junk must have new, the old ones being almost invariably unfit for further service. On the return of the junks to China they exchange these again for old ones, making a large profit by the transaction. A mast for a junk of 500 tons is worth, in China, about 2,000 dollars, and the operation of changing masts in Singapore is therefore considered a matter of some importance. On board of several of the junks we observe that the stepping of a new main-mast is celebrated by firing guns, and burning crackers, and, as on board of an European vessel, a glass or cup of Samsou or arrack is quaffed greedily after the job is finished. —[*Sing. Chron.*, June 8.

MISSION

MISSION TO SIAM.

The ship *Hunter* has returned from Siam. She left Bankok about the middle of May, at which time the mission brig, *Guardian*, was receiving on board the presents from the court and preparing for departure. Capt. Burney expected to leave about the end of June, so that he may be expected to arrive here very shortly. We are not aware of the result of Capt. Burney's negotiations, but report says that they have entirely failed, the Siamese court having peremptorily refused to agree to the restoration of the King of Kedah, and from the accounts from Tringau of the arrival there of a deputation from Siam, it would appear that they have no intention of relinquishing their right of interference in the affairs of the Malayan states. We hope that the envoy has found this jealous and overbearing people less impracticable on the subject of commerce, which is of more importance to the interests of our country. The ministers however seem to be aware, that by the free admission of foreigners into Siam, the enslaved people would soon learn the benefits of liberty, and the present abominable system of tyranny would be in danger, and from this arises their jealousy of Europeans.—[*Ibid.*, July 6.

BIRTH.

March 26. The lady of W. P. Paton, Esq., of a daughter.

DEATH.

June 24. Robert Thomas Farquhar, third son of Capt. Davis, garrison-staff, aged fifteen months.

Malacca.

MARRIAGE.

June 18. Capt. R. J. Cuthbertson, master-attendant, to Miss C. M. J. Bone.

DEATH.

March 22. A. C. Maclean, Esq.

Netherlands India.

The Dutch accounts from Java, which are to the 8th of September, wear a melancholy aspect. The measures taken to suppress the rebellion, which were at first successful, have been suspended. Two Javanese princes, who had taken part with the Dutch, had been captured by the rebels, and many of those who had submitted had resumed hostilities; and as the insurrection prevailed over such an immense tract of country, General De Kock had resolved to confine himself to its most important points, till the arrival of reinforcements from the Netherlands. However, as two strong detachments were already arrived in the Straits of Sunda, and were daily expected, hope had not deserted the Government; particularly as on the 28th of July, and the 4th and 11th of August, some advantages were gained

at Katjebow, Bosol, and Kalidjenkin; at the last of which places a handful of Europeans, under Maj. Sollewyn, had repulsed a very considerable army, with but little loss on their side; but as the necessity of a powerful government was felt at Djocjocarta, they had restored the old sultan, dethroned by the English in 1812, to direct the affairs of the government for and with his young great-grandson.

In Celebes affairs seemed to have taken a favourable turn, through the increasing influence of the ally of the Dutch, Chroë Lombo.

Persia.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

Russian papers contain accounts from the scene of hostilities with Persia. The Shah had, at Agar, an interview with his son, Abbas Meerza, and, it is said, bitterly reproached him as the cause of the war, threatening to deprive him of the succession, and to put out his eyes; but, at his son's earnest entreaties, he gave him fresh troops. The Shah then went to Tahreez, from whence he has since gone to Dermakand. Abbas Meerza, notwithstanding the difficulty of finding provisions in Karabagh, keeps his position on the Araxes. Gen. Paskewitch's corps was between the Araxes and the Akh-Ugla, on the little river Tscheraken.

The Persians, under Sheikh Ali Meerza, have evacuated Shirwan. The former Khan of Shirwan, Shamakha Mustapha, who was left in command, hearing of Gen. Krabbe's advance from Kuba to Staraja, followed Ali Meerza, pursued by the Russians.

Gen. Yermaloff had advanced from Kaketia, to Haldan, in the province of Tschekin.

Some overland despatches have reached the East-India House, containing an account of the battle of the 25th or 26th September, which was stated, from Russian papers, in our last number. The details in these despatches differ materially from the latter; although both concur in the fact that the Persians were severely worsted. It is lamentable that the names of places are so disfigured in the Russian papers, or in the translations which appear in ours.

These despatches are dated Tabreez, Oct. 15, and state that a division of the Persian army, detached by his Highness the Prince Royal, under the command of his eldest son, Mahomed Meerza, and his uncle, Ameer Khan, was defeated with severe loss on the 26th Sept., near the village of Shamkhar, five fursukhs north-west of Georgia.

The battle was fought on the banks of the Yezan, a second stream of which divided

divided the contending armies. The Russian force amounted to about 6,000 infantry and 3,000 cavalry with a proportionate number of guns; that of the Persians to 5,000 infantry and 5,000 irregular horse, with six field pieces.

After some hard fighting the Persians were compelled to retire in the utmost confusion; and it is supposed that nearly the whole of the infantry were either killed or taken prisoners.

Three field-pieces fell into the hands of the Russians, and Ameer Khan was killed by a Cossack when in the act of rallying his troops. The young prince, Mahomed Meerza, was taken prisoner by a Cossack, but was afterwards rescued, and borne away in triumph by one of his Surdars.

BRITISH EMBASSY.

Private letters from Shiraz, dated 7th of June, mention the arrival there of Col. Macdonald and suite, where he awaits his mehmander, Mirza Abul Cassim (a man of the highest rank) to conduct the mission on its journey. Col. Macdonald had been received with the same honours, and treated with the same respect and distinction, as marked the progress of Sir Gore Ouseley and Sir John Malcolm. All the difficulties anticipated had disappeared, and the most sanguine hopes were entertained, from the good disposition shewn towards our ambassador by the Persian court, that the object of the mission would be completely successful, and that our interests in Persia would be again placed on the footing they stood with that state a few years back.—[*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*, Aug. 3.

Australia.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Chamber of Commerce.—An institution of this nature has been formed at Sydney, which has already commenced its functions; a room has been opened where newspapers will be filed, and a book of arrivals and departures kept: insurances on colonial vessels will also be effected there. The matters which will be first looked to are the rates of wharfage and postage, the duties on home distillation and foreign tobacco, port charges on colonial craft, rates of commission and warehouse rent, establishment of ballast and lightermen, and a cheap and easy system of mercantile arbitration.

The Currency.—The commissary has ceased to use dollars in payment. Paper dollars are again getting into circulation; the dollars and dollar notes, it is feared, will interfere with the new sterling coin. The operations of the new Australian bank have been retarded by a want of engravers to execute the plates for notes. The Chamber of Commerce recommend the

trading community to keep all accounts in British sterling money; and they declare their determination to consider the Spanish dollar simply as bullion. The change in the currency had made an alteration in the prices of flour.

Arrivals of Ships at Sydney.

June 23. *Providence*, Wauchope, from V. D. Land.—July 4. *Governor Phillips*, from Bengal and Madras.—8. *John Barry*, Roche, from London.—19. *Prince Regent*, Salmon, from North Coast of Australia.—21. *John*, Griffin, from V. D. Land.—24. *Fairfield*, Work, from ditto.—25. *Henry*, Bunney, from ditto.—26. *Lord Rodney*, Kinnear, from M^l Quarry Island.—27. *Indian*, Swann, from London (crew mutinous).

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

Arrivals of Ships at Hobart Town.

June 5. *Cyprus*, Todd, from the Mauritius.—26. *Fairfield*, Work, from London.—30. *Cape Packet*, Kellie, from N. S. Wales.—July 7. *Henry*, Bunney, from London.

BIRTH AND DEATHS.

BIRTH.

July 13. At Sydney, Mrs. Broadbent, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

June 29. At Sydney, Serjeant John Holdwort, a veteran pensioner, aged 61. He had been thirty-four years in the King's service.

July 9. Mr. Stephen Milton.

— Miss Jones.

15. Mrs. Maria Wells.

17. At Paramatta, Mrs. Reynolda.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE latest accounts direct from India are as follows:—Calcutta, to the 31st July, Madras to the 15th August, and Bombay to the 29th July. All was quiet at Rangoon up to July 2d; the instalment was in progress of payment, at the rate of about a lac a day; the Burmese appearing desirous to protract the departure of the British, through fear of the Peguers. Dr. Price had reached Ava, and Mr. Crawford was anxiously expected there. A person lately arrived from that city at Calcutta, states that the Burmese Government were imposing fines upon all persons who had been upon friendly terms with our troops; and, in some cases, deprived them of noses and ears. Emigration from Rangoon continued. The Burmese flock to our settlements of Mergui, Tavai, Martaban, and particularly Amherst Town, which is rapidly filling with inhabitants. The troops there enjoy excellent health. At Cheduba, on the contrary, the sickness is so great, that the removal of the troops was contemplated.

The Hon. Jeffery Amherst, eldest son of the Governor-General, died at Barrackpore on the 2d August, after a short illness, in the 24th year of his age.

An American paper of Nov. 26, contains the contents of Calcutta papers up to August 7th, at which period tranquillity continued. Lord Amherst had set out on his tour.

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, Dec. 13, 1826.

A Special General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held at the Company's House, in Leadenhall-street, for the purpose of laying before the proprietors papers received from India respecting the late war with Ava, and the operations against Bhurtpore, and resolutions of thanks adopted by the Court of Directors.

RUMOURED RECAL OF EARL AMHERST.

The minutes of the last court having been read,

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson) was about to proceed with the ordinary business of the day, when

The hon. Col. *L. Stanhope* rose and said, that previously to entering on the discussion for which they were specially assembled, he wished to put a question to the hon. Chairman. He understood it to have been officially stated by Capt. Amherst, that Lord Amherst had been recalled. He now asked whether there was any truth in that report, and whether the Marquess of Buckingham was not going out as Governor-general of British India?

The *Chairman*—"In reply to the question of the hon. proprietor I have only to say, that there is no foundation whatever for the statement of Lord Amherst being recalled; and that, of course, constitutes an answer to the hon. proprietor's other question.

The *Chairman* then stated, that certain papers which had been presented to Parliament, were now laid before the proprietors, in conformity with the Bye-law, sec. 4, cap. 1.

The papers were, an account of warrants for granting pensions, allowances, or gratuities, to the Company's servants since the last general court, and an account of superannuations granted to the Company's servants since the last general court, under the act of the 53d of Geo. III. cap. 155, sec. 93.

Mr. *Hume* requested that the last document might be read.

It was read accordingly, and contained the names of Charles Stewart, length of service twenty years, age sixty-two years, situation, late professor of Oriental literature at the East-India College, salary £700 per year; allowance which the directors are empowered to make, two-thirds of the income; sum granted for superannuation £450 per annum. And, of Charles Greenwallers, length of service twenty-one years, age sixty-two years,

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situation, late extra clerk, salary £182 a year; allowance which the Directors are empowered to make, two-thirds of the income; sum granted £100 per annum.

In answer to a question from Mr. *R. Jackson*,

The *Chairman* stated, that the course taken with respect to these superannuations, allowances, and compensations, was perfectly in accordance with the act of the 53d of his Majesty.

Mr. *Hume* inquired, whether if a person employed as a messenger, or extra clerk, for a very limited period, became incapable of doing his duty, he would have a claim to superannuation; because, if this were so, there would be no end to grants of that description.

The *Chairman* answered, that the act specified the time during which an individual should be attached to the establishment, before he could claim any provision from the Company.

Mr. *Hume* begged to ask, whether Col. Stewart received this £450 per year in addition to his half pay, as an officer in the Company's service, or whether the one merged in the other?

The *Chairman* said, he believed that Mr. Stewart's pay, as a retired officer, was quite independent of the other grant.

Dr. *Gilchrist* was glad a grant was made to Col. Stewart, for undoubtedly he had a right to it, his services being such as no man could dispute; but he wished to know whether that gentleman had a right to his half pay, independently of this £450 a year.

The *Chairman*—"I have no doubt that he has."

The *Chairman*—"I am to acquaint the court, that the Court of Directors came to a resolution, on the 15th ult., to take up the ship *Mangles*, by private contract, according to the provisions of the 58th Geo. III. cap. 33.

The resolution was then read; it stated, that it was necessary to take up a vessel to carry out to India 250 or 300 recruits, and that the ship *Mangles*, of 594 tons, had been selected for that purpose, at £3. 7s. per ton; and in every other respect on the same terms as had been granted for several ships taken up for Bengal during the last season.

The *Chairman*—"I am to acquaint the court, that the papers relative to the seizure of certain peppers on the premises of Mr. Addinell, in 1821, are now laid before the court, pursuant to the resolution of the general court of the 27th of September last.

O

THANKS

THANKS TO LORD AMHERST, &c.

The *Chairman*—"Gentlemen, the present court is specially summoned for the purpose of laying before the proprietors papers received from India, respecting the late war with Ava, and the operations against Bhurtpore, which have been open at the East-India House for the inspection of the proprietors since the 29th ult. The resolutions relative to the war with Ava shall now be read to you, after which I shall proceed to submit those resolutions to the consideration of the court.

Dr. *Gilchrist* inquired, whether official papers, written in the Oriental languages, printed and circulated in India, and sent home to the Court of Directors, were accompanied with an English translation?

The *Chairman*—"I believe I had best refer the hon. proprietor for an answer to the commissioners, because the papers come home to them."

Dr. *Gilchrist*—"Do you mean the Board of Control?"

The *Chairman*—"No; the Carnatic commissioners."

Dr. *Gilchrist*—"I am not speaking of papers sent home to them; I ask, do the official papers generally come to this house translated or not?"

The *Chairman*—"I do not know whether this question is, or is not, meant to refer to Capt. McMichael."

Dr. *Gilchrist*—"That will depend upon the answer I may receive; I do not know what I may do when I get the information I require."

The *Chairman*—"I am not aware what papers the hon. proprietor means."

Dr. *Gilchrist*—"I allude to all official India papers coming here in the original languages."

The *Chairman*—"We know nothing of such papers."

Dr. *Gilchrist*—"Nor of copies of them?"

The *Chairman*—"I have recently received a letter from the prime minister of the King of Persia: It was accompanied by a translation."

Mr. *Hume* believed that his hon. friend alluded to the correspondence between different native courts and the British government, which was carried on in the languages peculiar to the different states; and his question was, Whether the original documents (or copies of them) in the native languages were or were not sent home to be translated here; or, whether the Company simply received English translations from government abroad?

The *Chairman*—"We certainly receive translations, and not the originals, of papers of that description."

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, the hon. Chairman was plain and satisfactory, and in consequence of it he would go a little farther. They were told that translations alone of

official documents were received in England. He would ask then, how it had happened that Mahratta papers were sent to this country in the original language, and that an individual was specially employed to translate them. This he considered a very objectionable plan, because, when the labours of the Tanjore commissioners, whose duty it was to examine those Mahratta papers, came to a close, some difficulty might arise as to certain expressions or phrases in the language, which might tend to protract their proceedings. He defied any person to get such a translation of those papers here, as would be free from this objection; a man might say, "here is a phrase I do not understand, and you must go to India to have it explained," and then came all the delay and expense attending such a course. Now, if the papers were translated in India, and sent home to England, the chance of so much delay and expense would be avoided.

The *Chairman* said, he was desirous to afford the hon. prop. all the information in his power, on any question he might think fit to put, and he begged leave to state to him the distinction which existed between the papers submitted to the commissioners for adjusting the Carnatic or Tanjore claims, and those which ordinarily came to that house. The business of the commissioners here, was to investigate the validity of those claims, and he thought that to enable them to perform their duty properly, it was absolutely necessary to transmit the original papers for their inspection. Such a course was adopted with respect to these papers:—that was to say, the commissioners abroad transmitted the original documents to the commissioners here; and the latter required a person who could translate them, in order that they might look into the validity and consistency of those instruments; and on that ground he thought it became necessary to have a Mahratta translator.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, he was sorry to differ in opinion from the hon. Chairman, and as one question had been answered, he hoped the hon. Chairman would allow him to ask another:—Suppose the papers came home, not in the Mahratta tongue, but in some of the native languages which prevailed on the coast, what was then to be done? Were they to have another interpreter?—He supposed so; for if they had one interpreter for the Mahratta in that house, by the same rule they might be called upon to employ interpreters for all the languages of India.

The *Chairman*—"I must leave it to the commissioners to determine in what manner they are to arrive at the necessary information."

Capt. *Maxfield* wished to ask a single question. In a late publication he had seen it stated that the commissioners could not procure

procure an answer on a particular point from India. He should like to know whether they had yet got that answer, or were they likely to get it?

The *Chairman* said, he knew nothing of the circumstance; and, as to publications which sent forth facts similar to those which the hon. prop. had stated, they never fell into his hands, or if they did, he never attended to them.

Mr. *Hume* inquired whether it came within the knowledge of the *Chairman* that the commission here was not able to get the necessary information. The property, as well as the time of the claimants, was interested on this point; and therefore the question was not of so little importance as the hon. *Chairman* might imagine—a speedy settlement of those claims was much to be desired, and therefore he was desirous to learn whether the hon. *Chairman*, in his official situation, had heard of the fact that had been mentioned?—He did not ask this question for the satisfaction of his hon. friend, but because he felt it to be necessary that the public should know the truth. If such a circumstance had not occurred, the assertion or publication ought to be contradicted.

The *Chairman* said, he was not aware of any such circumstance, and if it had occurred, it should be recollected that this was a parliamentary commission, and parliament must correct the evil. The Court of Directors had no power over that commission, but if any thing with respect to it were wrong he should be very glad to see it rectified.—(*Hear!*)

Mr. *Hume* was about to speak, when

Mr. *Rigby* rose to order; he would be extremely sorry to interpose any obstacle which would prevent any just inquiry in that court, but he thought on this occasion, the court had borne long enough with the subject which had been incidentally started—they had dispensed for a considerable time with the question, which they were summoned to discuss, and he hoped they would now go on with it.

Here the conversation ended and the question of “thanks to Earl Amherst,” was proceeded in.

The clerk read the following resolutions.

“Resolved: That the thanks of this court be given to the Right Hon. Earl Amherst, Governor-general, for his active, strenuous, and persevering exertions in conducting to a successful issue the late war with the Government of Ava, which was provoked by the unjust aggression of the enemy, prosecuted amid circumstances of very unusual difficulty, and terminated so as to uphold the character of the Company’s Government, to maintain the British ascendant in India, and to impress the bordering

“states with just notions of the national power and resources.”

“Resolved unanimously. That the thanks of this court be given to Major-General Sir Thomas Munro, Baronet, K.C.B., for the alacrity, zeal, perseverance, and forecast which he so signally manifested throughout the whole course of the late war, in contributing all the available military and territorial resources of the Madras Government, towards bringing it to a successful termination.”

“Resolved unanimously. That the thanks of this court be given to Major-general Sir Archibald Campbell, K.C.B., for the skill, gallantry, and perseverance so conspicuously displayed by him, in conducting the operations of the forces, throughout the late arduous war, and which enabled him to surmount difficulties of no ordinary character; as well as for his judgment and forbearance in availing himself of every opening for negotiations which finally led to the happy termination of hostilities.”

“Resolved unanimously. That the thanks of this court be given to the Brigadiers-General, Brigadiers, field, and other officers of his Majesty’s and the Company’s forces, both European and native, for their gallant and meritorious conduct in the field, throughout the late operations against the state of Ava.”

“Resolved unanimously. That this court doth acknowledge and highly applaud the zeal, discipline and bravery, together with the patient endurance of fatigue, privation and sickness, displayed by the non-commissioned officers and privates, both European and native, employed against the Burmese, and that the thanks of the court be signified to them by the officers of their respective corps.”

“Resolved unanimously. That the thanks of this court be given to Commodore Sir James Brisbane, C.B., and to the captains and officers of his Majesty’s and the Company’s ships, who co-operated with the army in the Burmese war, for their cordial, zealous, and most useful exertions; and to the crews of his Majesty’s and the Company’s ships and boats employed in that service, for their spirited and intrepid conduct on all occasions; and that the commander of his Majesty’s ships on the Indian station, be requested to communicate the thanks of this court to the officers and men under his command.”

The *Chairman* said that in execution of the intention which he had already expressed, he would now propose “that this court do approve of the resolution which had just been read, with reference to Earl Amherst.”

In the absence of the *Deputy Chairman*, E. Parry, Esq. seconded the motion.

The motion having been again read,

The *Chairman* rose and said, that this motion was framed in the anxious expectation that it would meet with the unanimous concurrence of that court. It was impossible for him to anticipate any objection to the proposition now laid before the proprietors; since it must be admitted on all hands that the termination of the war with Ava had certainly been effected in a manner highly advantageous to the interests of the Company, and the success with which it had been conducted to its end, very fairly entitled the individual who had the chief management of the contest to the cordial thanks of that court, not anticipating any objection that could be made to the motion, he should reserve himself to answer any observation that might chance to be made on it in the course of the day.

Dr. Gilchrist.—It appeared that this resolution had not passed unanimously in the Court of Directors, and that being the case, he thought it but fair that the proprietors who sat in that court, might also be supposed to entertain a difference of opinion on it as well as the gentlemen behind the bar. He hoped if any gentlemen rose in that court to state his sentiments in opposition to the resolution, he would not be considered (which had been sometimes the case with himself) as acting irregularly, or coming in a questionable shape before the court.

The *Chairman* said, nothing had fallen from him that tended to produce the effect to which the hon. proprietor seemed to allude; on the contrary, he invited every gentleman in the court to state his sentiments fully; all he said was that he could not himself anticipate any objection to the resolution; he did not speak for others.

Mr. Hume said, that when his learned friend had had a little more experience in the proceedings of that court, he would find that no difficulty was ever interposed to prevent a gentleman from fairly expressing his sentiments. He (*Mr. Hume*) had been a member of the court for a considerable number of years, and he must say, in justice and fairness, that though his opinions were not always in accordance with the sentiments of the court, yet he always found gentlemen ready to pay due attention to his observations. It was not his intention originally to offer himself to the court in this stage of the business; for he candidly confessed that he expected that some individual, either within or without the bar, who had made up his mind to support the proposition now under consideration, would have thought it his duty to state the foundation upon which his opinion rested.

In justice to the noble lord, some gentleman should have been prepared to declare the grounds on which a question of so much importance, and which might produce consequences of such infinite moment to this country and to India, was to be decided. He was one who unfortunately could not concur in the full extent of the resolution now proposed. If there were any thing more important than another to a public man wielding the sword, and enjoying those powers which might impart happiness to millions, or which might, on the other hand, affect the destruction, not only of those immediately under him, but of all neighbouring communities, it was that his motives should be properly known and appreciated. When war was carried on, it was a most important question for the court to consider how it had originated. In a case where the honour and interests of millions were concerned, he did think they should be very cautious how far they accorded their sanction to a war without, in the first place, having the fullest information upon the subject. The proprietors were called on to thank Lord Amherst for bringing to a successful issue the war in which the company had unfortunately been engaged for the last three years. Before he could concur in any approbation of Lord Amherst, as the principal mover, and he believed the author and originator of that war, he would put a case:—he would ask whether, if Lord Amherst had set fire to his own house, and by that intentional and wilful act had not only destroyed his own property, but also the property of his neighbours placed under his charge—whether, if, by that premeditated, rash, and hasty act, property to the extent of some three, four, or five millions were destroyed, they would, because Lord Amherst (he having commenced the mischief) had exerted himself to put an end to it, think him, therefore, worthy of approbation. Suppose, along with this loss of property, if, of the individuals employed to put out this fire, to the amount of twenty-five or thirty thousand men, some were starved, some died of disease, and some were put to death; suppose that the inhabitants generally were exposed to famine, to the sword, and to pestilence, all arising from this wilful conflagration of Lord Amherst, he would ask whether, under such circumstances, any man would be ready to come to a vote of approval, because, after having set his house on fire, the noble lord had used all the means at his discretion and command for the purpose of extinguishing it? He would ask, if the property were insured in a London insurance office, would the noble lord receive acquittal, thanks, and approbation from that office for his exertions in putting out the fire, without entering into any consideration

consideration of the causes and origin of the conflagration? The case he had put was not at all at variance with the facts connected with the resolution then before them. He demanded of the gentlemen about him, whether, without due information, without inquiry, without having an opportunity of estimating the conduct of the noble lord in commencing this *fire*, or (as he would now call it) this *war*, they were ready to thank him for his exertions in bringing it to an end? He would admit, for argument sake, that the noble lord had brought it to an advantageous and beneficial conclusion, or, as the resolution had it, to a "successful issue," he confessed that, as regarded the conduct of the troops, and the individuals employed by the noble lord in the execution of the duties imposed on them in the course of the war, he believed there could not be found one man in that court or elsewhere who would refuse to them that meed of approbation and applause, which devoted heroism and continued perseverance in the performance of the duties allotted to them so justly merited. Therefore, in the observations he was about to make, he wished to draw a distinct line between the soldiers who were called upon to carry certain orders into effect, and the noble lord with whom the war originated, and by whom it was directed. (*Hear, hear!*) In England they were unfortunately ignorant of many transactions which took place in India, in which hundreds, nay, thousands, of lives were sacrificed on either side.

Resolutions had passed that court while the transactions which gave birth to them were very imperfectly understood. He was sure, in saying this, he did not mean to upbraid the proprietors for any vote they had come to; they should only judge of any proceeding as it was placed before them; and they were seldom in the situation of having such information as would enable them to come to a calm and dispassionate decision. In this state of ignorance they were kept designedly by the government abroad, and no less designedly by the government at home. This rendered it difficult for any hon. proprietor of that court to give a correct and candid opinion; he did not, therefore, complain of any opinions delivered here; they were, he believed, in most instances given under the impression that the individuals were acting rightly and properly, because they were acting in strict consistency with the information laid before them; but looking at the court in a political, or in any other situation, he must contend that they, the proprietors, did not do their duty in agreeing to vote on any subject without full information. No man should give his vote in that court except as he would give his verdict in a jury-box, where he

was on his oath. Now he asked them individually to put this question to themselves, "Would I, if placed in a jury-box to give my decision on the veriest trifle, be warranted in forming an opinion on the subject without due information?" If they did this, he would then have no hesitation to stand by the verdict which they gave. He could not agree to the resolution; and he called upon the court to adopt his opinion if he adduced arguments sufficiently strong in support of it. He thought that the question of peace and war was a question of such momentous import, that they ought to be very cautious how they applauded the origin of hostilities or their progress. They ought not to approve of war, however successfully carried on, unless they were satisfied that it was undertaken in their own defence—was strictly just, and absolutely necessary. (*Hear!*) If he could convince himself for one moment that the late war could not be avoided, and that it was just and necessary, he would be the last man to object to it. He therefore wished gentlemen to inquire, before they declared their approbation of Lord Amherst's conduct, whether the war which he began was just and necessary, or such as should be prosecuted by any christian people. He would at once pronounce his opinion on that point; he did so with great diffidence, but his own candid and dispassionate opinion was, that there were no grounds before that court, or before the country, to warrant him in believing that this war was inevitable, or just, or provoked in any degree by those who were the objects of it, and who were so severely punished for the conduct imputed to them. In his mind, there was nothing before the court, or before the public, to enable them to come to a decision as to the origin of this war: but to make up for this want of official information, he had gleaned something from the work of an hon. baronet (Sir J. Malcolm) who was now in court, and who had detailed the proceedings with the Burmese prior to the breaking out of the war. If any gentleman looked to Sir J. Malcolm's statements upon this subject, brief as they were, though they included a period from 1795 to 1821 (at which period the hon. baronet's account closed), and if, after having examined them—however favourably he might have at first thought of the war—he did not come to a different conclusion, then he (Mr. Hume) was very much mistaken. He contended that the conduct of the government of Lord Amherst, in waging war with the Burmese at the time and in the manner he did, was contrary to the statute law of this realm, and at variance with the feelings and principles of a christian community. They had had, within a very short

short time, an exemplification by a very high authority of what ought to be the law of nations in such a case as that of the Burmese. No later than last night the British senate was called on to sanction his Majesty's ministers in sending a body of British troops to Portugal, for no other reason than because a party of Portuguese rebels, who had been received on the Spanish frontier, had re-entered Portugal, carrying with them devastation and ruin. Their conduct was, he admitted, attended with all the circumstances which usually accompanied an invading foe. What was the argument founded on this event? Spain was not accused of having fomented this invasion, though it was thought she might have been privy to, or connived at it. The movement of the Portuguese was, however, declared to be a hostile aggression, and under our treaties was considered as affording grounds sufficient for our interference, which might perhaps ultimately lead to a war with Spain. If this one transaction—this march of the Portuguese insurgents (for it did not appear that any inroad was made by the Spaniards themselves) were considered a sufficient cause for this, or any other government to commence hostilities—if it were deemed to be a just ground of war—then he asked the court to state what their opinion was as to the unprovoked warfare which the British government had carried on against the Burmese. In order that they might understand the subject thoroughly, he would point out to them what had been the proceedings of the British government towards the Burmese for the last thirty years. Their conduct was one, he must say, of continued inroad and aggression; he said this advisedly, because by the doctrine which he had quoted as having been used in the House of Commons, it was laid down that if one country gave refuge to the subjects of another, and those subjects thought proper to invade their native land, then if they were not prevented doing so by the state which had succoured them, that state must be considered as guilty as the actively offending parties. He had much reason to complain, after the readiness which had been expressed to produce all the documents relative to the proceedings of the Burmese before the year 1823, when he found that every document on that subject had been withheld. Those papers which detailed the cause of the heart-burnings and disputes that had arisen between the Burmese and the British government had been cautiously kept back. Were they there when the parties in power were garbling and withholding evidence, blindly to support a vote of thanks applauding the individual who carried on the war, and declaring it to be a just contest rendered necessary by provocation on the part of the Burmese?

He had an account from a correspondent, which he believed perfectly correct, describing the state of affairs between the Burmese and the British government for several years, but knowing the weight and importance attached to the opinion of the hon. baronet, (Sir J. Malcolm), he would waive the information he had received, and confine himself solely to the hon. baronet's statement. If there were any gentleman present who would attend to this detail, and would allow it to influence his judgment and decision, he was confident that that individual must agree with him, that they were at the present moment in a state of comparative ignorance, and therefore not prepared to give their approval to a war carried on under such miserable and lamentable circumstances. It appeared that in the time of Lord Teignmouth, a Burmese force followed some refugees into the British territories,—

Mr. *Rigby* rose to order. He submitted to the consideration of the hon. prop., as well as to that of the Court, how far the hon. prop. was in order upon this part of the question. They were now considering a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst for his conduct, in conducting and concluding the war, and the hon. prop. instead of confining himself to that question, had referred to a publication of Sir John Malcolm, detailing circumstances which began in 1795, and ended in 1821. The circumstances to which the hon. prop. was about to call their attention, had occurred long before Lord Amherst went out to India, and therefore could not properly be introduced here.

Mr. *R. Jackson* contended, that his hon. friend was perfectly in order—they had been invited to a full discussion of this question, and his hon. friend whose opposition to the resolution was founded on the supposition that the war was unjust, was only quoting matter to shew that it was as he had described it. He entreated the hon. gentleman that he would not call any of his brother proprietors to order, unless he was so palpably out of order as to render it necessary. It would put an end to discussion altogether, if those who were conversant with Indian affairs, were to be called to order whenever they made a reference to the page of history.

Mr. *Rigby* said, this was a discussion relative to the conduct of Lord Amherst, and the hon. prop. (Mr. Hume) was going back to matters that the noble lord had nothing to do with. It might be very pretty and very amusing to have that history read, but it was very unjust on a question involving Lord Amherst's character, to mix him up with matters that had occurred twenty years before he went out to India.

Mr. *Hume* continued. He only meant to offer one observation on the gross irregularity

gularity of the hon. proprietor's conduct, and the ignorance which he had displayed of the Indian government—he ought to have known that the Governor-general never dies. (*Hear!*) The acts of different Governors-general flowed from one to the other in one continued stream; the interruption of the hon. prop. only proved his ignorance—his want of knowledge of the general question. He objected to the conduct of Lord Amherst as Governor-general of India, and he introduced those early proceedings, because if anything wrong had been done by those whom Lord Amherst succeeded, he ought to have rectified it. It appeared that the first official bickering between the two parties, the British government and the Burmese, occurred in 1797 and 1798, and arose out of the following circumstances:—Owing, he would admit, to the cruelties of the Burmese government in Arracan, large parties of Mughhs fled to Chittagong, having crossed the river Naaf, which was the boundary line between the territory of Arracan and our settlement. The India Company, or their agents, gave shelter to these fugitives, whether wisely or unwisely he would not say, neither did the hon. baronet give any opinion on that point; but such were the facts, and on these every person could decide for himself. He must, however, be allowed to say, that when twenty-five, thirty, or forty thousand individuals dreading famine and death, claimed a shelter, that no British officer could or ought to refuse whatever protection he could afford to persons so situated. The proverbial humanity of Englishmen, no matter in what part of the globe (however their feelings of policy might be opposed to such a measure), would not allow them to refuse an appeal made under such melancholy circumstances. The individuals who had thus fled from Arracan were received; and a public officer, Major Cox, was sent down in 1799, to provide for their settlement; it was a matter of great notoriety at the time, and on his (Mr. Hume's) arrival in India, he recollected hearing of it, Major Cox was armed with the authority of the Governor-general, and he acted according to the instructions he had received. He located 13,000 or 14,000 on the waste lands of Chittagong, whilst 13,000 or 14,000 others found shelter amongst the neighbouring Ryots. Those Mughhs were thus placed in a situation similar to that of the Portuguese refugees in Spain. They settled in Chittagong, under the protection of the Company—they afterwards did, from time to time, enter the territory of Arracan in large bodies, and they laid waste the country with fire and sword. This was carried on to such an extent, that these refugees at length formed an army of between 10,000 and 20,000 men;

10,000 of whom made an irruption into the Burmese territory; and when they retreated, 4,000 Burmese troops were sent in pursuit of them, who crossed the frontier into the Company's dominions. Prudence and good sense were on this occasion displayed by the then Governor-general. There was, unquestionably, a violation of the Company's territory, but still the Governor-general did not immediately declare war against the Burmese, as Lord Amherst had done. He (the Governor-general) considered the matter thus: "Have not those people great cause of complaint? Have not the individuals living under our protection entered the Burmese territory? And is it not fair to put the aggression of the one against the incursion of the other?" The Burmese established themselves in a stockade, and it was well known that the troops sent from Calcutta to dislodge them, were repulsed and driven back. Some time afterwards, the Burmese thought fit to give up their stockade and retreat; they left a letter behind them, which Sir J. Malcolm quoted, in which they said, "no cause of discontent whatever exists between the Burmese and the Company, except what arises from the conduct of the refugee Mughhs, who are settled under the British government; that is the only cause of displeasure that exists." They also said in their emphatic language—"If you continue to protect them, there will be constant disputes, you will strain until you break the cord of friendship. Either" (said the writer of the letter) "drive the Mughhs from this district, or prevent them from devastating the Burmese territory, as they have done." Now, if it could be proved, that, from 1799, up to the period of 1821, there was one continued series of aggression carried on by the Mughhs, *alias* the British government, (for those people were living under our protection), against the Burmese—if it were shewn, that continual acts of burning and destroying were perpetrated in the Burmese territory by those refugees—then he would ask, could any honest man put his hand on his heart and say, whether the irritation so kept up and so produced, was not sufficient to rouse the feelings of those who were thus injured? He would demand, whether the Burmese, thus provoked—thus stung to madness, were not justified in the war? Were they not called upon, in conformity with the law of nations, and with a due regard to their own honour, and to the justice of the case, to act as they had done? After the settlement established on the Naaf, by Major Cox, in 1799, a mission was sent to Ava by the Marquis Wellesley, in consequence of the Burmese having dispatched a mission to Calcutta, complaining of these aggressions. The Marquis Wellesley, with that *politesse* and *finesse*

Anesse, which political motives sometimes rendered necessary, endeavoured to pacify the Burmese court. He declared, that all that had been done by the Arracan refugees, was contrary to the wish of the British government, and informed the Burmese authorities that they might return, as every thing should be rectified, and such aggressions should not occur in future. This was extremely proper; but scarcely had the Burmese mission got back, when a fresh incursion of the Mughls took place. This occurred in the very same year in which the mission had been sent to Calcutta. Mr. Pechell sent to the government the letters he received from the Burmese authorities, complaining of this new outrage. In those letters the Burmese government said "if you persist in such proceedings, hostilities are inevitable with the British. Afterwards (in the year 1802), Col. Symes was sent to Ava, and the principal object of his mission was, to explain away, or to fritter down, the complaints made with respect to those incursions on the Burmese territory. This proceeding answered to a certain degree, until renewed incursions took place. In 1809, Capt. Campbell was sent to Ava, and the whole of his business was to conciliate the Burmese government, on the subject of those manifold aggressions. In 1811, the evil consequences of the protection which the British government were giving to those marauders, became more apparent; so much so, that an enterprising individual, a chief well known in that part of the world, contrary to the orders of the government of Calcutta, assembled the refugees in large bands, and laid waste the Burmese territory, carrying devastation and ruin wherever he went. To mark the opinion and feeling of the government there, and of the Court here, he begged leave to state this fact, that when a demand was formally made to the British government to deliver up to the Burmese all the marauders that could be found in arms, the deputy governor evaded the demand as well as he could; that individual acted upon the ground of humanity, well knowing that death, and that, too, of the cruelest description, would certainly be the fate of those, for the giving up of whom a demand had been made. Such, however, was the frequency and audacity of these incursions, that at length an order was issued by the British government declaring that every one of those refugees, taken in the act of making an irruption into the Burmese territories, should be given up. A despatch was sent out by the Court of Directors, in 1815, in which they stated their wish that, instead of giving up the refugees in the manner before-mentioned, their leader (the chieftain to whom he had before adverted, Kingberring) should be placed in the

hands of the Burmese government; they advised this course, because they knew that all his partisans would be put to death when taken, and they instanced a case where 250 of those marauders had been massacred. They desired the government to keep the chief a close prisoner somewhere; but that if they could not avoid it they should give him up, in order to prevent war. The chief died just before that time, and of course rendered any farther proceeding, with respect to him, unnecessary. He now would instance a circumstance, which he would venture to say was no where to be paralleled in the annals of British India: the government at Calcutta became at length so sensible of the danger and injustice of those marauding practices, that it was agreed that the Burmese troops should enter the British territory, and in conjunction with our own troops should go in pursuit of the aggressors; now, when the East-India Company allowed a Burmese force to go into the British territories, and to join with the British soldiers in pursuing the Mughls, could there be any doubt but that there was much cause of provocation given to the Burmese—provocation, productive of that ill-will which had long been accumulating, and which finally led to the events that had since happened. There were many gentlemen in that court who well knew how tender a point it was to cross the Company's territory; the British government would not allow a strange or hostile foot to cross it, except under the most extraordinary circumstances. If, then, they allowed the Burmese troops to come into their territory for the purpose of punishing those marauders, that circumstance alone must carry conviction to every mind, that the injuries sustained by the Burmese were such that they could not be atoned for in any other way but by making a signal example of the aggressors. On the 19th May 1815, their executive body, the Court of Directors, approved of the conduct of the Bengal government in permitting the Burmese troops to enter the British territory, for the purpose of punishing, or attempting to punish, those invaders; they, being British subjects, located at Chittagong, and receiving assistance and protection from the Company. When the Court of Directors came to that resolution and approved of such a proceeding, it could only be grounded on the fact, that great and glaring cause of offence had been given to the Burmese; he therefore contended that such a series of provocations ought to remove the hostility in the mind of every man in that court who might previously have supposed that the hostile conduct of the Burmese government was unprovoked and gratuitous. On the 4th November 1821, the Court of Directors came to a resolution

tion—"That the incorrigible conduct of the Mughls was such as induced them to approve of the determination to which the British government had come; that every one of the marauders who might chance to be taken should be delivered over to the Burmese authorities, to be put to death." For his own part, he would rather have removed every Mugh forty or fifty miles from the frontier, to a distance which would prevent them from entering the Burmese territories, instead of delivering over to torture and to death individuals who had been protected by the British government. He held this proceeding up as a stigma on their government here, and their government abroad; and if publicity were given to this circumstance, it was easy to conceive what the feelings of the British public must be. The energies of England had long been devoted to the cause of humanity—she had long exerted her best efforts to do away with the system of slavery; but when, in compliance with that warmth of philanthropic feeling which was universally diffused, she was attempting to remove that odious system, what answer could be given, if it were said—"You are now complaining of trifling injuries sustained by slaves; but I will shew you where your government has given over to torture and to death, hundreds and thousands of individuals, your own subjects." From that time, November 1821, irritation increased from year to year between the Company's subjects and the Burmese; and could it be said, after what he had stated, that no provocation had been given to the latter; that sufficient had not been done to induce them to come and drive us from the frontier, if they could effect that object? Were they prepared to come to such a conclusion after the long continued aggressions against the Burmese, and the various ineffectual representations they had made to our government? Could it be said that they commenced unprovoked hostilities? Did they not, on the contrary, act justly and fairly? He thought that they did; the laws of war and of nations were opposed to the system which the British government had pursued. He had hitherto spoke of the acts of former governments; he had named no Governor-general. The question was: Did Lord Amherst and his council do their best to place themselves in such a situation with the Burmese, as to deserve peace at their hands? He thought not; they hurried to war too precipitately. Did Lord Minto, when such incursions were made on the British territory, declare war immediately? Did Lord Hastings precipitately rush into hostilities? No. These noblemen acted with more prudence; and he was confident, if Lord Minto were alive, he would, if asked the question, be ready to

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say, "We deplored the acts of the refugees, and we cannot deny that they were the cause of great irritation to the Burmese. We threatened the latter with hostilities; but, conscious that they had a just cause of complaint, we felt that it would only be adding injury to injustice; if we, whose subjects were the aggressors, declined to wage war against them." Such was the state in which the British territories and the Burmese government stood, with regard to each other, up to this time. He should now, he thought, remove all doubts, if any such still existed, by reading an extract from that excellent work to which he had before alluded, he meant Sir John Malcolm's book on *Indian Policy*. He trusted the court would pay particular attention to his observations; for when he quoted from that publication, he could not be accused of drawing his arguments from any partial source, as he believed that no one would venture to deny that the conclusions to which the writer of that book came, were drawn from facts alone. At page 595 were the following remarks:—

"From the day that the Mugh emigrants were permitted to colonise so near the frontier, the natural passions and patriotic resentments of that tribe, our feelings of humanity, and the principles of our internal rule, came in violent collision with the arrogant pretensions, the offended pride, and the indignant jealousy of the Burmese government; and these conflicting causes soon created aggressions and retaliations, which it was easy to foresee might sooner or later terminate in war. These reasonable grounds, which the Burmese had for discontent, had certainly not increased during the administration of Lord Hastings." The court (said Mr. Hume) would be pleased to remark, that the gallant officer said, that the "reasonable grounds which the Burmese had for discontent had not increased." The gallant officer in this admission, it would be seen, allowed what no man in his senses would attempt to deny, that the British government had given sufficient cause to engender the provocation which, in the end, led to the insolence and threatenings of the Burmese government. He fancied he had now brought the court into a proper situation for forming a judgment on this important point, the justice or injustice of the war hung entirely on the correctness or incorrectness of that statement. He therefore besought the court to call for further documents and information, and to use their own eyes and ears in examining into the truth of the matters to which he had called their attention. Should the statements he had made turn out to be inaccurate, he would then consent to blame the gallant officer, whose book had misled him; and he would blame his correspond-

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ent, who was an eye-witness of the whole transactions. If, however, they should prove to be founded in truth, he asked, in what situation would hon. proprietors be placed, if thus instructed, they affirmed that the Burmese had no reasonable ground for complaint, no cause for irritation, and that they began a war which, on their (the Company's) part, was totally unprovoked? He had laid before them a continued series of provocations and outrages perpetrated by our people towards the Burmese, and he would contend, that it was the height of impolicy and rashness in Lord Amherst to imbrue his hands in the blood of that people, after having excited, by our own acts, those feelings of hostility and resentment, which were now put forth in justification of the war. Another reason for his dissenting from the vote of thanks, was founded on an act of parliament; he alluded to an act which, he regretted, had not been long ago removed from the statute book, as its provisions had been repeatedly violated by the Indian government. "He had on two previous occasions brought the subject of these violations before the court; and on both occasions was he met with protestations, that the British government had not voluntarily interfered with the native powers, but had done no more than stood upon its own defence. Now those who know the frivolous pretexts on which states in the neighbourhood of our territories had been invaded, could not but loath to hear such cant and hypocrisy made use of to defend such aggressions. Much more honest and manly would it be to say, at once, "this is a bad act, this is an act of aggression, but the upholding of British ascendancy in India calls for its adoption." A declaration of this sort might, to be sure, expose their cloven foot; they would then stand in the open and undisguised position of the conquerors of India, and they would no longer feel it necessary to shrink from the justification of the policy they had perseveringly pursued. They had repeatedly disapproved of the attacks which their servants had made on the native sovereigns of India, but had they ever objected to the keeping possession of the territories thus procured? (*Hear!*) It would be better if their words and actions agreed. Let them not attempt to claim a character for impartiality, whilst they were oppressing and gulping down by wholesale every native power. Let them not prate about forbearance, whilst they were retaining every conquest which had been thrown into their hands by the fortune of years (*Hear!*) If it were congenial to the character of the British power in India, if its maintenance and security depended on the point of obtaining the sovereignty of the whole of India, let them at once avow it, and say openly, "the British arms must be para-

mount every where, and we will punish every attempt to lessen our power as treason against our authority." Let them declare, in language like this, that such was their determination, and they might be assured that such a declaration would do more to raise their character for honour and integrity, than the falsehood and hypocrisy they had indulged in hitherto. He said, boldly and at once, that every man who gave his assent to the votes proposed this day, if he did not violate his own conscience, violated at least an act of parliament. He would quote this act, because many people thought there was much virtue in an act of parliament. His own opinion on the subject was, that acts of parliament, generally speaking, only pressed hard upon the weak, while they let the strong go free.—[The hon. proprietor then read sec. 34 of the act 24th Geo. III., cap. 25.]—Now if he were to refer to the history of India, and to consider every war which we had undertaken, he did not hesitate to state that we had neglected the "honour and policy" of the nation, and had no other object in view but our own aggrandizement. The act explicitly set forth, "that it shall not be lawful for the Governor-general in council of Fort William, without the express authority and concurrence of the Court of Directors, or of the Secret Committee, either to declare or commence hostilities, or to enter into any treaty for making war against any of the native princes or states in India, or any treaty guaranteeing the dominions of such princes or states, except where hostilities should have been commenced, or preparations actually made for the attack of the British nation in India, or of some of the states and princes, whose dominions it shall be engaged, by subsisting treaties, to defend." It appeared from this, that there were only two cases in which the Governor-general was authorized, upon his own responsibility, to commence hostilities against the native powers in India: where the native powers had commenced hostilities against us, or our allies; and where it was notorious that they were preparing themselves for such hostilities. He contended that the Burmese war did not come under the principle of either of these cases; and that, therefore, Lord Amherst was not authorized in commencing that war, without the authority of the Court of Directors, or of the Secret Committee. He would ask, whether preceding Governor-generals had acted as Lord Amherst had done? It must be evident to every one who considered the distance of India from this country, and the long period which must necessarily elapse in making and returning communications between them, that the attacks of the native princes must be repelled by instant hostilities, without waiting for authority from the home

home government. The act of parliament to which he had referred made an exception for such cases. He however maintained, that in all cases where circumstances would allow of reference being made to the home government, the Governor-general was bound to make it, and not to commence hostilities until he had obtained the sanction of the Court of Directors, or of the Secret Committee, authorised by the Board of Control. How did Lord Hastings act with respect to the war against the Pindarrees? Did he rashly and inconsiderately enter upon that war; or did he not, on the contrary, apply to the home government for instructions, as to how he was to act? Every proprietor present would recollect, that Lord Hastings wrote to the Court of Directors, describing the atrocities which the Pindarrees had committed, and were committing; and asked, whether they would allow him to make war upon them, for the purpose of putting them down. The Court of Directors gave their unanimous approval to the application of his lordship. The conduct of Lord Hastings was wise and discreet: he was aware, that the circumstances of the case did not require him to have immediate recourse to arms, and he therefore resolved to pursue the path chalked out for him by the act of parliament, and to refer the question of peace or war to the decision of the Court of Directors. Lord Amherst, however, who unfortunately was not gifted with the prudence and judgment which had distinguished his predecessor, resolved, in a case which might have been referred to the home government, with as little injury to the Company's interests as was experienced in the case of the war with the Pindarrees, to which he had just alluded, to declare war at once against the Burmese; towards whom, even if they had been the aggressors, which he denied, the Governor-general ought to have exhibited the same forbearance as had been shown by Lord Minto, Lord Hastings, and his other predecessors. The conduct of Lord Amherst, then, in departing from the line of policy which had been pursued for so many years by our Governors-general in India, ought to be visited with the condemnation of that court, and of every person anxious for the security of the British power in India. He would now, for argument's sake, suppose that the war was to the full as just and as much called for, as its supporters were desirous of maintaining; and in this case they must recollect there was another point for their consideration, namely the manner in which Lord Amherst had conducted it. Now he had no hesitation in affirming, that, from the beginning to the end of the business, his lordship adopted a line of conduct opposed to the statute law of the land, as well as to

every principle of sound policy. Lord Hastings had pointed out for his successor the policy he ought to have followed. But it unfortunately happened, that the value of that great man's services were not appreciated until the lamentable deficiency of Lord Amherst was discovered. Lord Amherst chose to follow a different policy; and now they were called together to thank him for it. He could not, for two or three reasons, give his consent to any such vote. First, because of the weakness of his administration; and because the resolution said, that his lordship deserved their thanks "for carrying on a just war to a favourable conclusion." Now supposing the war to have been commenced on just grounds, he maintained, that Lord Amherst deserved anything but thanks for the manner in which he had prosecuted it. When war had been carried into an enemy's country, it had often been the fate of the invaders to be ill provided with the necessary resources to ensure success, and in such a case the blame of failure must rest upon those who sent out such an ill-provided expedition; and not upon those who are appointed to command it. It would be well, if, on future occasions, an enemy's territory should not be invaded without more consideration being displayed for the wants and comforts of the army than that which Lord Amherst shewed in sending the tremendous power he did into the Burmese empire. If the war were unjust in its origin, there was reason enough on that point for his objecting to the vote; but if it were a just warfare, then the heedless way in which it was prosecuted, was sufficient to ensure his contempt and condemnation. He repeated, that Lord Amherst had lavished, with a prodigality unparalleled in our history, the blood and bravery of British subjects. Was he (Mr. Hume) asked how he supported this assertion, he would tell them in a few words. The war against the Burmese was declared, and their territories invaded, in the month of March, 1824. At a time, when the monsoon was coming on, and when it was impracticable to carry war into the heart of the Burmese empire, without such a waste of men and money as the occasion neither called for nor justified. Lord Amherst sent a force to Rangoon, the progress of which involved such a loss of blood and of treasure, as was never seen before, nor, he hoped, would ever be again seen. A force was employed, which was admitted on all hands to have been as fine a one as ever went from the confines of India. Now what was the course this armament pursued? It was ordered to remain encamped in the place where it first landed—in an island,—which the planners of the expedition did not know to be an island, until the force was about to leave it in order

order to march up the enemy's country. This first step displayed an ignorance in the directors of the expedition, the equal of which was only to be found in that of the planners of the Walcheren expedition. The army thus cooped up, found it impossible to prosecute their operations any further during that season; and thus remained a prey to privation and disease, at a time when they should have been engaged in active exertions. They were compelled to wait there till the return of cold weather, in order to ensure the chance of success in the business in which they were embarked. Now if any one should approve of the entering upon this war by Lord Amherst, surely they could not but condemn the commencing it in the manner he had described, and at the season which was selected by his lordship. They would reply, he was confident, in the negative. He maintained the fact, that the death of every man who fell a victim to disease in the ill-planned expedition to Rangoon, was to be laid at the door of those who advised that movement. From the experience he had had in being attached to a body of troops which suffered in the severest manner from the climate, he could say, that the soldier who would face, with out hesitation, the bayonet and the cannon, lost his energy and efficiency when he saw debility and sickness surrounding him on every side. When the monsoon was over, our troops, instead of being flushed with health, and anxious to meet the enemy, were much dispirited. But he must do justice to the gallantry of these troops; they were always ready to turn out and face the foe whenever he presented himself in the field. But at the close of the monsoon, there was hardly a single detachment fit to take the field in the whole army. It would be idle to deny, that if they had had a disciplined adversary to contend with, the conflict would have terminated in results which every one of them would have had reason to deplore. Good fortune, rather than good management, had favoured them; and that circumstance of itself was sufficient for his withholding his concurrence to the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst, who had left the honour and safety of the British empire in India so much to chance. He had another point to urge on the notice of the court in considering whether a vote of thanks ought to be adjudged to Lord Amherst for his mode of conducting the Burmese war. He would put it to any member, who was inclined to approve of such a vote, whether any other man but Lord Amherst would have left the frontier on the Naaf river, with only a few guns and a very small force of horse, and consequently open to the attack of the whole army of Arracan? Such a lamentable want of foresight and

judgment was there displayed, by his lordship, that Capt. Noton's detachment at Ramoo—a party composed of as brave soldiers as ever carried arms, was cut off almost to a man, by an overwhelming force. He had been assured by one of the officers who had escaped from the slaughter, that the supply of ammunition to the troops was so scanty, that they were compelled to husband it with the greatest care. They, however, maintained the position they had taken, because they never considered it possible that government intended that its support should depend upon them alone. They were daily looking out for supplies and reinforcements, and it was not till the last cartouch was used, that the conviction flashed upon their mind, that they were utterly abandoned to the rage of the enemy. The fate of this detachment reflected disgrace on Lord Amherst; and until the circumstances under which it originated should be explained, he would not consent to the proposed resolution. He had still a further cause of complaint against his lordship. He could not concur in the panegyric which had that day been passed upon him, when he contemplated the manner in which he had treated one of the finest corps, 1,000 strong, that Bengal ever possessed. He well recollected, that, at the commencement of the Burmese war, the terror inspired by those people was very great; and that, on the Chittagong frontier, which was the destination of this corps—it was believed that the people made use of certain incantations which rendered them invincible. How could he then agree to a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst when he was informed that his lordship had driven to mutiny a corps placed under his eye at Barrackpore, which had not lost five men by desertion? He had driven them to mutiny by refusing to listen to their complaints, and to order them the supplies without which they could not set out to Chittagong? How could he (Mr. Hume) agree to such a proposition when he was also told that his lordship allowed 500 of these men to be mowed down by artillery, and to be sniped by our infantry, because they had declared their resolution not to do that, which they could not, in fact do, without the assistance they required? He had, on more than one occasion, stated his opinion that this affair at Barrackpore was one of the most revolting massacres that ever was perpetrated in the British dominions, and that opinion yet remained unchanged. He asked again, could the origin, progress, and actual result of that transaction be stated? He had heard that the report of the Court of Inquiry appointed to examine into the affair, had been communicated to the Court of Directors. If such were their case, they had kept it entirely from the public

public eye, and had contrived, by so doing, to render themselves parties in the iniquity of the transaction. They must know where the fault lay;—and, whether it was with the Governor-general, or the Commander-in-chief of the forces, or any other person, it became them to disclose it, and to let the blame fall where it was due. At the present moment, wanting full and precise information on this subject he would be sorry to say, that the person most in fault was Lord Amherst; but with respect to one part of the melancholy transaction he (Mr. Hume) would be able to show, beyond all question, that Lord Amherst was highly blameable. He must, however, again repeat that he was not in a situation to give an opinion as to whether there were not persons who were even more entitled to blame than his lordship. He had before, in reference to this subject, accused Lord Amherst of having acted with cruelty and precipitation. He (Mr. Hume) had been blamed for having done so, and he had heard it asserted, more audibly than in a whisper, that he should have directed his indignation against the Commander-in-chief instead of the Governor-general, were they prepared to approve of his causing to be mowed down, with artillery, one of the finest regiments in India, without knowing more respecting the circumstances which led to such a terrible catastrophe. Until that was done he must blame Lord Amherst, the Commander-in-chief, and above all, the Court of Directors who had suppressed information, which, on every principle of justice and policy, ought to have been laid before the proprietors: he introduced this subject into the present discussion because, in his opinion, it formed part of Lord Amherst's conduct in the management of the war. The regiment, in question, was ordered to march to the Chittagong frontier, to act against the Burmese; but, for the causes before mentioned, they refused to obey this order. If it were necessary, he could prove that the 13th regiment mutinied at Midnapore from similar causes; and the vacillation exhibited by the government, on that occasion, served to encourage the mutineers at Barrackpore. Suppose, that, for the sake of argument, he were to admit that Lord Amherst did not, in any way, interfere to bring about the dreadful massacre at Barrackpore; he must nevertheless condemn him for having afterwards sanctioned that proceeding. After the mutiny was suppressed, a document was published, which ought, in his opinion, to determine the court as to the manner in which they should deal with the motion before them. It was dated Fort William, and, therefore Lord Amherst must be deemed responsible for it. In order to make this document intelligible, it was necessary to state that

not one of the native officers joined in the mutiny; but when General Dalzel charged them, on their allegiance to the company, to fall out of the ranks, they immediately complied; and joined the English troops, thus proving their attachment to the country and their title to the character of loyal men. If it were proper to punish men for misconduct, it was equally right to reward them for good conduct. It might, therefore, have naturally been expected that Lord Amherst would have bestowed some mark of approbation on the native officers, who had done every thing in their power to suppress the mutiny; and failing in that object, had quitted the ranks of their comrades and rallied round the Company's troops. But this had not only not been done, but a general order had been issued, in which the affair at Barrackpore was denominated a disgraceful mutiny, and the officers were dismissed from the service on the supposition that that affair could not have taken place without the consent and concurrence of those officers. The hon. prop. then read the order alluded to: (for which see *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xix., p. 467.) He thought that the issuing of such a general order was more likely to retard bringing any future mutiny to a close, than any thing that could have been devised. If this act stood alone he thought no body of men could come to the conclusion that Lord Amherst had acted with wisdom and justice. He would now draw his facts from a source which could not be accounted partial, to prove how the Indian Government strove to keep all information upon this subject from getting abroad. A letter was written to every editor of a newspaper in India, commanding him not to publish any information relative to this transaction, which might be received by him, whether it was good or bad. He had in his possession a letter from an editor of one of the Indian journals, stating that he had received a communication of the description, to which he (Mr. Hume) had alluded, from the Persian secretary to Government, and commanding him not to take any notice of having received it in his journal, on pain of the highest displeasure of Government. He thought, therefore, that the court had a right to expect, under those circumstances, that the result of the inquiry, which was instituted upon that melancholy affair, by the officers on the spot, should be laid before it, in order to come to a decision as to the party that was to blame. He could not, in the absence of all information, be expected to approve of Lord Amherst for an act which was enough to shake the obedience of every native regiment in the British service. He did not think that the danger which might have resulted from that act, arose so much from the execution, by military law, of

500 individuals, as from the circumstance, that at that time the British army was entering into the territory of an enemy, of whose resources the English were almost ignorant, and when there were besides serious grounds for apprehension from the eastern and western sides of the Peninsula of India. These calamitous results, which one might naturally have expected to follow this military execution, did not ensue; but he believed it would require kindness and regard to be shewn for many years towards the native troops, before their feelings of resentment could be softened. Those vindictive feelings had not been diminished by the punishment inflicted by Lord Amherst on those of the mutineers, whose sentence was commuted from hanging to hard labour on the high roads. Such a punishment was considered more disgraceful and cruel than death itself by Bramins, and men of honourable feeling. The Court of Directors were entitled to the approbation of that court for ordering that punishment to be remitted, and he supposed that order had been given, because, upon a review of the whole case, it appeared only due to the sufferers. He was perfectly aware that it required the strong arm of power to suppress a mutiny when it was once commenced; but he thought that even then, power ought to be tempered by mercy; and that those possessing power should never forget their duty as men and christians. He would read to the court a letter on this subject from the hon. Capt. Amherst, to an officer of the Bengal service: It stated as follows:—"Public rumour will have probably conveyed, ere this reaches you, the account of the Governor-general's recal. As he wishes the grounds which have induced the authorities at home to adopt this measure, to be made as public as possible, that all may have an opportunity of judging of its justice, I send you the particulars of the case." He would now direct the earnest attention of the court to one passage in this letter. It had been stated by Lord Amherst and his friends, as one reason for limiting the liberty of the press in India, that there was no public in that country, capable of properly considering acts of state. Lord Amherst had repeatedly objected to allow the press to become umpire in any case where others were concerned; but as soon as his own conduct was blamed, he desired that "all may have an opportunity of judging of its justice," even those whom he had before declared as incapable of forming any judgment. He (Mr. Hume) could not let that opportunity pass of making those observations on the press. He was glad he had caught one of its enemies on the slip. It proved what inconsistencies a man might be guilty of, if he should ever deviate from the path of principle; and that

the only way to escape falling into incongruities, was by adhering strictly to the dictates of reason. The letter then went on to state:—"The first observation is, the delay which occurred in sending home the report of the Court of Inquiry, on the causes, which led to the mutiny at Barrackpoor; the second is, that the evils disclosed before that court, were not immediately redressed; the third, that the government omitted to comment on the report when forwarding it home. The answer to the first is, that the report was so voluminous, that much time necessarily elapsed, before it could be perused by the members of government, attending at the same time to the routine of their official duties. The late Mr. Adam was also, at that time, shortly expected in Calcutta, and the Governor-general was anxious, naturally, to obtain the opinion of so experienced a man upon such an important question. The answer to the second is, that if the court had delayed their precipitate judgment about a fortnight, they would have found, that not only all evils were redressed, but that additional pay and comforts were granted to the troops in Arracan." Now, he asked the court, whether they were not of opinion, that by attending, in the first instance, to the complaint of the troops, that their former comforts and conveniences when taking the field against their enemy had been denied them, had been attended to and redressed, whether they did not think that all the mischief of that lamentable affair might have been avoided: and, if so, must not very great blame rest in some quarter, which ought to be fully known? The letter proceeded: "As to the third complaint, it is answered, that all comment was omitted, because none was required, the case being as clear as possible, and requiring no extraordinary intellect" (that, said Mr. Hume, was truly a fine compliment to the Court of Directors) "to determine who were to blame and who were not. It was omitted out of delicacy to Sir E. Paget, who, as a member of the government, must have passed a censure on himself and on those immediately responsible to him." An awkward secret was thus divulged, namely, the intimation that the report censured Sir E. Paget and those that acted under his orders. If that gallant officer had any regard for his character, which this letter had a tendency to implicate, he must either sit down with the stigma upon him, or call for the document referred to. If Lord Amherst was innocent, he (Mr. Hume) had done him great injustice. The blame, he now believed, attached to other quarters; and he called for documents in order to judge whether he was correct. His object was, not to condemn Lord Amherst, but to cause the production of further papers. He

He believed it would not be denied that it was the paramount duty of an executive government to see that ample means were provided for the sustenance of troops despatched on foreign service. It might be remembered, that when a late change took place in the commissariat department, the reason assigned was the necessity of supplying the troops with greater rapidity and certainty. Now the facts which had come to his knowledge induced him to assert, that the Bengal army never left its cantonments on its own soil worse provided than it did in the last war. This was the sole cause of a great deal of the disease and disappointment which that army experienced. He did not complain so much of the troops in Arracan dying of disease, as of their dying through the neglect of the Indian government in furnishing supplies. The outcry raised in India against this disgraceful and unnecessary want of supplies was the cause, he believed, of an inquiry being instituted into the matter. So great was the want of necessities, as to cause disease and death in every rank, until, at one time, no more than 180 men fit for military duty could be found in the whole army. Had the Burmese possessed any ordinary portion of enterprise, and had they at the same time but known the fact of our soldiers perishing from disease, they would have cut off the whole army to a man, without any possibility of escape. Lord Amherst was at the head of the government, and he ought to have had the precaution to take measures, not only for the military support of the soldiers, but for their actual sustenance; and, in justice to those soldiers, who shewed in that campaign as much bravery as had ever been shewn before by any set of men, a full and impartial inquiry was necessary. Having now stated what he considered the conduct of Lord Amherst to have been, he begged to shew the difference between his proceedings and those of Sir T. Monro. He had heard accounts so honourable to that officer's kindness and humanity, and so strongly proving the attention, regard, and foresight with which he provided for the wants of the troops, that he should feel himself guilty of injustice to that officer if he did not mention his peculiar worth to the court. He (Mr. Hume) only wished that Sir T. Monro had been at the head of the government when these unfortunate dissensions first began. How different would have been the course he would have followed! He would have preserved, for the necessities of the country, thousands of gallant men, who had fallen victims to disease and want. Rapine, which necessarily attended upon a state of hostility, would either have been entirely prevented by unbroken peace, or greatly diminished under his

personal influence. He made these observations, because he wished that the Court of Directors would not allow any motive of private friendship or interest, or any solicitation of official persons, to induce them to send out an individual to India as Governor of that empire, whom they believed in their hearts to be unable to discharge the duties of so high a station. He understood that the Directors were not all agreed as to the propriety and expediency of Lord Amherst's being sent to India; and, for all the evils that had followed the appointment of that noble lord, the Court of Directors had to answer in the sight of God and man. But if the Court of Directors elected persons to fill high situations to which they were not equal, then the blame did not rest entirely with them. The proprietors individually shared the odium with the Directors. He exhorted them, therefore, in future to correct the errors into which they had fallen. He repeated, that we were not in a condition to award approbation to Lord Amherst. He was not speaking of him in his capacity as a private gentleman. In private life, he had heard, he was a respected and a respectable character. He (Mr. Hume) was perfectly convinced in his own mind, that the world had sustained more mischief from imbecility and ignorance than from direct roguery. (*Hear, hear!*) He was not prepared to give the vote required of him, and his reasons for this inability he had explained to the court. He would therefore move as an amendment, that all the words in the original resolution after the word "that" be expunged, and the following inserted in their place:

"That this court cannot agree to vote thanks to Lord Amherst, the Governor-general in India, for his conduct in the war with the Burmese, as the details of the causes and progress of that war have not been laid before this court, to enable it to form a calm and deliberate opinion on such an important subject, particularly as the legislature has, in the 24th Geo. III. cap. 25 and subsequent acts, declared, that 'to pursue schemes of conquest and extension of dominion in India, are measures repugnant to the wish, the honour, and policy of this nation; and that it shall not be lawful for the Governor-general and Council of Fort-William, without the express consent and authority of the Court of Directors, either to declare war or commence hostilities, except when hostilities have actually commenced, or preparations actually made for the commencement of hostilities against the British nation in India,' of which this court has no satisfactory account, and as Lord Amherst did declare war and invade the territory of the Burmese government, contrary to the law of the land and without

out the previous sanction of the Court of Directors, this court cannot approve of his conduct."

Mr. *Hume* again rose for the purpose of stating, once for all, in order that it might not be supposed he wished to imply censure in the amendment; that his desire was the suspension of all judgment in the business until further information was afforded.

Sir *John Malcolm* said, that he had come to the discussion of the question before the court with feelings of the utmost impartiality, for he had not had time to peruse the voluminous documents placed before the court. There were, it must be allowed, many points in the speech of the hon. member for Aberdeen, in the justice of which every one must concur; but there were also several which he, for one, could not but condemn. As the hon. member had so frequently alluded to his (Sir J.'s) recent publication, he felt himself imperatively called upon to declare his own views and his own statements; and, in so doing, he would shew how different they were from those which the hon. member had thought proper to attribute to him. The impressions his mind had received, he had deliberately stated and presented to the public eye; and sure he was, if his recollection of the terms in which he had stated them served him in the least, that they were far from warranting the inferences the hon. member had drawn from them. He did not intend to blame the hon. member for drawing these conclusions; but, on the contrary, he ought rather to return him his cordial thanks for the generous way in which he had treated what he (Sir J. M.) had written. His (Sir J. M.'s) attention in writing that work had been solely directed to facts, and he begged to be allowed to say, in his own justification, that he pretended to nothing further than to make a faithful record of those facts. He would, in the first place, dispose of the circumstances which related to the settling of the Mugh emigrants on the Chittagong frontier. This course common fairness to Lord Amherst dictated; and he must say, that the faults committed in locating them there, if faults they could be called, were certainly those of humanity; and errors of that description, as the hon. member had justly observed, they were always inclined to pardon. He (Sir J. M.) might be wrong in his view of that subject, but he could not certainly approve of the policy which directed the locating of those emigrants so near that particular frontier; he believed they had, after finding a refuge in our dominions, been guilty of very great atrocities. The Company had settled them on a spot where it was considered they would become more humane and

civilized; but instead of cultivating the arts of peace, they had perpetrated the most unjustifiable aggressions on the inhabitants of the Burmese territories. The Company had, to be sure, endeavoured to punish and repress these excesses; but this could not be effectually done, owing to the nature of the country they inhabited, which was a complete jungle from one end to the other. The Burmese were not, however, the only people on whom the Mughls committed atrocities; the inhabitants of Chittagong came in also for their share. The emigrants thus became not subjects of but rebels to the Company. The incessant repetition of these outrages induced the Company at length to form a boundary alliance with the Burmese government, which enabled us to introduce Burmese troops to put them down. It was impossible to deny that success did not follow this measure; that the Mugh emigrants did not still continue their aggressions on the Burmese; or that the Burmese authorities did not complain of them, and that repeatedly, to the British government. But could the Company, when they knew the horrible cruelty which had been exercised by the Burmese on these poor emigrants; could they, he asked, abandon them to the disposal of that government? A sense of what was due to justice induced the Company to endeavour to repress the horrible outrages and aggressions perpetrated by the emigrants, and a sense of what was due to humanity forbade them to give up the aggressors to the Burmese. The original sin rested with those who had compelled the Mughls to emigrate in a body of 50,000 men, with a resolution not to return again to their own country. The language in which they had couched their appeal to the protection of the British government was too extraordinary to be ever forgotten; it ran thus:—"Return to Arracan we cannot; if you choose to slaughter us here, we are ready to die; but if by force you drive us away, we will go and dwell in the jungles of the great mountains, and will seek in them that shelter which they afford to the lion and the tiger." If language such as this could have been forgotten, and the direful occasion which gave rise to it, the Company would soon have found that all the petty rajahs on our eastern frontier, who were neither inclined to make nor capable of making encroachments on the Burmese, would have been swept away by the power of that ambitious people, who were as vain of their own strength as they were ignorant of the duties of civilization. It was the opinion of Lord Minto, than whom a more moderate man never existed, that a war with the Burmese was an event to be expected before long, when the trifling importance which
that

that people attached to the preservation of friendly relations with this country was considered. He would not now enumerate the various acts of atrocity which were committed by the Burmese on the one hand and by the Mugh emigrants on the other; but he would declare this (paradoxical as it might appear), that in our efforts to quell these excesses, we had not been so cruel as we ought to have been. (*Hear, hear!*) This assertion he deliberately made; he was not for treating men with any excess of humanity who, for a trifling and transitory advantage, made no scruple of bathing their hands in the blood of their fellow-creatures. This opinion had been held by many eminent statesmen. The Company had, however, pursued a different plan; they had been indulgent, when they ought to have acted with severity; and could the hon. member (Mr. Hume), he asked, be surprised that under such circumstances there should be, on the part of the Burmese, a growing spirit of aggression?

Mr. *Hume* observed, that he had not charged the Burmese government with any such spirit.

Sir *John Malcolm* contended that such a spirit did exist, and that he was ready to prove it.

Mr. *Hume*.—"Well, then, if you say so, all I know is, that your book says differently."

Sir *John Malcolm*, in continuation, contended that this spirit of aggression, on the part of the Burmese government, was observable in all its acts; its conduct grew more arrogant, its letters more insulting. We were threatened by its ministers, and intrigued against by its agents. They scarcely deigned to disguise their intention of exciting the Mahratta states to revolt against us; and this attempt was only frustrated by not permitting their ambassadors to advance, as they desired, to Benares. They must all be aware that it was not practicable, in every quarrel, to look back to the original causes of it; and he (Sir J. M.) was decidedly of opinion that Lord Amherst, to whom the vote of thanks was this day proposed, was only to be considered responsible for the state in which he found the quarrel between the British and Burmese governments, and not for the causes which led to the differences. His idea of the case was, that Lord Amherst was bound to consider the differences no further than they affected the general interests of the state with the administration of which he was charged. The hon. member for Aberdeen had contended that it would have been more proper in the Indian government to limit their operations to a boundary warfare. Now, from the experience he (Sir J. M.) had had of that description of warfare, he could

safely declare, that it was not for the interest of the British government to enter upon such a course. The British government must not only speak, but act; it must look at once through every question, and say to its opponents, "if you do not desist from your present offensive conduct, I will adopt such and such measures."—(*Hear!*)—And those measures it must always be prepared to follow up. (*Hear, hear!*) Now when Lord Amherst arrived in India, it was necessary he should proceed on the policy he found in operation, and to follow up, by war, the declarations which had been made against the Burmese. He (Sir J. M.) entirely concurred in the opinion of that excellent man, Lord Minto, that sooner or later a war must have taken place with the Burmese; and if it had not been entered upon two years ago, it must have occurred before the next four years had drawn to a close. (*Cheers.*) That arrogant people had never had an opportunity of measuring their strength with ours; and, despising the native powers, whom we had subjected to our authority, had formed a false estimate both of their own strength and of ours. It consequently became necessary to inspire them at the same time with a sense of their own weakness, and of our strength. The war itself, he must beg to remind the hon. member, bore not the slightest analogy to that against the Pindarries, who were nothing but a crew of migratory ruffians and freebooters. The Burmese, on the contrary, formed a regular state. He was ready to admit, that both Lord Minto and Lord Hastings had evaded, by every means in their power, a war with the Burmese; and that very circumstance, perhaps, it was that rendered a war on the late dissensions breaking out inevitable. With regard to the idea of limiting the war to the mere local defence of barriers, he had but one word to say. Of all the species of Indian warfare with which he was acquainted, he could affirm, that none was so expensive as that of frontier warfare; and none so unlikely to raise the fame and military character of Great Britain. It would always be his firm conviction, that when Lord Amherst had once commenced the war, he acted rightly in prosecuting it as he did. The hon. member had asked whether any prudent officer would have sent troops to Rangoon during the continuance of the monsoon. He was not bound to tell the hon. member what would have been the course he (Sir J. M.) would have pursued, had he been charged with the conduct of the expedition. But he would tell the hon. member that, with the scanty details he possessed, he should not have ventured to describe that measure

as impolitic and improper. His (Sir J. M.'s) experience assured him, that the determination of officers was often regulated on the spot by a thousand circumstances, which people at a distance could not understand. It was not for him (Sir J. M.) to say what information the government might have possessed which it might be considered prudent to withhold from the public eye. He could not tell but that the rivers might have been deemed practicable for a *coup de main* on the principal towns of the Burmese empire. He could not say, that, before the commencement of the war, he might not have considered the fall of Rangoon as likely to put an end to the contest; and that expectation might have deceived him as it had done others. The hon. member had thought proper to allude to the blunders connected with the expedition to Walcheren; and, if such errors could take place with regard to an island so near home, should it be wondered at, that similar errors should take place in Indian warfare? Allowing that our expectations of advantage from the capture of Rangoon had been disappointed, was that cause enough to make us disapprove of every measure which followed it? We had known several great men, whose images stood in that court, to fail in their first enterprise, and yet afterwards to be crowned with success; and was such failure ever remembered as a blot upon their characters? Certainly not; and in common fairness, he asked the hon. member to extend to Lord Amherst that indulgence which he would not think of withholding from any other officer. From all that the hon. member had said on the subject, he (Sir J. M.) was not confident enough to say, that the monsoon was not the most proper season for commencing operations at Rangoon; for it might be clearly seen, that if time had been lost during the fine weather, instead of during the foul, his lordship would have been tauntingly asked, why he had not sent the troops to Rangoon during the foul weather, in order to take advantage of the fair weather when it arrived. In the course of his speech the hon. member had more than once complained of the scantiness of information contained in the thirteen folio volumes which had been prepared for the use of the court, and had repeatedly declared, that this want of information was his reason for deferring his judgment, and not concurring in the present vote. It would have been as well had the hon. member suspended his condemnation, as well as his approbation; for if no sufficient grounds had been offered for applauding Lord Amherst, neither was there sufficient grounds for condemning him. In some points, indeed, the hon. member's speech had re-

mianded him of what was called in their common country *Gibbet justice*; by which a man was hanged first, and tried afterwards. (*Laughter.*) He was extremely sorry that the hon. member had touched upon the subject of Barrack-pose. The freedom of discussion, which no man valued more highly than he (Sir J. M.) did, would not permit him to call the hon. member to order; but his hon. friend, if he would allow him to use that title, he must say, had wandered completely out of the record in introducing that subject. His hon. friend was in doubt whether the blame of the measure was to be attached to Lord Amherst, to his council, or to the Commander-in-chief. As a military man, he (Sir J. M.) could say, that the Governor-general could have no different course to adopt towards a regiment under his eye, than towards one a thousand miles from him; and, with respect to Sir E. Paget, God forbid, that, on the mere unsupported assertion of a private letter, the court should come to any conclusion detrimental to his character. Let the circumstances in which that officer was placed be taken into consideration. Any one who had been among a mutinous soldiery—who knew what danger there was in an improper speech, or even in a look, or gesture,—who was aware of the necessity which existed for a prompt and vigorous line of conduct, would be slow in condemning what, under such circumstances, an officer of his character had done. In speaking of the general order which had been issued after the mutiny was put down, he thought his hon. friend had assumed as facts certain circumstances which were not supported by any evidence, which he (Sir J. M.) had yet seen. He had asserted that the native officers were loyal to a man, and had shown their allegiance to the Company by rallying round their European officers when called upon to do so. He (Sir J. M.) would be inclined to give the government of India credit for acting, at least, with common prudence; and, therefore, he was willing to conclude that certain facts had been brought to its knowledge, which had not, as yet, publicly transpired; and, while he must concur in the determination of his hon. friend to call for further information, he still must maintain that he had no right to demand the publication of the secret papers of government. A publication of those papers might be productive of the very worst consequences. Let them suppose a case; say the mutiny of a regiment. Let it be supposed that the mutiny had been quelled; and that a committee of officers had been appointed to examine into its causes and progress. Let it be further supposed, that this committee had discovered

discovered that the same mutinous spirit, which prompted the first regiment, was widely spread through the whole of the army. Now if, under such circumstances, it appeared dangerous to encourage the spirit of mutiny, by promulgating its existence at large, would his hon. friend ask for the publication of the report made by the examining officers? But the case he (Sir J. M.) had supposed was not a mere ideal case. It had been his fortune to be one of the committee appointed to examine into the mutiny at Vellore. He had been selected along with another officer to draw up its report. Now what was the advice they forwarded to the government? They said, "stop your commission instantly—Inquire no further—you are sitting upon a barrel of gunpowder—and you will be safer in remaining as you are, than if you persist in publishing what will spread far and wide the disloyalty of your army." The advice thus given the government adopted; being convinced, that if once an official declaration of defection was promulgated, the spirit would be greatly increased; and if this reasoning were applied to the case alluded to by the hon. member, might it not offer a justification of the withholding, for the present, the report of the commissioners of inquiry? With regard to the violation of the act of parliament expressly made for the purpose of preventing the Indian government from indulging in schemes of conquest, his (Sir J. M.'s) opinions were but too well known; and he might be pardoned, if he merely said one word upon that subject. Lord Amherst found this war forced upon him by a concurrence of circumstances, over which he had no control; in the same way that former wars had been forced upon his predecessors. He had now only to thank the proprietors for the patient hearing they had afforded him, and to say, that he held an opinion in diametrical opposition to that avowed by the hon. member for Aberdeen. That hon. member had called upon the court to suspend its approbation from Lord Amherst until all the proprietors, both individually and collectively, had been put in possession of the required information. Now he (Sir J. M.) would yield to none in his love of free discussion, but he must be pardoned for saying, that, on the present occasion, he considered his hon. friend's opposition as carried a little into the extreme. His hon. friend was averse from placing any confidence in the Court of Directors, but he (Sir J. M.) followed a different course. Where his information was incomplete, he should think himself irrational if he did not place some confidence in the directors whom he had himself assisted in appointing. He should, therefore, on the grounds he

had stated, give his entire concurrence to the proposed resolutions.

Dr. Gilchrist, would state to the court what was his honest conviction on the question before them. There was a "tide in the affairs of men," which might lead to ruin as well as to fortune. He thought that at the present day men were hurried along by such a dangerous current as this; we were borne away by the thirst of conquest, which urged us to undertakings extremely injurious to our honour and our interests as a nation. This inordinate desire to extend our territorial possessions, led us to resort to means for the expansion of our empire in India which were frequently unjustifiable, while the additions of territory thus acquired, were not only unprofitable but injurious. This desire of territorial acquisition might be carried entirely too far, and it was carried too far at the present day. We were now striving to extend our advances in the East and the West. On the subject of the resolution before the court they were without sufficient information, and he contended that it would be an act of injustice to the noble lord if they were to pass that vote without being sufficiently informed of all the details. With that immense jungle, that wilderness of papers which the directors had submitted for the inspection of the proprietors, he would have nothing to do; he had made an attempt to wade through part of them, but without effect; the task was beyond his patience, and he had given it up. He had looked into two or three maps before he was able to find out this little island of Shapoorree, and when he did discover it, from the best judgment he could form, it was not in our territories. We had taken possession of the island, and in the attempt a native seaman in our service was shot; and for this, forsooth, we must go to war! Was there not a much more simple and effectual course open to us? why not have sent up a sloop of war to Rangoon to expostulate with the Burman government? It would have answered our purpose just as well as an immediate declaration of war. He was sorry to perceive that amongst the great body of the proprietors there was such a total indifference on this important subject, and that so few were present when the conduct of their government was to be examined. The quarrel was, it appeared, commenced for an invasion of our territories by the Burmese, but on looking over the papers, he saw something like a reprimand to the officer of that district for not being aware of the exact line of boundary. He had before adverted to the impolicy of extending our territories; if they looked back to history they would find this remark confirmed by the fate of every nation which

had made its possessions too unwieldy for government. Our Indian territories were already more than sufficiently extended, and though he concurred in a good deal of what had been said as to the necessity of taking decisive measures to check the insolence of the Burmese, yet he could not bring himself to think that Lord Amherst was justified in proceeding to immediate war. But he supposed those who defended the war would appeal in its justification to the success which attended our arms. He admitted that we had been successful, but though we might have gained in our purses by the war, he feared it would be found that it was a gain which we should hereafter have to regret. In the other resolutions which it was intended to submit to the court he fully concurred; he thought the officers and men who served in the army against the Burmese were entitled to great credit for the brave manner in which they had conducted themselves. With respect to the soldiers, he meant particularly the native troops, he thought they deserved every thing which could be said of them, but it would have been more prudent in that court to award them solid pudding instead of empty praise. He should like to hear that along with this vote of thanks which they were about to receive in their respective regiments, it was the intention of the court that in future their individual comforts would be more studied by government than they had been hitherto: our native troops deserved this from us and policy demanded it, if they would wish to prevent the recurrence of such events as they had to lament at Barrackpore. (*Hear!*) In the resolution before the court there was an objectionable omission, no mention was made of "thanks to fortune," to which we owed so much. He thought that we had great good luck in the progress and termination of a war into which we had so rashly entered. It was an old adage that the devil always took care of his own, and if ever he did so, he certainly took care of the Company in the last war. (*Laughter and disapprobation.*) Again he begged to ask, whether before they came to such a decision, members of the court had read the immense mass of papers which the directors had provided? and if any had, he begged to ask how many of them understood them? Abstracts of the whole ought to have been made, and then gentlemen would have been able to become acquainted with their import. (*Disapprobation.*) But as it was, they were called upon to decide without knowing the real merits of the question before them. He must now call the attention of the court to another subject, it was the risk which honest and honourable men ran by a candid avowal of their opinions in that court, if those opi-

nions happened to be opposed to the ruling powers. He held in his hand a libel which had been issued against himself from the government press of Calcutta. (*Laughter.*) In that paper he had been described as a fellow who did not understand any of the languages he affected to teach, or who could not teach them in a way that others might understand. For the falsehood of this charge he appealed to those who knew him, to those whom he had instructed; he would refer to the Lascars in this country; let any one ask them whether or not he understood their language. Was he, he would ask, to lose his literary reputation which had cost him a whole life to establish? was he to be deprived of his literary property which it had cost him £10,000 to create? was he to be branded and held up to the public as an ignorant fellow, because he had come boldly forward to do his duty as a proprietor? A man must have a moral courage superior to the ferocity of the lion or the tiger to do his duty fairly under such circumstances; the gazette, speaking of proceedings in that court, observed that they were moved by *Hume* and seconded by *Gilchrist*, and then away went an attack upon him and his books; would to God that he had a seat inside that bar, (*Laughter,*) and then not a word would be said against any of his remarks; but as it was he would not be deterred by any thing that could be said, he would brave all, and now say that he could not conscientiously give his vote for a motion of thanks to Lord Amherst.

Col. *Stanhope* and Mr. *R. Jackson* rose to address the court at the same time; neither seemed willing to give way, and the cries of "*chair*" became very general through the court.

Mr. *R. Jackson* said he would not give way, as he had first caught the Chairman's eye.

The *Chairman* said, that Mr. *Jackson* had before risen to address the court but had given way, he now considered therefore, that that gentleman had precedence.

Col. *Stanhope* hoped that fair play would be given to gentlemen at both sides, with great deference to the chair, he thought that whether Mr. *Jackson* had risen first on a former occasion was of no consequence, the question was whether he rose first on the present.

Mr. *S. Dixon* paid a tribute to the fairness displayed by the chair in questions of precedence.

Col. *Stanhope* then gave way, and

Mr. *R. Jackson* proceeded to address the court. He trusted that having given way on two occasions before, after having caught the chairman's attention, he should not be considered too particular in asserting his claim to precedence. The ques-

tion

don before the court was, in his opinion, one of the utmost importance. It was one by the improper decision of which the honour of that court and the interests of the proprietors at large might be compromised. The Court of Directors had called upon the proprietors for an opinion on the course which they had taken with respect to the conduct of Lord Amherst, and in order to enable them to form that opinion, they had given them access to a voluminous collection of documents on the subject. In December last a motion had been made for the recal of Lord Amherst from the government of India. He, Mr. Jackson, had opposed it, though he had the highest respect for the characters of the gentlemen by whom it was moved, and seconded. He thought at that time, and he thought so still, that it would have been most unfair, most unjust, to come to a conclusion which would blast the public character of an individual of high rank, without having the fullest information on the subject to which the motion referred; with a view of procuring that information he had moved, by way of amendment, for all the papers not of a secret nature connected with the origin and progress of the Burmese war. That motion had been resisted by the chairman on grounds of which he (Mr. Jackson) did not complain. It was stated that twenty-one out of the twenty-four directors were as ignorant of the merits of that great question, on which thousands of lives depended, and respecting which thousands of lives had been already sacrificed, as any proprietor in that court. He was aware that by their oath the secret committee of the directors, to whom these despatches were addressed, were bound not to disclose any thing which came to their knowledge in that capacity, until authorized by the board of control. This was regulated by an act of parliament and he therefore could not complain of being individually kept in ignorance of that, from the knowledge of which twenty-one of the directors were excluded equally with himself. But he did complain of the board of control, and he thought that board worthy of blame for not giving to the whole body of the directors an opportunity of being officially acquainted with the details which had been made known to the House of Commons, which had been published in the news-papers, and yet, as far as respected the East-India Company, the party chiefly interested in them, had been absurdly confined to their secret committee. Perhaps there might have been a wish somewhere to show, with reference to future measures, by how few persons the affairs of British India might be managed. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) He would not, however, press

this point, on which much might be said, but return to the subject before the court. They had now got the papers before them. The indulgence of the directors had opened them to the inspection of every member, and he thought that each individual was bound to avail himself of the means thus afforded, in order to come to a right judgment on the question which they were called upon to decide. He could not agree with the learned gentleman (Dr. Gilchrist) in calling them a jungle and a wilderness of documents. They were, he admitted, voluminous, but he thought they might be studied with advantage; and without saying that he had gone through the whole, he had endeavoured to make himself master of the general import of their contents. He concurred with the hon. member (Mr. Hume) that those who supported the affirmative of the resolution before the court were bound to shew that the Burmese war was just and necessary; that it had been wisely planned, ably conducted, and that it had been brought to a termination highly advantageous to the interests of the company. These propositions, he conceived, might be proved by the papers before them; and he, though a very humble individual, would endeavour, before he concluded, to satisfy the court that the war had been just and necessary, nay, inevitable; that it had been wisely planned, ably conducted, and that its termination had been productive of considerable advantage to the interests of the company. With respect to the island of Shapoorie, the disputed right to which had been the ostensible cause of the war, he should say that, whether it was great or small, cultivated or barren, made no difference in the question; the company had only the alternative of laying themselves at the feet of an arrogant conqueror, already puffed up with pride from his achievements over several of the native powers, or to assert their right by force of arms to that small island. That the company did possess the right to the island of Shapoorie, he thought the papers on the table afforded the most conclusive evidence. It appeared that it was on one side separated from our territory by a small stream, sometimes even fordable, while on the other was a deep river, which was the admitted boundary between the two states of the British and the Arracanese. The House of Commons had called for documents shewing the company's right to this island, and the Court of Directors had sent out an order to the authorities in India for the whole details connected with the company's right to Shapoorie. The result of this order was a transmission by Lord Amherst of one of the ablest papers which had fallen to his (Mr. Jackson's) lot to peruse in the whole collection. It was a document

document which would well repay the trouble of those who considered it with attention. From this account it appeared that the company was in the exercise of their authority on the island so far back as the year 1790. That it was measured by the company's orders in 1801, again in 1809, and again in 1815, and that it had been let out on lease by the company's agents. But he had higher authority, namely, that of the adversary himself! The government of Arracan proved his case. They said that Shapoorie was an appendage to the four great cities of Bengal—Calcutta, Moorshedabad, Dacca, and the chief town of Chittagong. These, they said, belonged once to the Rajah of Arracan, and that Shapoorie was considered as an appendage to those cities, and consequently, according to their own shewing, that island belonged to the company as coeval with our possession of Bengal. Then, if these facts could not be disputed, was it surprising that British vigilance should have been awakened, and British power exerted for the protection and preservation of what was clearly British territory? But the fact was, that the possession of this island was only a pretext for attacking the company, and of drawing them into a war. The first ship of ours that anchored near the island after the Burmese claim was asserted, was fired upon and one of the crew shot dead. It had been said that after such an act of aggression we should have remonstrated. We had done so, and we had received a most insulting and evasive answer. We then sent a small number of men, who took possession, from which they were dislodged by a force of a thousand strong sent against them by the Burmese. They subsequently withdrew their force, and our men who had succeeded them were afterwards withdrawn in consequence of the sickness which prevailed. By the letter of the 22d of October 1823, from the Rajah of Arracan, written by order of the king in answer to our remonstrance, we were told "That the stockade on Shapoorie had been destroyed by order of his Burmese majesty; that if we reconstructed it, he would cause to be taken by force of arms the cities of Dacca and Moorshedabad," adding verbally to our messenger, "That if we attempted to retake the island, he would invade Bengal by Assam and Goalpore, whither 3,000 men had just gone, and Chittagong by the mountains; and that the King of Ava had armies ready for the invasion of the British dominions at every point." And in fact 5,000 men were sent into our dominions, and by them one of our outposts at Rangoon, was surprised and cut off! Now, surely this upon every principle was to all intents a declaration of war, and the government of the country,

thus invaded, was called upon to repel the aggression. Here was an island, shown to be in the possession of the Company, in the year 1790, admitted by our enemies, themselves, to be an appendage to the four great cities of Bengal our undisputed right and long possession. And yet, when the Company asserted its title to the spot in question, it was met by the Burman king with hostile menace, and an invading army, part of a much greater force already collected by his principal general Bundoolah. Was it possible for any person to consider those circumstances, and deny the justice and the necessity of a war, thus undertaken for the maintenance of the Company's territorial rights? But it was said that the previous conduct of the Company to the Burmese, in the reception and protection given by the Company to the Mughas, was sufficient to justify this aggression. He denied the fact. The cause of irritation alluded to, had subsided three years before the commencement of the dispute about Shapoorie. But suppose this irritation had continued to that time—suppose that like a smothered volcano it had remained ready to explode under their feet, when least expected, what difference did that make in the case! Were they to condemn and consign to perpetual disgrace the man who had by a prompt and decisive exercise of power, prevented the explosion, and thereby saved the Company's territories from all the horrors of a sudden and successful invasion? What would have been the consequence if those decisive measures had not been adopted? Our territories would have been invaded with an immense and overwhelming force. The Chittagong district, and other parts of our dominions would have been overrun, and subjected to the atrocities, by which those devils, in human form, had desolated all the countries subdued by their arms. The cruelties perpetrated in Assam, Cassay, Cachar and other places to which these barbarians had been led by their insatiable thirst of conquest, afforded dreadful specimens of what must have followed in the Company's territory, had not their invasion been diverted. It had been asserted on the part of the Burmese, that the British government had favoured or connived at the aggressions committed upon them by the previously expelled Mughas. For this there was no foundation. The magistrate of Chittagong had done all in his power to prevent them from attacking the Burmese, and it had been shown by his hon. friend himself that some of the Company's troops had accompanied the Burman army for the purpose of driving the Mughas from their offensive positions, did this conduct bear the hon. member out in his charge of connivance, he (Mr. Jackson) thought it ought to be received as affording further evidence of the pacific

fic disposition of our Indian government, and of its anxiety to avoid any provocation, which might tend to hostility. It was true we had given up to the Burmans, certain individuals of the Mugh nation whom they had demanded. He had looked into this point, and it appeared that the Burmese, irritated against some of these refugees, had entered our territory in a hostile manner, and demand that those persons should be given up. To this demand, the Indian government answered that they should not even treat with them until they had departed from the British territory. They withdrew their forces and retired. An inquiry being set on foot into the cause of that complaint, it was discovered that three men who had been most notorious robbers, were guilty of aggressions on the Burmese, and these men were given up. Now whether this had been effectual in preventing war or not, it shows that the Indian government was entitled to great praise for its moderation, which ought to have produced a consequence different from that of invading armies; he thought the facts which he had adduced quite sufficient to justify the conclusion that the war was just and inevitable. He now came to the next point, whether the war had been conducted in such a manner, as to entitle the noble lord at the head of the government to the thanks of that court. On this point the decision of the Court of Directors had been confirmed by his Majesty's Government, in the promotion of the noble lord, to an advanced rank in the peerage; they had even coupled his new title, with that of Arracan, the name of one of the places which he had conquered. With such testimonies in favour of the noble lord's plan for the war, it might seem presumptuous in him who could not be supposed to be skilled in such subjects, to say that he differed in one point from the noble lord's plan. Invested, however, by the legislature, with deliberative rights in that court, and called upon for his opinion, he was bound to give it according to the best of his judgement; he thought that considering the relative situations of the enemy's possessions and usurpations, he would have made the war as much as possible a maritime war. He thought that by such a direction of our energies, we should have saved several millions of money and many thousand lives, he felt satisfied in this opinion from the papers themselves, and particularly to the noble lord's minute, in which he so justly described the incalculable value of the enemy's principal sea-port of Rangoon, to hold which was to padlock his empire! "It has," says his lordship, "already been avowed by government, and is universally admitted, that the only effectual means of humbling the pride of the Burmese nation, and inspiring them with just notions of the

superior strength of the power they have so grossly insulted, will be to seize and occupy their principal sea-ports, and more especially Rangoon. As far as climate is concerned, we have every reason to believe that Rangoon is at all times more healthy than any part of Bengal." To this place, he confessed, he thought we should have addressed our first and almost exclusive attention, except as to those other maritime stations which he should hereafter notice; he had a right to reason from what had actually happened, and either the capture of Rangoon, which was to the Burmese territories as Portsmouth is to England, had not produced the mighty consequences which the Bengal government ascribed to it, and which he sincerely believed to be true, or its capacity for producing such consequences rendered unnecessary the attempt to pass an army through the Silhet frontier towards Monypore, as well as the attempt to pass another army through Arracan, and over its lofty hills into the Burmese territory, both passages having been found impracticable! But he bowed to higher authority, and assuming the plan thus sanctioned by his majesty's government and the Court of Directors to have been the wisest, he would inquire in the next place had that plan been wisely conducted? To determine this point, they should refer to the state of affairs at that period. The considerable territory of Assam, which lies to the north east of Bengal, was then so far overrun by the Burmese, as to induce their continual threats of invasion, and the capture of our cities of Dacca and Moorshedabad. Cahar, an independent state under our protection, but so identified with our important eastern frontier of Silhet, that they must stand or fall together, was already invaded; and Cassay, so contiguous to our dominions, that it was through Cassay that Cahar, he believed, had been invaded, had submitted to its ruthless conqueror, whose sovereign had fled for refuge to the British dominions, and a nominee of the king of Ava placed on the throne at Monypore; thus in great force at every point that could annoy us, they might well threaten to invade the Chittagong district, our principal possession on the eastern coast of the bay of Bengal, attack those cities in Bengal, which they pretended to be theirs in consequence of the subjugation of Arracan, and break way towards Calcutta! for which, as afterwards appeared, they had prepared a large army in Arracan two months before the time he was speaking of! In this predicament, what was the conduct of the Bengal government? They made strong and successful diversions in Assam, Cahar, and Cassay; which encouraged those states

states to strike for freedom, and materially contributed to the final success of the war; but above all, and in his humble opinion best of all, they sent a powerful naval and military force against Rangoon, "their principal sea-port,—the second town in their empire." There was no alternative; hostilities had in fact begun, Shapoorree, upon which they had, in impudent defiance, planted the royal standard of Ava, was a mere pretence! The Burmese had far different, and higher objects in view, and those, in the opinion of our authorities at Chittagong, of so practicable a nature, as to induce them to implore reinforcements from Calcutta, to save them from the peril which seemed to await them! that which did save them, as he should shortly shew, was the taking of Rangoon. The occupation of that important place, had been made by some hon. members a ground of censure against the noble lord, in consequence of his having sent the troops thither so near the rainy or sickly season. He would contend, that to the possession of that important post, was owing the delivery of a great portion of Bengal from actual invasion, and the speedier termination of the war; accompanied, as that undertaking was, by our conquest of the island of Cheduba with little loss, by means of which we had it always in our power to keep the enemy in check on those parts of this coast, where his force was likely to be strongest, as in respect of the British possessions. Gentlemen had been pleased to deride the threats of the enemy as bombastic!—their language it was true had been lofty, and arrogant in the extreme, but their threats had not been empty ones! Before our expedition reached Rangoon, the Burmese had poured five thousand men into the British territories! They had destroyed our detachment at Ramoo, where they fortified themselves, being then, he believed, within fifty or sixty miles of Chittagong, evidently waiting for a larger army of fifteen thousand men, known to have been assembled at Arracan for that purpose, under their great General Bundoolah, and with which they threatened Calcutta itself! This threat the learned doctor laughed at in scorn, but what thought the people of Calcutta themselves? Their alarm was not very short of what prevailed in London in the year 1745, when the pretender had approached within 130 or 140 miles miles of the capital. The inhabitants of Calcutta, like sensible men, reasoned upon the degree of military strength which interposed between themselves and the invader, and their wonder was, that he did not immediately follow up his success at Ramoo. This they imputed to his ignorance of their defenceless state. He

should show it to have proceeded from a very different cause, namely, the fall of Rangoon; and nothing was more clear than, that had we not occupied that place as we did, and when we did, we should not have been able to defeat the large armies that were afterwards brought against us, and finally avenge invasion and insult. From these facts he ventured to conclude, that there was nothing in the papers before them, as to the plan of the war, which could justly disentitle the noble lord to the thanks of that court. Taking this for granted, the next question was, had the war been prosecuted with wisdom, and necessary vigour? On this subject he knew that he had to combat with strong feelings. In the progress of the campaign, many of those who heard him had to deplore the loss of some near relation or friend, who had perished on the unhealthy soil of Rangoon and Arracan, which latter might be called the charnel-house of the British force; but however strong their feelings might be on that point, he trusted that the proprietors would divest themselves of the prejudices to which suffering naturally gave rise. He had no connection or acquaintance with Lord Amherst, to whom he had not the honour of being known; he had no feeling of private friendship to consult; he judged only from the papers before him. The main question was, ought Lord Amherst to have dispatched troops to Rangoon so near the approach of the rainy season? In considering, they should bear in mind the situation in which Chittagong, and several other places, he might say the whole of that part of Bengal, stood with respect to the enemy. Had we not made the unexpected diversion towards Rangoon, little doubt existed but that the enemy would have possessed himself of the chief cities of Eastern Bengal, and ravaged our territories; but, by the seizure of Rangoon, the enemy had been completely foiled and counteracted, he being obliged to return from our and our allies' territories, for the protection of his own. Let the court contemplate for a moment the consequences which followed our possession of Rangoon. When the force at Ramoo were preparing to march on Chittagong, a report reached their camp of our expedition against Rangoon. The next account was, and it speedily followed, that we had taken this, the second town in their empire. Forthwith, the troops were withdrawn from the British territories; Assam was opened to our forces; Cassay revolted, and replaced its legitimate sovereign upon the throne; and the 10,000 Burmese, which had invaded Cahar, our confederated frontier, were hastily withdrawn by this haughty monarch, to meet dangers nearer to his home. He wanted them

them to form that army, which, as soon as the season admitted of action, was assembled for the purpose of driving us from Rangoon. Let him that was disposed to think lightly of our success in that quarter, in justice recollect, that this place, which required an army of 50,000 men, for the vain attempt of our dislodgment, was taken by us by surprise, and without the loss of a man. It was true, that great had been the subsequent loss of human life. The authorities in India had, throughout these papers, fairly admitted the extent, and feelingly deplored it. It was, indeed, a painful subject to touch upon, but it must be looked in the face, and like other subjects, be dispassionately met. The gallant general (Sir J. Malcolm) had candidly acknowledged, that if himself had been in Lord Amherst's situation, he was by no means prepared to say that he would not have faced even the rainy season for such a stake as the immediate possession of Rangoon. But suppose that Lord Amherst had deferred the expedition against Rangoon until the following season, let the court weigh the consequence of such delay. The forces, naval and military, which were to rendezvous at the Andamans, and which arrived from Madras and Bombay, so equipped and with such expedition, as shewed those governments to be in the highest order of administration, might not have been able to rendezvous so punctually another season. In the mean time, the Burmese would have continued their desolating marches into Cahar, Cassay, and Assam, and until that period. The 15,000 men, waiting at Arracan to join those at Ramoo, would have penetrated into Bengal. Rangoon would have been fortified and defended by thousands of troops; and though ultimately taken, perhaps after a great sacrifice of life on our side, the season might be too far advanced for us to proceed towards Ava; and a long period of inactivity and an additional campaign must have been the consequence. All this had been averted by the unexpected seizure of Rangoon; melancholy and dear, he admitted, was the purchase. But might not still many more troops have fallen, had the war been protracted; and might it not at last have ended in discomfiture, from an enemy so much better prepared? Ought they not in justice also to deduct from this catalogue of woe, the numbers which must have been sacrificed in the defence of Bengal, had not its invasion been given up? He presumed that no man would contend that we ought quietly to have yielded up those rich countries to the conqueror, and thousands of our subjects, European and native, to Burmese mercy! Let the Governor in Council speak as to the probable cost of their defence,

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who say in a letter, to which he had before alluded, "We could not have defended Chittagong, Tipperah, and Silhet, during the approaching hot weather and the rains, by any amount of force which we could have ventured to station in their noxious and pestilential jungles." The sickness, however, which had proved so fatal, they were assured from the same high authority, after much inquiry, and after the experience of another season, was casual and not local; they state that the same epidemic prevailed that season in Calcutta to a serious degree, and in the following season in Upper India. If this be so, the character given as to the general health of Rangoon might be strictly true. In the instance in question, the sickness, whether casual or local, had been aggravated by the want of fresh provisions. In general, the inhabitants of conquered towns were willing to return after the panic had subsided; but in this case, the whole population had fled, terror-stricken, and nothing could induce them to bring in the produce of their country. Lamenting, as he did, these disastrous losses, he must still contend, that the government of Bengal had no alternative but to lay the Company at the feet of an insolent barbarian, or to encounter, as they had done, the only means of his humiliation. The next campaign the same want of proper food was not felt by the troops; a constant communication was kept open by a vast number of boats, no less than 1,600 of which were in continual passage between Rangoon and Prome, and six months rations in advance were always in dépôt. Yet the man to whose vigilance and foresight these arrangements were owing was now to be condemned, and even disgraced, by the rejection of the vote before the court. Besides the possession of Rangoon, the Company's troops took several places on the coast, and established a line of maritime communication in those seas which, if rightly applied, must give to the Company a powerful command of the trade of Eastern India. These advantages were achieved by men who were said to be lying down sick and inactive during two whole seasons. The Company's troops also took and destroyed, during this period, several important stockades, and struck such terror into the enemy by repeated displays of valour, that that enemy was afraid to look at them with a less force than 50,000 men, with which he endeavoured to regain Rangoon. They did, however, look at them with that force, and were beaten. A second action was fought with no better success, in which they lost their general, Bundoolah. After this they assembled an army of 60,000 foot and 3,000 horse in the neighbourhood of Prome. The Company's troops attacked and defeated that force, and

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struck terror and dismay into the Golden Foot itself. Recourse was now had to treaty, but it was clear that was only to gain time. In the despatches to the Indian government at that period, it was stated, that the Burmese though defeated in all their attempts, were wholly unsubdued in spirit, and still strong in power. It was not until they were again beaten, that the signature of the Burman king was put to a treaty, conceding every thing which we had at first required, but one, and sorry he (Mr. Jackson) was that even that one should have been given up—he alluded to the possession of Rangoon. He had now endeavoured to shew that the war was a just one, that it was necessary, and that it had been conducted with talent. Of the skill and ability with which it had been carried on, the success attending it afforded abundant proof. In ordinary life, the success of any measure was generally received as a proof of the skill employed in its prosecution. Why should not the same test be applied in the case of the noble lord? He had succeeded, and against whom? Against a prince whose power was dreaded in India,—whose arms had struck terror into all the nations surrounding his own, each of which he had in turn subjugated; who had ambassadors at the courts of the native princes, and who took rank among the profound intriguers of the east. This prince, whose fierceness and thirst of blood, and habits of rapine, had rendered him the scourge of every nation through which his armies passed, had, or affected to have, a contempt of British power, so much so, that he threatened to pursue our forces to Calcutta; and calculating on his means of effecting that purpose, he had claimed the chief provinces of Bengal as his own. These dispositions would have made a prince with a much smaller force, extremely formidable. But when it was considered that to these he added a skill in military tactics, which according to the generous confession of our officers, was almost equal to European, and that he could bring an army of one hundred thousand men into the field, a correct notion may be formed of the valour and skill by which he was opposed and defeated. After the court had seriously weighed these matters, unless they could come to the conclusion that all our success was the result of chance—that we had taken the enemy's most important forts by chance—that we had beaten one hundred thousand men by chance—they must, he thought, infer as in all other cases, that success in these great measures, was the result of skill, and if so let him ask how in common justice could they refuse to pass the vote now proposed to them by the Court

of Directors?—(*Cheers.*)—This brought him to the last point taken by his hon. friend, namely, whether the result of the war was likely to prove beneficial to the interests of the East-India Company; whether the advantages to be derived from it, afforded a fair equivalent, or more than an equivalent, for the loss of blood and treasure sustained in their acquisition; in short, whether we had too dearly purchased the safety of our more eastern dominions, from daring and barbarous incursions? It had been said by Mr. Findall, in his minute, that peace with the Burman king would not last longer than his majesty might feel it his interest to observe it. Be it so; let them then examine, if the keeping military possession of the places surrendered to our arms, would secure us against further aggression? It would be recollected, that our district of Chittagong, situated on the upper part of the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal, extended southward down that coast till where the Arracan dominions commenced, which also continued the line of coast, till taken up by the Peguese, whose authority continued along the same coast to its extreme point of Cape Nigris: the whole of this long line of coast, extending from Arracan to the end of the eastern side of the Bay, had been surrendered to us. Between this entire line and the Burman empire, run a continuous chain of mountains, said to be impassable to an army, and these would now become the Burmese boundary. If it should be said, that the sickly season would prevent us from maintaining these advantages, he would remind the court, that the treaty gave them also the islands of Ramree and Cheduba, from which they could observe the coast in question; the latter of which islands, however easily obtained by us, was said, by the Governor in council, to be capable of withstanding the strength of the whole Burmese empire. Assam, Cassay, and Cahar, were restored to freedom; and while we could maintain the formidable positions which he had mentioned, it was thought unlikely that they would be again invaded. We had besides ceded to us the ports of Tavai and Mergui, on the Siam coast, which completed a line of maritime stations in the eastern seas, including Malacca, for which we had wisely given Sumatra in exchange, and our rising favourite settlement of Singapore, which must eventually let us in to that trade in those seas, which we had so long coveted. Besides these advantages, the Company had obtained a considerable sum of money, as a part of our indemnification for the expenses of the war. Of the application of that sum he would not speak, because he was addressing himself to men who had well considered the immense sacrifices which had

had been made by their brave troops during the war, and who, he was sure, must have anticipated him in every generous wish towards them. He did not covet that sum for their own coffers—a higher and a nobler use, he thought, might be made of it; to themselves it would be but little, to those to whom he alluded it would be much. Was it in the least disparaging to their brave army, or inconsistent with their gallant bearing, if, after two years of suffering and privations, of no ordinary description, they had indulged in the soldiers' sanguine calculations, of what might fall to their share as lawful prize of war? Could he then give a higher instance of honourable obedience to military discipline, or did military history afford a brighter, than that of an army, flushed with such hopes, and big with such expectations, should, when within a few short marches, when almost within sight of that city, which had so long filled their imaginations, whose temples were said to be filled with golden images, and their palaces with golden ornaments, halt at the word of their commander, and sacrifice, without a murmur, all other feelings to their renown as a military body? No trace was to be found throughout the papers, of the slightest expression of discontent; they confided in their illustrious general—they knew his affection for his army; but they knew also the state interests with which he was entrusted, and his determination to consult them; they knew that in his hands their honour was safe, and were equally confident that their personal interests would ever find feeling and considerate guardians in the Directors of the East-India Company. It was not among the best brilliant traits of Sir Archibald Campbell's own career, that he had the fortitude to circumscribe his military glory, and to become a pacificator, when the almost certainty of unconditional conquest was within his reach. But the merits of their army needed no advocacy from him in that court, but he had been unable to resist the impulse of paying the humble tribute of his applause to men who had so eminently united bravery with discipline. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) His hon. friend, who had moved the amendment, had objected to the present vote, because there was not sufficient information on the subject before the court. On a former occasion he (Mr. Jackson) had thought, that before the court agreed to pass a censure on Lord Amherst, they ought to have full information on the whole details of the war. Since then, the papers conveying that information had been laid before the proprietors. Those papers comprised several folio volumes, yet his hon. friend complained of not having sufficient information. (*Hear! and laughter.*) It

was well remarked by the hon. and gallant general opposite (Sir J. Malcolm), that if there were no evidence, there could be no ground for founding a vote, disapproving of the conduct of Lord Amherst in the affair of Barrackpore. Here then was the inconsistency of his hon. friend (Mr. Hume): he refused his assent to a vote of thanks where every information was open to him; and he wished to pass a censure on a subject, where he possessed no document to guide his judgment, for not one had been laid before them respecting the meeting at Barrackpore. It was stated by the gallant general (Sir J. Malcolm), that it was not necessary, in the course of military proceedings, that Lord Amherst should have been informed of the conduct pursued towards the mutineers, and his lordship's being near the scene of those transactions made no difference. Whether he were near or far off, it was more than probable that Sir E. Paget would have adopted the same course; and in his (Mr. Jackson's) opinion, derived from correspondence with Calcutta, the course which that gallant officer did adopt was one of fatal necessity! (*Hear, hear!*) Now he would say, that if any gentleman declined to vote affirmatively on the question before the court, respecting which he had all necessary information, but, won by the speech of his hon. friend, should vote negatively on account of the affair at Barrackpore, regarding which he had no information, such a proprietor would be dealing most unjustly by Lord Amherst, who had not yet been heard upon that subject. (*Cheers.*) Another objection against Lord Amherst, and one upon which his hon. friend grounded his amendment, was that he had violated a law of his country, by engaging in a war without the previous instructions of the Court of Directors, and that for the purpose of extending the Company's territories. He would admit that a law existed, by which Governors-general were prohibited from making war or from extending the British possessions in India without orders from home. And yet these things were done year after year, and their Governors had been upheld by the state, and rewarded for so doing—and why? Because year after year had compelled us to the alternative of so doing, or submitting our necks to the yoke of haughty and sanguinary rival sovereigns. But the clause of the statute contained an exception, which Lord Amherst's case was precisely within; that exception ran as follows: *viz.* "Except where hostilities had actually been commenced, or preparations actually made for the commencement of hostilities against the British nation in India, or against some of the princes or states dependent thereon."

There was scarcely a member of this exceptive clause which did not apply to the Burmese war; it was enough, however, to state, that when our messenger repaired to Arracan to present our remonstrance against the seizure of Shapoorce, he obtained information that an army of 15,000 men was then preparing for the invasion of Bengal; and long before a despatch could have reached this country, and an answer have been obtained, 5,000 men were actually at Ramoo! Aggressions of the grossest kind had been committed against the British territories! Lord Amherst had successfully repelled those aggressions! In so doing he had vindicated the honour of the British name! He had defended the best interests of his employers, and effectually humbled the pride of an arrogant, daring, and ambitious enemy! (*Cheers.*) Viewing the whole of these circumstances, he would give his vote for the motion; and never in his life did he give a vote more cordially or more conscientiously. (*Cheers.*)

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, that as his hon. friend (Mr. Hume) had been obliged to leave the court to attend to his duties elsewhere, and as he had requested him to reply on his behalf to such objections as might be made to his arguments, he begged to make a few remarks on what had fallen from some hon. members who had preceded him.

A *Proprietor* here observed that this course would be quite irregular. The gallant colonel might address the court on his own behalf, but he conceived it would be wholly out of order to allow him to reply on the part of an absent member.

The *Chairman* said that there was no precedent that he was aware of for allowing any proprietor to speak by deputy, and it would be a very bad one to establish. Besides, the reply, as from the mover of the amendment, would suppose the closing of the debate. But there were, he supposed, several members who were yet anxious to deliver their opinions. (*Hear, hear!*)

Col. *Stanhope* contended that he had a right to reply, on the part of his absent friend, to any remarks which had been made on his speech.

Mr. *S. Dixon* said that the gallant colonel would be irregular in giving the reply on the part of another, but he might make any remark as his own speech.

Col. *Stanhope* then proceeded. He would first reply to some of the observations made by the gallant general (Sir J. Malcolm). That gallant officer had said that we had it not in our power to prevent the aggressions of the Mughls, but that the Burmese had.

Sir *J. Malcolm* denied that he had made use of any such observation.

Col. *Stanhope* proceeded. The gallant general had said that his hon. friend (Mr. Hume) had attributed the war to the protection of the refugee Mughls. What his hon. friend had said was, that we might have protected the Mughls, but that we should not have gone to war for such trifling aggressions as those of the Burmese. It had been said that Lord Minto had pursued a similar course. He denied that assertion. The policy of Lord Minto, as well as Lord Hastings, had been not to mix in the concerns of those powers. The gallant general had declared that he would not assert that the rainy season might not be a proper time for the commencement of operations at Rangoon. What! the rainy season a proper one for sending troops to that unhealthy climate! Surely the gallant general must have taken leave of his usual good sense when he made the assertion. (*Hear, hear!*) The gallant officer had contended that there was evidence on which thanks to Lord Amherst might be founded, as to the origin and progress of the Burmese war, but that there was none on which he could be condemned with respect to the affair of Barrackpore. But why had they no information on that subject? It might be very true that particular circumstances might require great promptitude of exertion, but then after months and months had passed away, was it unreasonable to demand that some information should be given on a subject of so much importance to the service in India? The gallant officer recommended secrecy with respect to these proceedings, and he instanced the case in which he, having been engaged in a commission of inquiry after the mutiny at Vellore, had recommended secrecy, and a discontinuance of further proceedings to the Company. He (Col. Stanhope) had no doubt of the fact, yet he remembered that notwithstanding his love for secrecy, he had written a pamphlet, and a very good one too, on that subject. Having thus answered the gallant officer's facts, he would now come to some of the statements made by the learned gentleman, and he regretted that hon. gentlemen in discussing a question of this importance, should make long speeches enough to set one to sleep, instead of adhering to facts. The learned gentleman had told them, that according to the law of nations, the island of Shapoorce being our territory, we were justified in going to war for its invasion. He would tell the learned gentleman that if the Company went to war as some people went to law—for trifles, they would never cease to be engaged in hostilities. — (*Laughter.*)—The learned gentleman had told them of the preparations that had been made to invade Bengal, and to take possession of Calcutta. The idea was absolutely

lutely ridiculous, and none but a lawyer would have thought of it. (*Laughter.*) He had said the Burmese army was ready to move on Calcutta, which it might reach in fourteen days. The distance was only seven hundred miles, and the learned gentleman must have supposed that, to get over it in that time, the troops would move as rapidly as his own tongue. (*Laughter.*) He must say, without meaning any personal offence to the learned gentleman, that to talk of the Burmese seizing the four cities of Bengal, and coming up to Calcutta, was quite absurd and ridiculous. Having replied to the learned gentleman's facts, he would now go over the whole campaign. (*Laughter.*) He freely admitted, that in the progress of that campaign, great praise was due to the army, not less for the patience with which they endured the diseases to which they were exposed in the swamps, than for their bravery in the field. (*Hear, hear!*) But from this praise he most certainly would except the Governor-general. It appeared to him, that the court never seemed disposed to offer a vote of thanks to their government, except when it did something very absurd. To talk of a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst for commencing and carrying on the Burmese war, reminded him of what had been once said of the Walcheren expedition—that it had been wisely planned, and ably conducted. (*Hear, hear!*) This war of Lord Amherst had cost the Company ten millions of money, which was as much, or more, than had been expended in the two campaigns conducted by the Duke of Marlborough. As to the cause of the war itself, he contended that that which had been shown, would not justify it. Real danger to the Company's possessions could alone sanction the policy of a war—not such danger as the learned gentleman apprehended in the invasion of Calcutta, but danger from the aggression of a force calculated to disturb the peace of our territories. As to the attack on our subjects in the island of Shapoorie, a few men would have been sufficient to repress it. But a mere incursion beyond our frontier-line could not be prevented, as we could not in such an extensive frontier keep up a police or military force sufficient for that purpose. But after all, the main question was, as to whether it was politic to attempt the conquest of the Birman empire, and to detach from it Pegu, Arracan, and Assam. One observation here naturally suggested itself: it was, that Governors-general of India, and their ministers, had, at all times, a direct interest in carrying on a war. (*Cries of "No, no."*) He maintained, they had. A thousand circumstances contributed to make a war profitable to persons high in office in India. He would even add, that the hon. gentlemen within

the bar (the Directors) had also a direct interest in a war, as it always increased their patronage; but the great body of the proprietors had no such interest. Whatever sum might be spent in a war, the amount of their dividends was in general the same; but, nevertheless, they should be cautious of giving their approbation to military excursions not called for by absolute necessity. But when wars were commenced, it was the duty of that court to withhold their approval of them, unless they were carried on with ability. Now looking at the different places in which the Company's troops were engaged, he did not conceive that any merit was due to the Governor-general, on account of the manner in which they were provided. From one place they were obliged to retreat through a want of provisions; from another, through want of other necessary supplies. As to Rangoon, if it were found necessary to make a diversion in that quarter, he would have had no objection that Lord Amherst should have been sent thither—but whatever might have been the importance of the possession of Rangoon, surely, troops ought not to have been sent there in the rainy season. He was astonished to hear any man of experience defend such a course.

Sir John Malcolm in explanation observed, that what he had said was, that independently of the contest arising from the disputed possession of Shapoorie, such was the disposition of the Burmese, that sooner or later a war must ensue. As to not possessing information, all he had said was, that not having read all of the documents before the court, he was disposed to confide in the recommendation of the Directors, who had full information on the subject, and upon their proposal he fully concurred in the vote of thanks.

Col. Stanhope said, that "sooner or later" were sweeping terms, which might embrace any period, however distant.

Sir John Sewell said that the vote submitted to the court not having come recommended by the unanimous vote of the directors, he could not help inferring that the want of that unanimity arose from a doubt as to the justice of the war. Upon that point he too had his doubts, or rather he might say, that he had no doubt that the war was commenced without necessity. His learned friend (Mr. R. Jackson) had told them that he read through the thirteen folio volumes of papers on this subject.

Mr. R. Jackson.—"I did not say I read the whole of the thirteen volumes; I only said that I endeavoured to make myself acquainted with the general subject of their contents."

Sir J. Sewell continued.—He had devoted all the hours of one day, and was not able to get through the contents of one

one volume; he was not therefore ashamed to say, that he was not acquainted with the contents of the whole thirteen. However, he believed that he did know enough to justify him, and that the court knew enough to justify them, in refusing a vote of thanks to the Governor-general of India, on this occasion.—(*Hear!*) The first point to be taken into consideration was, the justice of the war. Upon this subject there were two letters of the Governor-general, the first dated the 21st of November 1823, and the second dated the 2d of November 1825. In this second letter the Governor-general made a great parade of the intentions of the Burmese to carry on a war within the British territories, as if he sought a justification of his measures from that cause. But in the first letter, the only causes mentioned were, first, the molestation of the elephant hunters, and next, the dispute about the little island of Shapooree. His learned friend (Mr. Jackson) had said that this island had been proved indisputably to belong to the Company. He concurred with him in believing, that if that fact could be clearly established, we would be justified in asserting, by force of arms, our right to its possession. He agreed, that if we expected to be attacked, we were not bound to wait until the attack was actually made. The same principle applied to nations. According to national law, the evident intention of immediate attack on one side, was sufficient to justify aggression on the other, even before the attack was actually commenced. Now let the court inquire into what was the state of the case, with respect to the island of Shapooree. It was said to be contiguous to our territories, separated from it on one side by a narrow stream, while the river divided it on the other from that of the Burmese. There was, it appeared, water at both sides, as of course there must, as it was an island; but the difference between our side and that of the Burmese was, that at the former the water was fordable, but at the latter it was not, and the deep water was alleged to be the territorial boundary between the two states. In a dispute of that kind he thought it would not have been very difficult to appoint commissioners of inquiry at both sides, with the power to decide. That at least ought to have been attempted, before the Company was involved in a war. It was, he supposed, assumed, that because the island happened to be within the British boundary line, that therefore the possession necessarily rested in us. This he thought was assuming too much. It was begging the whole question at once, for it was well known that territorial possessions belonging to one power, might be situate within the dominions, though not subject to the jurisdiction of another, and

this was seen every day. Mere juxta position, then, did not constitute a right to possession. What other claim had the Company alleged? This island was said to have been in our possession since 1790; we had had it measured, and had granted a lease of it. The lease it appeared had been granted in 1801—no very remote antiquity for the claim of ancient title. He believed that our possession of Chittagong itself, would be found to be within the memory of man. As our sovereignty over the island of Shapooree was of so recent a date, it was to be expected that a lease of it would particularly set forth its situation and boundary. On looking over the lease, however, he found that it was not a specific lease of that island, but that it had been let along with a piece of adjacent land; that it had been nominally included in the lease, without any consideration having been given for it. It was added, that it was measured by order of the Indian government, in 1801, with a view to the collection of revenue; but he had seen a statement in which it was positively asserted, that the person by whom the measurement was said to have been made had never set a rod on the island. With respect to the lease, it was clear, that the island could not have been let with a view to cultivation, as it appeared that the only use made of it, was the driving over on it, from the main land, a few animals, for the purpose of the rank forage which it afforded. The Mughs were in the habit of driving over their buffaloes to pasture there in the day, but they never remained on the island during the night, either from a fear of disease, or from dread of being attacked by the Burmese. If the latter cause prevented them, it would afford a tolerably fair presumption, that the Burmese had never quietly acquiesced in our possession of the island, or in the use and occupation of it by the Mughs. From the papers before the court he found, that in 1822 the Burmese had built two or three houses on the island, which the British force got orders to destroy, and they were accordingly pulled down. This afforded an additional proof, that our title was not an undisputed one up to that period. In the year 1813, it appeared that there were individuals of the Mugh nation on the island; and when questioned as to the right they had to be there, they answered, that their fathers had obtained a lease of it from one of the Company's officers, in the year 1790. Now, if this were a fact, nothing could be more easily proved. If a grant had been made, it might have been very easily shewn by the records of the transaction, and the date would have been put, beyond a doubt. But, would it not seem somewhat strange, that if a lease were granted in 1790, under which parties claimed in 1813, that a new lease should have

have been granted in 1801? If this were so, it would prove that the public business in the district of Chittagong must have been conducted in a very careless and slovenly manner. From what he had already said, he thought it was quite conclusive, that the Burmese had never admitted the right to the island to have belonged to the Company; for, if they had thought so, it was natural to suppose that they would not have erected buildings on it. He thought it was also very sufficiently proved by the papers, that at first the Governor-general, Lord Amherst, did not believe that the island constituted an infeasible portion of British territory. If we possessed an infeasible right to it, the principle of the law of nations would be equally applicable, whether the island comprised one thousand acres, or only one; for, if a nation tamely yielded to unjust aggression one acre of its lawful possessions, it would well deserve to lose the whole. However small or insignificant the island of Shapoorree might be, if it constituted an infeasible portion of the British territory, it was as much ours as Dover Castle or the Isle of Wight, and we were equally bound to defend it. But what said the Governor-general, and what was his opinion, as to this infeasible right? Why, he at first proposed that the dispute about the possession should be referred to two persons, one to be appointed by each power. But why should Lord Amherst have adopted this course; why submit it to arbitration? If he thought that the island was an infeasible portion of territory, he had no right to submit the claim of a foreign power respecting it to arbitration. He was bound by his oath, he was bound by his regard for the honour of the British flag, to resist with immediate and open force such a claim, if it were asserted by arms. To talk then of arbitration, in this case, was a dereliction of duty, unless indeed the noble lord had a doubt as to our right of possession; and if he did entertain such doubt, he ought not to have involved the Company in a war, upon a point which might have been settled in an amicable manner. But in the same letter in which this opinion of Lord Amherst was recorded, he found, that at the very time he was offering the subject to arbitration of two persons, he had given private instructions to the magistrate at Chittagong not to allow the place to be given up. This shewed that he was not sincere at bottom in proposing the arbitration, a conduct wholly unworthy an officer of his high station—thus to promise, what it clearly was not his intention to fulfil. (*Hear, hear!*) Such conduct, if there were nothing else to be objected to the noble lord, was in his opinion quite sufficient to warrant hon. gentlemen in withholding their assent to the vote of thanks to his lordship.

He did hope that that court would not suffer it to be entered amongst its records, and to go forth to the world, that it had sanctioned by a vote of thanks such shuffling policy as that of the noble lord towards the Burmese, in the early stage of this affair; policy which, when exposed to the world, would no doubt lessen that character for sincerity and good faith, which the British name had hitherto borne. (*Hear, hear!*) But it seemed to have been set up as a kind of justification of his lordship's course, that this little island of Shapoorree was neutral ground—that it was a kind of “no man's land,” not belonging to the Burmese, or to the British, but frequently used in common by both. This was a mode of defence of which those who adopted it ought to be ashamed—but such as it was, he would examine how far it went. It appeared by the papers, that Mr. Lee Warner stated in 1821 that this island was what was denominated a *chur*, which meant a piece of neutral ground. Was it not somewhat singular that that should have been described as neutral ground in 1821, which it was said had been claimed by the Company as far back as the year 1790—which had been measured and let out on lease by the Company?

Dr. Güchrist, here observed that the word *chur* literally meant an island! (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Sir J. Sewell said, perhaps it might be so, but as he had read the papers, it appeared to him that neutral ground was meant: however, he would not positively say, as he had read over the papers in haste and might have been mistaken. In this declaration of war, he (Sir J. Sewell) would contend that the noble lord had directly violated an act of parliament for regulating the conduct of Governors-general of India. He contended, that the noble lord acted in direct hostility to the spirit of that act—for even admitting the shooting of a seaman belonging to us to have been an act of aggression which would justify a war, still there was sufficient time between that period and the actual declaration of war to have communicated with the Board of Control, and got its advice as to the course it might be advisable to adopt. It was well known that for a long time before the breaking out of hostilities, there existed differences with the Burmese, as to the possession of the island of Shapoorree.

The *Chairman*.—Lord Amherst was not in India at the period of those differences.

Sir J. Sewell continued.—That might be so, but when he went out, he must have heard something of those disputes, and should have made representations on the subject to the government here, before he proceeded to a declaration of open war. The great difference in the tone of the noble

noble lord's two letters to which he had before alluded, shewed, that at first there was not that cause of hostility, the existence of which the noble lord was in his second letter so anxious to impress on the Court of Directors. It was stated in one of the papers before the court, that Captain Pechell had had some negotiations with the Burmese, and he (Sir J. Sewell) would like to know what was the nature of those negotiations, and whether they referred to the particular matters on which the war had afterwards been declared. Taking the whole of the circumstances into consideration; seeing, that the right to the island of Shapoorree was not indisputably proved to be vested in the Company, and upon the establishment of such proof the whole question of the justice of the war turned; he could not conscientiously vote for thanks being given to the noble lord, when those who brought forward that motion, had failed to prove the justice or necessity of the proceedings on which it was founded.

Mr. R. Jackson, in explanation, begged to say, that the argument of the Company's right to the possession of Shapoorree was taken from the admission of the Burmese themselves. They had admitted that Shapoorree was always considered an appendage to the four great cities of Bengal, and those places having been ceded by the Rajah of Arracan, it followed that the Company, to whom the cession was made, had the same right to the island, as was admitted to have been vested in the Rajah.

Mr. Trant said, that the learned judge (Sir J. Sewell) was mistaken in supposing that the word *char* meant a neutral ground; it meant a bank of sand, which had become an island. The learned gent. had asked, when the case of this island was made the subject of discussion in 1809, it was not then proved that the Company's title was clear, and how had it happened that if it was let out on lease by the Company at one period, it should have so soon after been again let out? Now he begged to answer, that the Company's title was not disputed at that time. As to the second question, he would say, that the parties to whom the first lease had been given, not thinking the place worth the trouble of cultivation, neglected it, and it then became occupied by persons who had no right to it. The Company therefore sought to resume its possession, and sent a party of sepoys thither; these were attacked, and most of them killed, by the Burmese troops. Here was bloodshed, and some of the Company's servants put to death. Was not the Company bound, under such circumstances, to assert its honour, and resent the insult offered? In fact, it was impossible to decline coming to hostilities, unless the Company were prepared to yield all Bengal; for the king of Burmah

demand the whole of Bengal as his, and the island of Shapoorree as a part of it. Such was the insolence of the Burmese, that if Lord Amherst was to blame for any thing, it was for being too gentle towards them in the first instance. If they had not been resisted on that occasion, it would soon have been necessary to do so on some other point; for it evidently was their intention to pick a quarrel with us. He had read all the papers, and he thought they fully bore out the motion before the court.—*(Hear, hear!)*

Sir John Sewell, in explanation, said that it was in 1813 that two men were on the island of Shapoorree, which they claimed in right of a lease made to their fathers by an agent of the Company in 1790. It was, he repeated, strange that if such a lease had been made at that period, no better evidence could have been given than the evidence of those two men.

Mr. Rigby thought that the course pursued by the hon. gentlemen who opposed the motion of thanks before the court, was extremely singular. It was strange they should seek to attack the character of Lord Amherst, who now occupied so large a space in the eye of Europe, and upon such grounds as they had chosen. Some of those charges rested upon direct misconstruction, and others upon arguments and assumptions of facts wholly groundless. He did expect that if the noble lord were to be opposed in that court, something more substantial than any thing he had yet heard would have been urged against him; instead of which he had heard nothing that could warrant any honourable person in withholding his assent to the motion before them. He had read the papers, and he thought that they fully justified the statement made by the hon. chairman, and the resolution submitted. Could it be denied that the blood of the native subjects of the Company had been shed—that the Company's property had been attacked and their territory invaded? Yet after this, which would have justified an immediate recourse to hostilities, the noble lord preferred to arrange the affair, if possible, in an amicable manner. It would be seen in his letter, that at first a kind of reprimand was sent to the officer of the district, for having made too much of the affair. What was his next course? He named several officers, Captains Canning, Scott, and others (some of whom had been on missions to Ava, and all of them men of considerable skill and experience), as commissioners, to settle the matter, if practicable, by arbitration. What was the result? So far from coming to any terms of agreement, the Burmese government threatened that they would take possession of Dacca, and the other chief places of Bengal; that they would pursue the British as far as Calcutta, and that after this they would march

march to England. (*Laughter.*) These were the very words used in the paper before the court. It was clear, as has been said, that they could not know the power of the Company, which they affected so much to despise, and that it was necessary to teach them what the strength of that Company was. The noble lord had done so; he had successfully repulsed those arrogant invaders, defeated them on their own territories, and compelled them to sue for peace. And yet after this, they were told by an hon. member (Mr. Hume) that the noble lord deserved as little credit for putting an end to that war as that man should, who had scattered firebrands about, and afterwards assisted in extinguishing the conflagration! From all that he had seen of the papers, and he had gone through a great portion of them, with considerable attention, it appeared to him to be clearly established, that the noble lord had throughout conducted himself as a wise and able statesman, acting with the most cautious prudence before hostilities had commenced, but with promptitude and decision after they were unavoidable. (*Hear, hear!*) An hon. proprietor had regretted the absence of Sir Thomas Munro on the present occasion. If he joined in that regret, he must at the same time congratulate the court at the presence of another officer (Sir J. Malcolm,) who was a host in himself, and whose observations on the question before them were most important. He trusted that the court would strip this question of the casuistry in which some of the proprietors had attempted to involve it; and that if there should not be an unanimous vote, their decision would shew that the great majority of the proprietors had viewed it in its proper light. He would not waste the time of the court by entering at any length into another ground of attack which had been made on Lord Amherst, namely, that he was a man wholly unfit for the high office which he held. The court, on a former occasion, had, he conceived, come to a very proper judgment on that subject; and the successful career of the noble lord since then fully attested the wisdom of that decision. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. S. Dixon said, that in the experience of a long life, he had never witnessed an afternoon so improperly spent in special pleading, as that of which they were now nearly at the conclusion. The question before the court was, whether thanks should be given to Lord Amherst? That nobleman had gone out to India in 1823, and yet hon. gentlemen, in reviewing his conduct since then, had felt it necessary to go into matters which had occurred in India years ago, and with which the government of Lord Amherst had nothing to do. (*Hear, hear!*) One gen-

tleman had told them a very long story about a lease of this island of Shapoorce which had been given to two Mughls (*Laughter*), but he forgot to say (and it was rather surprising, since he was so very minute in other particulars) whether it was for seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years, (*Hear, hear!*) or to tell them whether the Mughls, if they got a lease could read it. (*Hear, hear!*) But in sober seriousness, all this talk about this little island or sandbank was quite beside the question, which really was, could Lord Amherst, circumstanced as India was when he went out, have avoided going to war? It was well known that, long before then, the name of the Burmese had spread terror among several of the native powers of India. Their ambitious desire to encroach on our territories was also well known; and there was no doubt, if we had given way to those encroachments, it would have been generally believed in India that we had done so, not from any sense of the justice of the Burman cause, but from a fear of their arms. (*Hear, hear!*) The Burmese had arrived at that pitch of arrogance, that either we must have put them down, or they would have inevitably invaded our territories. (*Hear, hear!*) From all he had heard and read, it was his firm conviction that the war on the part of the Company had been unavoidable; that it had been conducted with great skill, and brought to a successful conclusion: and in that conviction he would give his hearty assent to the vote of thanks. (*Hear, hear!*)

Sir Charles Forbes said, it would have been his anxious wish that the present vote should pass with unanimity; yet he felt himself, though with regret, bound to oppose it. He had done every thing in his power to make himself acquainted with the subject, and from all the information he derived from the papers laid on the table, and from other sources, he felt himself bound to withhold his approbation, from the conduct of Lord Amherst in commencing the Burmese war, and on other points connected with his administration. He was not aware of any circumstance which could induce him to think that that war had been just, necessary, and unavoidable. If the Burmese were the wild barbarians which they had been described to be, their petty incursions were not worthy of our notice, at least that kind of notice which we had taken, nor had they ever deserved the importance which the Indian government attached to them. If a gentleman was met by a blackguard and insulted by him in the street, would it be thought that he asserted his honour properly by entering into a ruffian contest with him on the spot? Undoubtedly he would not. He did not mean to say that a man should

not oppose force by force, but having exerted sufficient force to repel the insult, the contest ought not to have been carried further. The hon. Chairman had expressed a hope that the resolution should be passed unanimously. But he appeared to put out of his view that this same resolution had not passed with unanimity among the Directors themselves. If the Court of Directors could not bring themselves to an unanimous vote, it was too much to expect such unanimity from the Court of Proprietors, where the same information was not possessed, where not two men had been able to go through the documents presented to their inspection. He much regretted that the information which had been asked on this subject last year, and which was now in the possession of the court, had not been printed; the expense, no doubt, might have been considerable, but the advantage would have been more than commensurate. He knew, however, that those papers relating to the Burmese war could not be long kept from the view of the public. They must be laid before the House of Commons, and he was convinced that no minister would rise and move a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst and his army, without first moving that those papers be printed. He regretted much that such an important event as the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the proceedings consequent on it, should be buried in oblivion without any inquiry being instituted. That was not the way to conciliate our Indian native subjects. Suppose such a circumstance as a mutiny amongst our troops occurred in this country, and that that mutiny was resisted with immediate force, and that 500 of our fellow subjects fell by the bullets of their white comrades, what would be said in the House of Commons, if when an inquiry was demanded, it should be met by observations of this kind—"For God's sake, do not look at the case—do not inquire farther or you may discover that the unfortunate men were driven to the course they had taken."—There was he believed no instance of a mutiny in this country, which had not been provoked by some sort of ill-treatment, to the redress of which, that mutiny ultimately led. (*Hear!*) Let the court see how the case stood with respect to the regiments which had mutinied at Barrackpore. It was truly said, that they had marched a thousand miles in order to be embarked for Rangoon, and in the whole of that march not a single instance of desertion took place. But then they had marched with all the comforts usually allowed to soldiers on march in India, that was with a sufficient number of coolies and bullocks to carry their baggage. When ordered to march from Barrackpore, the same accommodations were not afforded. Coolies and cattle were not supplied, and

the men had no prospect but of submitting to carry their own cooking utensils, which among men of high caste was always considered a disgrace. Government would not furnish them with bullocks, but it allowed them a certain sum to supply themselves, and such was the scarcity of cattle in the market, that the sum was found insufficient. They could not get the cattle and they refused to march. He entreated the court not to sanction principles, which would declare that they did not dispense even handed justice towards their subjects. The cheapest way to govern our Indian subjects would be to establish an empire in their hearts, and raise them from their present state of degradation; for the more they were elevated towards our level, the more ready would be their obedience to that government, the benefits of which they had begun to enjoy. (*Hear!*) He would most cordially assent to votes of thanks recognizing the skill and ability of our officers, and the bravery and admirable discipline of our troops. Upon this subject he could not avoid making one remark on what had fallen from an hon. gent. who had preceded him. That learned gent. (Mr. R. Jackson) had said that he would give the money which we had acquired by the war to the troops. He (Sir C. Forbes) would also consent, whether it was half a crore or a crore of rupees that should be shared amongst the troops, but not for the reasons assigned by that learned gent.,—not because they had not disobeyed the orders of their officers and marched back to plunder the temples of Ava. He could scarcely believe his ears when he heard the learned gent. urge as a reason for rewarding the troops that they had not turned traitors. With respect to the officers, he was sorry to find that while Lord Amherst and others had been selected for honours and rewards, the name of Sir Archibald Campbell, who commanded the army sent against the Burmese, had been passed over. He did not mean to dispute his Majesty's right to exercise his prerogative in conferring honours; but he did hope that those meritorious individuals whose conduct had already entitled them to distinction, would not be ultimately forgotten. On the subject of Lord Amherst's promotion in the peerage, he must regret the extremely bad taste of his friends in this country who had advised the connection of his new title (Earl Amherst of Arracan) with the name of a place which had become the charnel-house of his countrymen. He really was astonished when he had read that title in the gazette.

Dr. Gilchrist complained that it was hard upon individuals to have want of intelligence and understanding attributed to them, because they were not able to comprehend the vast mass of papers which had been submitted to their inspection. (*Cries of "Spoke, spoke!"*) The learned gentleman

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man then proceeded to restate some of his former remarks on that point, amidst considerable interruption.

A *Proprietor* remarked, this is not explanation but argument.

The *Chairman*. "I much doubt whether it is either, (*Hear, hear!*) it certainly is out of order."

Dr. *Gilchrist* begged that the *Chairman* would repeat his decision if he had given any, as to whether he was out of order, for he had not heard him.

The *Chairman* said, that if no other proprietor chose to address the court, he would now put the question.

Col. *Stanhope* suggested, that as the court was then so thin, and as there were, he believed, twelve of the directors absent (and from their absence on this occasion it was fair to infer their hostility to the motion before the court) it would be better to defer the further consideration of this question till to-morrow. (Cries of "Go on!" "go on!" and "question!")

The amendment was now put from the chair and negatived by a considerable majority.

The original resolution was again read.

On its being put from the chair,

Mr. *Pattison* said, "from the observations of the gallant Colonel and other hon. members, there seems to me to be an impression that the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst was not carried in the Court of Directors by any large majority. In order to correct such a mistake, I beg to assure the court that the majority in favour of the motion now before them, was, among the directors, very considerable."

The question was again put from the chair, when

Col. *Stanhope* proposed to move an amendment.

The *Chairman*. "The court must be aware that I cannot now receive any motion by way of amendment which would have the effect of displacing any part of the resolution in my hand, and substituting other and contradictory words, for by the decision which the court has just come to, it has affirmed, 'that the original motion shall stand part of the question.' The court may negative the whole if it thinks proper when put as the main question, but any amendment that is proposed, must be by way of addition to but not subversive of what the Court have recently determined shall be the main question."

Col. *Stanhope* then moved the following by way of addition to the original motion.

Resolved.—"That the thanks of this meeting are due to Lord Amherst for having terminated the Burmese war, a war wantonly entered into, and contrary to an act of parliament, by which all augmentation of territory, and every act of war against an Indian prince, except for self-defence, in the case of actual

hostilities, is declared to be contrary to the interests, and injurious to the honour of the British nation, a war which had been ill-planned and supported, and which, by extending our frontier and connexions, had added to our danger; which would increase the burdens of the people of India, and thereby injure their agriculture, their commerce, and their resources! and which must ultimately hurt the trade and swell the national debt of Great Britain."

The *Chairman* added, that this was a repetition of the original amendment on which the court had already decided.

Mr. *Pattison*. "The addition now proposed would make a direct contradiction to the motion which the court had decided should stand part of the question. To cement the two in one resolution would be about as consistent as to say that it is dark because the sun shines. (*Hear, hear!*) The addition would have the effect of thanking Lord Amherst in one part of the resolution, and condemning him in another. In my opinion it ought not for a moment to be listened to."

Mr. *Wigram*. "I think if the gallant Colonel will consider for a moment, he will perceive that what he now proposes is not, properly speaking, an addition to the resolution before the court, but a new motion, and that to adopt the second would be a decided contradiction to the first. I hope, therefore, the gallant Colonel will see the propriety of withdrawing it."

After some further discussion, it appearing to be the opinion of the court that the amendment should not be put,

The *Chairman* declined to receive it, and put the original motion, which was carried in the affirmative with only five dissentient votes.

The resolutions of thanks to Sir Thos. Munro, Sir A. Campbell and the other officers of the army engaged in the Burmese war, were then put *serialim* and carried unanimously.

On the vote of thanks to the non-commissioned officers and privates of the army,

Col. *Lushington* said, "Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the policy of the war, there can be none as regards the conduct of the officers and troops engaged in it. Their gallantry and ardour on every occasion when they came in contact with the enemy however great the disparity in number, their zeal and devotion to the service in a distant, unhealthy and difficult country, their unwearied perseverance under severe privations; their patient endurance of sickness, and the cheerfulness and alacrity with which the most fatiguing duties were performed, offered abundant cause for admiration, while the benefits that have been derived to the national interests by

their noble exertions, entitle them to the highest commendation.

"It is with no common feelings of pride and satisfaction that I ask the indulgence of the court while I read a short paragraph from the governor-general's orders of the 11th April last.

"To the native troops of the hon. East-India Company, who have so often successfully emulated their European comrades in arms, the highest meed of approbation and applause is not more cheerfully accorded than it has been honorably won. The Madras sepoy regiments destined for the expedition to Ava, obeyed with admirable alacrity and zeal the call for their services in a foreign land involving them in many heavy sacrifices and privations. This devotion to their government reflects the highest credit on the character of the Coast army, not more honorable to themselves than it is doubtless gratifying to the government of Fort St. George, as affording an unequivocal proof of the sentiments of gratitude and attachment with which that army acknowledges the paternal anxiety and care that ever watches over and consults its best interests and welfare. The detachment of the Bengal native troops employed in Ava, consisting of a portion of the governor-general's body guard, commanded by Capt. Sneyd, and detachments of native artillery, have been animated throughout by the noblest spirit of gallantry and zeal, the former more especially are, in a peculiar degree, entitled to the warmest thanks of the Supreme Government for their voluntary offer of service beyond sea, and for their distinguished conduct in the field, under their native as well as European officers."

"It will, I am certain, be as gratifying to this court to hear, as it is to me to assert it, without fear of contradiction, that the devotion of the Madras army to the public service has never shone more conspicuously than during the Burmese war. Every branch of the Service vied with each other in enthusiasm and zeal. Every successive regiment that was ordered for embarkation considered it as the highest honour that could have been conferred upon them, to be selected for foreign service, not a dissenting voice was heard, all were eager to acquire fame and add to the good name of their corps, and no regret was felt but by those who, from age or infirmity, were incapable of proceeding.

"As illustrative of this high military spirit I am quite confident the court will not consider me trespassing too much on their attention, by relating two most interesting incidents, amongst many others, which occurred during the embarkation of the native troops. They were communicated by Col. Conway, the adjutant-general of the Madras army, to a particular

friend in this country, and I cannot do better than relate them in his own words.

"One morning I went to the beach to see a regiment embark, a sepoy came up to me with two children in his arms, he said, 'Conway Sabeb, I am a volunteer and ready to go into the boat, but what is to become of these children; their mother died last night of cholera, and there is no one to protect and take care of them; I give them to you, and will go and do my duty.' I took the boys, sent for the adjutant of the veteran battalion, and desired him to bring me a good man of the same caste in whom he could confide, and to him I made over the children, with a promise of reward if he did his duty by them. The gallant father died at Rangoon, government have pensioned the boys, I am their guardian, and faithfully will I perform the trust."

"The other incident is as follows.

"An old Subidar of cavalry had four sons embarked with one troop, and he, his wife, and all the family came down to the beach to see them into the boats, the venerable white-headed father salam'd to Sir Thomas Munro, and bid him see his boys depart, they were all five handsome Mussulmen, and it was a sight fit for a Roman father to witness, when the boat pushed off, the high bearing and pride with which these gallant fellows salam'd to the governor, to their father, and to the mother's hackery. Sir Thomas Munro was much struck with the groupe, and often asks me if the Subidar's four sons are well."

"From the commencement of the war to its termination the Madras establishment furnished the head-quarters, two squadrons of native cavalry, and eighteen regiments of native infantry, which, with detachments of artillery and pioneers, and including volunteers and recruits sent from time to time to complete, amounted to 20,000 native troops, and such is the confidence of the men in the government, and in their officers, that they will now embark on any service without asking a question, or making any sort of stipulation. It should be recollected also, that this excessive drain of troops for foreign service, necessarily entailed very severe duties upon those regiments that remained at home, which (and I speak from good authority) have for nearly two years been doing double and quadruple duty.

"It may perhaps be asked, at all events it is useful to know, from whence has arisen this confidence? By what means has such a revolution been accomplished as to make the embarkation of sepoy regiments on foreign service now a matter of course whenever required, which was formerly attended with much anxiety, doubtful success and delicate management. The cause is to be found in the regulations

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that have been from time to time framed for the native army on the coast establishment, and which regulations are strictly adhered to, and enforced, both by the government and the officers; it arises, as most justly expressed by the governor-general's order 'from the sentiments of gratitude and attachment with which the coast army acknowledges the paternal anxiety and care that ever watches over and consults its best interests and welfare.'

"It will not be thought altogether an unfit opportunity briefly to advert to some of those regulations which have had so beneficial an effect on the minds of the native soldiery. First, the permission to the sepoy to have a portion of his pay paid to his family for their support during his absence in the field; secondly, the certainty the sepoy possesses of procuring his wheat, flour, or rice, when on field service, at a fixed daily quantity and rate, however high the price may be in the bazar; thirdly, a pension for life, after a certain period of service, or in the event of losing a limb in action. The same pension to the nearest heir, if killed in action, and a variety of other privileges and advantages it is unnecessary to take up the time of the court in detailing, but which all tend to the conclusion, that in no service in the world is more consideration, more kindness, more liberality shewn to the soldier than by the British government in India, and most undoubtedly infinitely more than was ever evinced by any of the native or European governments that have had military or political sway in that country.

"It will appear almost presumptuous in me to make any observation on the conduct of Sir Thomas Munro, the governor of Madras; I am well aware that my humble tribute of applause can add nothing to his well established character, still I cannot refrain from expressing my admiration of the wisdom and talent he has evinced during the arduous contest in which we have been engaged, and more particularly of the admirable forecast and sagacity which made him consider the armistice and first treaty with the Burmese as insincere and hollow on their part, and as the signal for renewed exertions rather than relaxation on his own.

"During the whole progress of the war, the most strenuous exertions were made by the Madras government to furnish men, money, and supplies, neither was any thing forgotten or refused that could add to the comfort and efficiency of the officers and men; in fact, it was only necessary to shew that the service, health, or comfort of the men would be benefited by any measure, to obtain a willing compliance, while the government-general order, dated Fort St. George. 24th January 1826, and which being very short, I will take the

liberty of reading, was eminently calculated to keep alive the spirit that existed, and to convince the native troops that the government duly appreciated their services.'

"To mark the sense which the government entertains of the cheerful alacrity and high military spirit with which the native troops of this presidency have proceeded to Ava and Arracan, and the patience with which they have borne the privations and hardships they have been subjected to, and also with a view of enabling them to provide for the expense of bringing back their families to the head-quarters of their respective corps, the governor-in-council is pleased to direct that three months batta shall be paid to all native troops and military followers, on their return from foreign service in Arracan and Ava.'

"This was true policy not lost upon the grateful hearts and willing hands of all..

"The successful termination of the war is greatly to be rejoiced at, and the lesson that has been taught his golden-footed majesty must induce him to preserve the friendly relations at present existing between the two governments, and which it is so much the interest of both should remain undisturbed."

Sir C. Forbes said, that in expressing his entire concurrence in the motion before the court, and giving his full assent to what had been said of the care, diligence and alacrity with which the officers of the Madras government had attended to the comforts of the troops; he begged to be understood as making a vast distinction between that government and the government of Bengal in that respect. He repeated, however, that he had no objection whatever to concur in what had been said with respect to the Madras government.

The *Chairman* observed, that the question then before the court, referred solely to the non-commissioned officers and privates who served in the late army, and some of the observations of the hon. baronet, as well as those of the gallant officer who preceded him, were rather a digression from the strict question before them.

The question was now put, and carried unanimously.

The next resolution was a vote of thanks to Commodore Sir J. Brisbane, and his officers and men.

On this motion being put from the chair,

Mr. S. Dixon wished, for the sake of information, to know why separate votes of thanks had been passed to the officers and troops in the army, and why Commodore Brisbane and his officers and men serving in the ships engaged in the Burmese war should be included in one vote?

The *Chairman*.—In this vote, the precedent of the vote of thanks passed to the admiral

admiral, the officers, and crews who assisted in taking the Mauritius has been followed. (*Hear, hear!*)

Col. Stanhope asked why the officers and men in both services should not receive the thanks of the court in the same manner?

The *Chairman* assured the court, that there existed no disposition on the part of the Court of Directors, to make any invidious distinction between the officers of either service. In proposing those votes of thanks, they had studiously followed former precedents.

Mr. R. Jackson observed that Captain Chads, a most active and intelligent naval officer, had been employed in the negotiation of the treaty of Ava, and yet he had not heard his name mentioned in the vote; but if the usual forms permitted, he would be glad to see that justice done to him.

The *Chairman* again repeated, that the course at present pursued had been adopted with every attention to the precedents of former votes, and without a wish to overlook the merits of any party.

After an observation from Col. Stanhope, and another from Sir C. Forbes,

The *Chairman* said, that in the course followed on the present occasion, it was the wish of the directors to place all parties in the same honourable situation.—(*Hear, hear!*)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

THANKS TO THE ARMY OF BHURTPORE.

The *Chairman*.—"The court will now hear read the proceedings of the Court of Directors with respect to the army engaged in the capture of Bhurtpore."

Several *Proprietors* here observed, that at that late hour (nearly seven o'clock) it would be much better that any farther proceedings should be deferred to a future day.

The *Chairman* said, that as the resolutions comprised votes of thanks, to which no opposition was expected, it might be as well to pass them on the same day on which they had concurred in passing similar votes to the officers and men engaged in the Burmese war; but if it was the wish of the proprietors, he could have no objection to its being deferred to another day. He would, if it met the wishes of the court, name to-morrow for the consideration of the other votes.

A *Proprietor* here observed that to-morrow would be a day of sale.

The *Chairman* said that there could be no objection to any day. The only question was whether a long delay between the votes, as they were of the same tendency, might not be viewed with unpleasant feelings in other quarters, and against any such feelings the court would be most

anxious to guard. He would, if the court wished it, prefer to go on at the present moment. (*Cries of "go on!" "go on!"*)

Col. Stanhope trusted that the court would not proceed to the discussion of this important subject in so thin an attendance of its members. There were several members absent, who would, he was sure, be anxious to take a part in that discussion, and he was confident that it was quite a mistake to suppose that the motion would be suffered to pass without observation.

The *Chairman* observed that it was not his fault if the attendance of members was very thin. He had, however, no wish to press the discussion at that moment, unless it appeared that the sense of the court was for it. He had as little wish to urge the subject, in the absence of members, who if present might wish to take a part in the discussion. His only motive for wishing to press it now, arose from a delicacy of feeling towards the distinguished individuals who were the objects of the vote.

After some observations from Dr. Gilchrist and Sir C. Forbes,

The *Chairman* mentioned Tuesday next.—This was agreed to; and the court was accordingly adjourned to Tuesday, the 19th instant.

East-India House, Dec. 19.

A Special Court of *Proprietors* was this day held pursuant to Adjournment, for the purpose of taking into consideration certain papers, relative to the operations carried on against Bhurtpore, and the resolutions which the Court of Directors had founded thereon.

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson) having taken the chair,

Col. L. Stanhope, previously to the question being discussed, asked why Sir Edward Paget was not included in the vote of thanks passed in the last general court?

The *Chairman* answered, that the situation in which Sir Edward Paget had been placed, was such as to preclude thanks from being voted to him on account of the Burmese war. The votes, however, with respect to that war, had been finally disposed of, at the last special court.

Mr. Hume understood the present to be nothing more than an adjourned meeting of the last court."

The *Chairman*.—"I conceive that the question of the thanks to those connected with the Burmese war, was finally decided at the last court.

Dr. Gilchrist thought that the question relative to Sir E. Paget, had not been settled; that gallant officer, so far, he believed, from concurring in the Burmese war, was opposed to it. He (Dr. Gilchrist) therefore felt more strongly fortified

field in his opposition to the thanks given to Lord Amherst, when they found the commander-in-chief adverse to the war, which the noble lord had commenced.

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, that Lord Amherst endeavoured to cast odium on the commander-in-chief, for his conduct at Barrackpore. He wished to know, whether the Court of Directors coincided in Lord Amherst's view of the case, and whether it was on that account they refused to propose thanks to Sir Edward Paget?

To this question no answer was returned.

The *Chairman*. "I am to acquaint the court, that it is met by adjournment, for the purpose of taking into consideration certain papers received from India, relative to the operations against Bhurt-pore, together with the resolutions adopted by the Court of Directors upon the subject; which papers and resolutions were laid before the General Court on the 13th inst. Those resolutions shall now be read."

Mr. *Hume* said, it was of great importance to the public, that the question respecting Sir Edward Paget should be answered. That court alone was not to form an opinion on the extensive contest which had been lately carried on in India, with such a waste of blood and treasure. The public would, undoubtedly, arrive at their own conclusions on the subject, and therefore it was a matter of extraordinary necessity, that the question put to the hon. chairman, which respected an officer who stood as high as any officer in the service, as a soldier and a gentleman, should be promptly answered. It was most extraordinary to refuse thanks to Sir Edward Paget, who was commander-in-chief when the Burmese war broke out; who continued in that situation during the greater part of the time in which that war was carried on; and who must, consequently, have had under his eye all the military arrangements connected with that contest. Did it appear that he objected to the war, or that he agreed to it; or, was there any thing in the way in which the war was carried on, that had created disapprobation? Some answer on these points was necessary to satisfy various high-minded individuals connected with that gallant officer. He did not hesitate to say, that those who voted at the last court might have been influenced in their opinion, by the way in which Sir Edward Paget had been treated, and he thought that the Court of Proprietors ought not to allow the present censure to pass by, without demanding explanation on this point. If Sir Edward Paget had done wrong, let him be openly censured; but, if he deserved applause, let him not be passed over in silence.

The *Chairman* said, he did not see the least ground for supposing that any slur was thrown on the gallant officer in ques-

tion, by the proceedings either of that Court, or of the Court of Directors. He knew no instance within his recollection, where thanks were voted to the commander-in-chief, unless he himself had been actively employed in warfare. Thanks were not given to the commander-in-chief, unless he happened to be in the personal command of the army engaged in the field.

Mr. *Hume* said, that thanks had been proposed to the Marquis of Hastings some years ago, simply because he was commander-in-chief, and not as a statesman, or as Governor-general. That illustrious nobleman was not actively engaged in the war, and this he conceived to be a case directly in point.

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, that another case in point was afforded by the thanks given by the House of Commons to H. R. H. the Duke of York, as commander-in-chief, for his excellent government of the army.

The *Chairman* said, the Court of Directors had no intention to vote thanks to Sir Edward Paget; but, at the same time, he must be allowed to say, that in not doing so, they did not mean to cast the least disapprobation on any part of that gallant officer's conduct. The reason that they did not thank him was, simply, because there was no special ground for such a proceeding.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, that it did not appear to him that the conduct and character of the gallant commander in question had been treated as they deserved. He understood, the other day, that the minority by whom the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst was opposed in the Court of Directors, was very small. He wished to know who the gentlemen constituting it were? It was very hard on the proprietors, that they were obliged to come forward, and openly state their opinions and sentiments, while the directors concealed their names.

Mr. *R. Jackson* would mention a single fact, for the purpose of shewing the exertions which Lord Amherst had made, to proceed successfully with the war. Sir A. Campbell had impressed on the Governor and Council of Bengal the necessity of providing such large supplies, as would enable them to prosecute hostilities with effect; he despaired of success, unless he could carry on, to the fullest extent, the plan which he himself, Sir Edward Paget, and Lord Amherst, had laid down. Such was Lord Amherst's coincidence in the propriety of this representation, that soon afterwards no less than 1600 boats were in activity between Rangoon and Prome, and six months rations were provided for the army. This was done on the representation of Sir A. Campbell, which was supported and approved by Lord Amherst himself. The learned proprietor (Dr. Gilchrist) had spoken of the votes of the directors

rectors having been given in secret: there was nothing of blame in that; and the learned proprietor ought to know, that the constitutional practice of the Court of Directors was to vote by ballot.

Col. *L. Stanhope* begged leave to move, "That the thanks of this Court are due to Lieut.-gen. Sir E. Paget, for his judgment in opposing the Burmese war, and for his able conduct in afterwards promoting the warlike measures conducive to the successful issue of the contest."

The *Chairman* said, he was in possession of the court, and it was contrary to all regular and established form to interrupt their proceedings by a premature motion of this kind. The hon. chairman then directed the resolutions which had been agreed to by the Court of Directors to be read; and said, he should afterwards put each motion *seriatim*, and propose the concurrence of the Court of Proprietors therein. They were then read, as follows:—

"Resolved, That the thanks of this court be given to the Governor-general in council, for his forbearance in not resorting to measures of coercion against the usurper of Bhurtpore, as long as hopes could reasonably be entertained of accomplishing, by means of negotiation, the restoration to power of the legitimate Rajah; and for his decision, in the failure of negotiations, to effect the reduction of that important fortress by force."

"Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this court be given to General Lord Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., Commander-in-chief in India, for the judgment and skill with which he planned the siege of Bhurtpore, the operations of which, conducted by his Excellency in person, ended in the capture, by storm, of that fortress, before deemed impregnable by the natives, an achievement whereby the reputation and influence of the British Power in India have been not only confirmed, but most materially augmented."

"Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this court be given to Majors-general Thomas Reynel, C.B., and Jasper Nicolls, who commanded the first and second divisions, for the eminent services which they rendered during the siege, and for the excellent dispositions which they made, and personally directed, for the assault of Bhurtpore."

"Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this court be given to the Brigadiers-general, Brigadiers-field, and other officers of His Majesty's and the Company's forces, who served under General Lord Combermere, at the siege of Bhurtpore, for their gallant and meritorious exertions."

"Resolved unanimously, That this court doth acknowledge and highly approve the disciplined steadiness and valour displayed by the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, both European and native, employed in the siege of Bhurtpore, and that the thanks of this court be signified to them by the commanders of their respective corps."

The question having been put, on the first resolution,

Mr. *Hume* rose, and said, that as the resolution was worded, it would appear that the *forbearance* in question was the act of the Governor-general himself. It was known to every person connected with India, that though the Governor-general acted in council with the commander-in-chief and other persons, yet he had it in his power, if he pleased, to supersede the opinion of those individuals, and to act for himself; he taking the responsibility for any orders he might think proper to give. Now it seemed to him that Lord Amherst's forbearance, as spoken of in the resolution, meant that he alone gave the order by which the proceedings of Sir D. Ochterlony were suspended, and that the subsequent proceedings were also instituted by his direction. He therefore begged leave to know in what way he was to understand the first resolution?

The *Chairman* answered, that the wording of the resolution was in conformity with the general practice of the Court of Directors. When they spoke of the Governor-general in Council, they always spoke of him in the singular number. If, however, the hon. proprietor wished to know whether, in this particular act of forbearance, the Governor-general acted on his own opinion alone, as he had power to do under the act of parliament, he could assure the hon. proprietor that his lordship's conduct, in that instance, was quite in accordance with the opinions of his council.

Mr. *Hume* was induced to ask, in consequence of the way in which the resolution was framed, whether it was intended to cast a reflection on the other members of the government. If this were an act of the whole government, was it fit that the entire credit should have been given to Lord Amherst, and thereby to cast a reflection on the rest of the council? Did those gentlemen approve of suspending the proceedings which had been commenced by Sir D. Ochterlony? The resolution attributed the act of the Governor-general in Council, and by that means referred it to him alone.

The *Chairman* said, the act of parliament spoke of the Governor-general in Council; there was no part of that act which mentioned the Governor-general and Council. The Court of Directors, therefore,

therefore, had only used the language of the act of parliament, in designating the Governor-general as they had done.

Mr. Hume.—I say that if the whole Council concurred in the act, the proper way to mention it would be to state "their forbearance," and not "his forbearance."

The Chairman.—My opinion is opposed to that of the hon. proprietor. I submit that the statement is perfectly correct, and that "his forbearance," and not "their forbearance," is the proper expression.

Mr. Hume said, he had been informed that the motion was for a vote of approbation to the Governor-general in Council. Now he understood that the whole council dissented from his lordship on this occasion; and that he alone took on himself to suspend the proceedings of Sir David Ochterlony, contrary to the opinion of the other members of the government. If this were the case, he wished the vote of thanks to be given to the Governor-general alone. This should be a single vote, and not one coupling Lord Amherst and his council together. He should be glad to know what was the intention of the hon. gentlemen within the bar?

Sir John Sewell observed, it was the mere act of the "Governor-general," and not of his "Council," that suspended the proceedings of Sir David Ochterlony. On the 6th of August, he found that Sir Edward Paget, Mr. Fendall, and Mr. Harrington, all members of council, gave very strong reasons for bringing the affairs of Bhurtpore to a close. The Governor-general not having seen the minutes of the other members of council, was still in contradiction to the opinions of Sir D. Ochterlony in favour of delay; and it was not until Sir Charles Metcalfe pressed on him the necessity of active proceedings, that he consented to adopt a different course of conduct. Lord Amherst ought to have known better; he ought to have felt that there was a just, reasonable, and necessary cause, which called on the British government to interfere. His objection to the thanks of the court being given to Lord Amherst was, that the war had been delayed when it should have been prosecuted; (*Hear!*) and why? Because Lord Amherst did not know what he ought to have known a month after he had been placed in the office of Governor-general.

Dr. Güchris hoped the court would permit him to read part of a letter from the deceased officer, Sir David Ochterlony. The learned gentleman, after paying a tribute to the gallant officer, for his skill in the field and the cabinet, for his knowledge of the languages of India, and the policy of the native princes, read the following letter, from Major-general Sir

David Ochterlony, Bart., G.C.B., resident in Malwa, and Rajpootana, to Mr. Secretary Swinton:

"Muttra, 25th April, 1825.

"Sir,—After an interval of five days, and destroying, as I am told, many rough drafts of letters, I have, at length, received the accompanying from Bhurtpore, which though they state that a confidential person, with full powers, will be sent, omits to mention the name of the person and the probable time of his arrival.

"As many letters have been received from various quarters, which explicitly announce the instructions I have received by express, I feel it useless to struggle longer against events; I shall therefore transmit a Persian letter of the tenor mentioned in the accompanying copy of the original draft. In transmitting this document, I beg leave respectfully to offer my resignation to his Lordship in Council, as however sorry I may be that my measures have not been honoured with the approbation of his Lordship in Council, I should be guilty of falsehood if I acknowledged any conviction of their incorrectness or impropriety, thinking, as I did, that every moment's delay, was submission to disgrace, and feeling, as I do, that a few days delay in the arrival of your express would have brought matters to an amicable and honourable conclusion.

(Signed) "D. OCHTERLONY."

Was it probable, he would ask, that Sir D. Ochterlony did not feel a full conviction of the necessity of striking a decisive blow, when he expressed himself thus? Would he have hazarded his high reputation by attempting to do that which was impracticable? Lord Amherst and Sir A. Campbell had prosecuted the Burmese war, it was said, with a boldness and energy that did them great honour. And here was an old and faithful officer who wished to follow that example, but who was checked in his career by the Governor-general: that noble lord put an extinguisher on the proceedings of Sir D. Ochterlony. He said to that gallant officer, "No sir, you shall not perform this service, some more favoured officer, —some gentlemen selected from the king's service, shall carry the honours away from you." This was so inconsistent an act, that he should not agree to the vote of thanks now proposed to his lordship. Before the court came to a vote this day, he hoped they would consider the situation in which they were placed, as "the East India Company," when they saw their old servant superseded, and the king's officers employed. God forbid, that he should be supposed to cast any blame on his majesty's forces. They had acted nobly on many occasions, but he could not without feelings of deep regret, see any slight offered to those who had spent their best

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days

days in the Company's service. There was a miserable attempt in one of those letters to detract from the merits of Sir D. Ochterlony; it was there insinuated, that Sir David was in his dotage,—that appeared to be very unlikely, and to prove that the assertion was a calumny, he would read Lord Amherst's own statement of the energy of mind which was displayed by Sir David Ochterlony, in preparing a military force to invest Bhurtpore. He could not indeed find out what reason the writers of that letter could have had in thus traducing a veteran who had grown grey in the Company's service. In a letter, addressed by the Governor general to the Court of Directors, dated the 1st of October, 1823, his lordship thus expressed himself.

"The correspondence cited in the margin, shows the magnitude of the military preparations set on foot by the resident, in contemplation of his proceeding against the renowned fortress of Bhurtpore; and we are happy to acknowledge, that the rapidity with which a very considerable and well-appointed force, and a most powerful battering train were assembled ready for service at Muttra; *reflects, in a military point of view, the highest credit on the energy, zeal, and exertions both of Major Gen. Sir David Ochterlony, and of Major Gen. Reynell, and Sir G. Martindell, commanding the Meerut and Cawnpore divisions.*"

Here were three officers, who, but for the interposition of Lord Amherst, would have gained immortal honour by taking the fortress of Bhurtpore—a maiden fortress, which never had been taken; and surely, when the rights of an infant rajah were to be protected by the Company—when the cousin of that rajah had set himself up as entitled to the *guddee*—and when, perhaps, he meditated the destruction of the real heir, it was high time that some individual in the Company's service—some person conversant in the transactions of the native princes, should be selected to settle an affair of so much importance. No human being better understood those transactions, than the old and honourable officer who had taken the matter in hand, and who had been so unaccountably set aside by Lord Amherst. Disease, aided by the painful feeling, the corroding sensation, that men, not possessing half his knowledge, were preferred to him, burst the strings of Sir D. Ochterlony's heart; or, in other words, the conduct of the Governor-general (in council, if they pleased) hastened that meritorious officer's dissolution.

Mr. Hume said, that the court would do well to take a more extended view of this question than the hon. proprietor had yet done. His hon. friend (Dr. Gilchrist) had spoken very justly of the officers in the Company's service; and he (Mr. Hume)

must observe, that he entertained a portion of that feeling and opinion, which was very generally entertained, with respect to the treatment of the Company's officers. It was well known, that many of their best, most experienced, and most deserving officers, were not treated in the manner which their situation deserved. He had seen a great many letters coming from individuals, who were not disposed to find fault—written by men who stood high both in the civil and military departments, men who had deeply at heart the interest of the service to which they belonged, as well as the general prosperity of the Company, and from those letters he could confidently state, that reflections had been understood to have been thrown on those individuals by the conduct and orders of Sir Edward Paget and Lord Amherst. He spoke of them together; because their orders were so mixed up, that it was impossible to know by whom they were issued, or with whom they had originated. The history of the gallant officer, Sir D. Ochterlony, which was brought forward in the discussion this day, was truly lamentable. Sir D. Ochterlony had signalized himself on many occasions; and, after twenty years of arduous service, he had received in that court as unanimous a vote of thanks as any man ever received within those walls. (*Hear!*) He had also received the thanks of the House of Commons, and his majesty had honoured him by an augmentation of his armorial bearings. (*Hear!*) He therefore would contend, that the unworthy treatment he had received, from that upstart man of the day, Lord Amherst, deserved the severest censure. Lord Amherst was ignorant of the affairs of India, and, when he was no longer able to answer the arguments of Sir D. Ochterlony, contained in that officer's letters, his lordship endeavoured to shew to the Court of Directors, that Sir David had passed his meridian—that he was absolutely in his dotage—and that his conduct and language were not to be borne. His letter, he thought, shewed as much energy and talent; and the proceedings he adopted were distinguished by as much judgment and vigour, as could have been manifested by any individual placed in the same situation. (*Hear!*) It was very easy, when there was a lack of arguments to adopt a system of abuse.—(*Hear!*)—And such was the course pursued by Lord Amherst. It was not difficult for a Governor-general, in his correspondence relative to the proceedings of officers, to give what colouring he pleased to acts of which he disapproved; but, when he ultimately found he was wrong, and the officers were right, he ought to have the honour and manliness to state the fact. This, however, had not been done in the case of Sir D. Ochterlony. He was of opinion,

opinion, that the whole of this part of the correspondence was an underhand attempt to call into question Sir D. Ochterlony's capability to carry on the important measure which he had devised, relative to Bhurtpore. No set of men were ever placed in a situation more extraordinary than the proprietors were, in consequence of the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst that had been recently passed. They had been called on to approve of his lordship's conduct, for one of the most precipitate proceedings that could be imagined—for hurrying the Company into a war, without deliberate consideration—without having the opinion of any servant of long standing and experience. They had, however, approved of Lord Amherst's policy; but he thanked God that he had not concurred in that approval. And what were they now called on to do? Why they were asked to thank the noble lord, not for his promptitude, but for his delay. (*Hear!*) The very opposite quality to that for which he had already received their approbation. (*Hear!*) Yes, his lordship was now to be thanked for delaying the proceedings of one of the ablest officers in India; and that, too, in the face of the fact that the whole of Lord Amherst's council were in favour of Sir D. Ochterlony's opinion. He thought it was preposterous to thank the Governor-general for his forbearance, instead of condemning him for his delay. By such a proceeding, they would, in fact, throw a slur on the conduct and measures of Sir D. Ochterlony. He now wished the court to inquire what those measures were, and under what circumstance they were proposed. At the time alluded to, Sir D. Ochterlony was political resident at Malwa and Rajpootana; and he would presently request, that the instruction under which he acted, should be read to the court; because, on the instructions which he received must, in a great measure, depend, the vote which they ought to pass, either for or against the conduct of that officer. He held it to be an undoubted fact, that, in the situation in which Sir D. Ochterlony was then placed, he did no more than he had previously done on twenty different occasions. He then held a situation, in which he had acted for upwards of twenty years. In 1803, he had been appointed resident at Rajpootana by the late Lord Lake; and, from the time he was placed in that important district, he had constant transactions with rajahs, and natives of high rank. Some of those transactions it was almost impossible to unravel—they were nearly inextricable—and Sir D. Ochterlony could never have managed them, if he had not a more intimate knowledge of the habits, manners, and language of the natives, than the majority of those by whom India was governed. Before, then, they approved

of Lord Amherst's "forbearance," they ought to know what powers Sir D. Ochterlony acted under. It would be well to consider whether he had not, on other occasions, ordered officers and troops to march, in virtue of the authority vested in him, for the purpose of carrying into effect measures devised by him for supporting the political influence of the Company. It was naturally asked of him, how did the Company stand with respect to Bhurtpore, at the time that Sir D. Ochterlony assembled forces for the purpose of taking that fortress? It was a very simple question, and deserved an explicit answer, as the British government was complained of for interfering with the internal affairs of other states. It appeared, by the papers on their table, that, in 1803, a treaty, offensive and defensive was concluded with the then rajah of Bhurtpore. Hostilities however, occurred afterwards. But, in 1805, after our unfortunate repulse before the fortress of Bhurtpore, another treaty was concluded between the British government and the rajah. He did not know whether any treaty, subsequent to that, was in existence. By that treaty, however, they were bound to consider the rajah as an independent prince; to afford him assistance, in case of his being attacked; and to guarantee to him the possession of the rank and situation in which he then stood. He, therefore, contended that if they were thus situated, by any act of the British government, through the medium of Sir D. Ochterlony, or any other person, they ought to consider themselves as bound to keep up the succession to the rajahship in the regular line: and the conduct of Sir D. Ochterlony, in endeavouring to secure the regular succession, so far from warranting blame, deserved, in his opinion, the thanks and approbation of the government. The government had, however, acted very ungratefully towards Sir D. Ochterlony. From 1803 to 1824, that gallant officer was their political agent at Rajpootana; and he had shewn talents of the first order in forwarding the proceedings in the war against the Goorkahs. No man ever received more approbation, and no man ever deserved it more, than Sir D. Ochterlony did, for his conduct during the whole of that contest. He had heard military men say, when misfortunes overtook the Company's troops, on that occasion, that his skill had retrieved the ill success of others, and his gallant conduct had prevented any disgrace from tarnishing the Company's arms, though their troops had received a check. Therefore they ought to be very careful how, by any resolution they might pass, they cast a stigma on his character—which he conceived the present resolution would unquestionably do. And why did they act thus? Because Sir D. Ochterlony, by virtue of the

the authority vested in him, did, in 1825, direct troops to assemble to aid the political views which he entertained with respect to Bhurtpore. He regretted, from his heart, to read the letters of the Bengal government in 1824, declaring their ignorance of the situation in which they stood, with reference to Bhurtpore. They called for more information, and declared, that Sir D. Ochterlony had not afforded them any satisfactory statement on the subject. This circumstance reflected more disgrace on the Bengal government than he had words to express. He, therefore, demanded on what grounds Sir D. Ochterlony acted—and whether his proceedings went to impugn the orders he had received as political resident at Rajpootana? Sir D. Ochterlony, in 1824, foreseeing, and no man possessed greater foresight, or knew better how to act under such circumstances, the probable chance of a disputed succession to the rajahship on the death of Bulder Singh, the then sick and aged rajah of Bhurtpore, thought it would be advisable to secure the interests of the lawful claimant to the rajahship by giving him such support as would prevent a disputed succession from taking place. On the demise of the Rajah, however, such a succession did occur, and he would state to the court how. He (Mr. Hume) thought that the British government was bound, if not by actual treaty, at least by an understanding, which prevailed in other cases, to prevent any interloper from becoming Rajah of Bhurtpore. He could, he believed, open the door of twenty cases where the British government had interfered, without having half the reason which could be pleaded for such interference in this instance. Bulder Singh, the then rajah, was sick, and he wished to settle the question of succession. Some difference had occurred between the Company's political agent at Delhi and him; but it was made up. The natives were apprised of the circumstance, that the preceding disagreement was forgotten; and they were informed that the Rajah and the British government were on friendly and amicable terms. The treaty, which at a former period had been concluded with the Marquis of Hastings, did not appear to be made matter of public entry, at least so the Governor general said; but the series of letters which had passed between Sir D. Ochterlony and the Marquis of Hastings shewed that they concurred in opinion as to what should be done with respect to Bhurtpore. The Rajah wished his son, Bulwunt Singh, to have the peaceable succession to the dignity which he then held, and with that view he applied to the British government for a *killaut*, or dress of investiture, to the Company. This was granted, and the *killaut* was given by Sir D. Ochterlony; the British

government thus recognizing the youth as the son and heir of the Rajah, and shewing their friendship to the latter by concurring in this measure. This he understood to have taken place about twenty days before the death of the Rajah, Bulder Singh; but whatever time did elapse between this transaction and the death of the Rajah, Sir D. Ochterlony considered, that by this act of the British government, by the payment of the expense of the new investiture for the Rajah's son, and from other circumstances, that it was an approved measure; the object of that measure being to recognize the present Rajah as heir at law and successor to his father. The Company did so acknowledge him, when on the 8th of February following, the death of the Rajah left the young man in possession of the dignity which had been held by his father. Was this more than the British government had done on all occasions? Here, then, they had the fact, that the resident of the Company, a man of great experience, who had filled that situation for twenty years, had, with the concurrence of the British government, bound that government to see that Bulwunt Singh succeeded his father, on the death of the latter. It was perfectly evident, that Sir D. Ochterlony acted on this occasion conformably with the custom which prevailed in every other case of the same nature. This step was clearly taken to prevent the breaking out of a war on account of a disputed succession, in the very heart of our territories, which, when once begun, it was impossible for any man to say where it would end. Bhurtpore being surrounded by the Company's territory, it became a matter of very considerable importance to keep it free from disturbance. Sir D. Ochterlony had it in view to avoid the renewal of a circumstance of which every man must be aware, on reference to what had occurred in 1804-5. He mentioned the circumstance, without meaning to cast any reflection on the memory of Lord Lake; but it was notorious, that in the course of the war which was then carried on, Bhurtpore was the only place that had stopped his career, and gave a check to the Company's arms. Such was the effect produced on public opinion by the reverse which the Company's troops then suffered, that it became an object with the British government, to prevent a renewal of the contest at Bhurtpore, unless it was carried on in such a manner as to insure the surrender of that fortress. He was therefore satisfied that the conduct of the Marquis of Hastings and of Sir D. Ochterlony was expressly directed to the prevention of hostilities; they felt that if they could, as had been done in other cases, bring the minor within the scope of British influence, they might, by degrees, amalgamate that territory

tory with the territories of the Company, and thus remove the reproach which our failure before Bhurtpore had laid us open to. The correspondence between the Marquis of Hastings and Sir D. Ochterlony clearly proved that they were united in opinion as to the line of conduct that ought to be pursued with respect to Bhurtpore; and, looking to that correspondence, he thought it was too much to be called on to praise Lord Amherst for opposing that course of policy which Sir D. Ochterlony was prepared to follow, when the moment had arrived which would have enabled him to carry into effect the wishes of the preceding Governor-general. For his own part, he would rather pass a vote of direct censure on the noble lord: that would be the best mode of proceeding, instead of agreeing to this absurd motion of thanks. The noble lord deserved censure, not praise, for the part he took, contrary to the opinion of Sir D. Ochterlony and of his council. He saw no reason to thank Lord Amherst for his subsequent conduct; what had been effected was not owing to him, but to the gallantry of our troops. When Lord Amherst could no longer oppose the opinion of his council, he took those measures which Sir D. Ochterlony had formerly advised; his lordship had done every thing to thwart his council, and now, forsooth, they were required to thank him for his "forbearance." Sir D. Ochterlony, in March 1825, communicated to the government the fact, that on the death of the Rajah, an attempt had been made by Durjunt Sal, a cousin of the new Rajah, to get possession of Bhurtpore; that the citadel had been attacked and captured; and that the usurper had seized upon the young Rajah, and made himself master of all the property in the fortress; contrary to our arrangement, which went to secure the rights of the son of Baidar Singh, and contrary to the expressed wish and policy of the British government. The consequence was, that Sir D. Ochterlony assembled a body of troops, for the purpose of expelling the usurper. Was there, he asked, a man in that court, with any experience of Indian affairs, who could believe, that Sir D. Ochterlony, aided by that force, which was admitted by the government itself to be so highly respectable, would not, had he been allowed to proceed, have effected the object he had in view? His success was certain, when it was recollected that the authority of the usurper had scarcely been assumed, and when it was known that a difference of opinion existed amongst the troops in Bhurtpore, part of whom were in favour of while another portion of them declared against the usurper. Under these circumstances, he was bound to say, that there was not a man whom he had met with in this country, or who had com-

municated with him from India, who was not of opinion that, if Sir D. Ochterlony had been allowed to move down to Bhurtpore with his troops, he would certainly have carried that fortress. It then came to be considered in what situation they had been placed by this "forbearance" of Lord Amherst. The Court of Directors called it "forbearance;" but it appeared to him to be pusillanimity, arising from a want of knowledge of the manner in which the affairs of the native courts were carried on, and the way in which disturbances arising in those courts could be most effectually quelled. He scarcely knew what epithet to apply, to mark with sufficient force the ignorance with which Lord Amherst had acted, and the arrogance he had manifested, in opposing his opinion to that of Sir D. Ochterlony and of his own council; because it was only by consulting the opinions of men who had been long on the spot, that he could hope to arrive at a just judgment; and yet Lord Amherst chose to reject such opinions, and to act entirely on his own responsibility. Sir D. Ochterlony's confidence of success was quite clear from his letter of the 25th of April, in which he observed that, had the orders of the government arrived a few days later, matters would have been brought "to an amicable and honourable conclusion." He did not mean to say that Sir D. Ochterlony might not have been mistaken, (*Hear!*) but he thought that his conduct, looking to the opinions of the natives, and marking the usual course of Indian policy, was right, and that the proceedings of Lord Amherst were wrong. He hated vacillating measures. If a government had a particular object in view, let them manfully declare it, and endeavour to effect it in the most prompt manner. The Governor-general, in his despatch, stating his reasons for disapproving of the proceedings of Sir D. Ochterlony, used the following expressions:—"Nothing, in our opinion, but a case of the most indispensable emergency, could have justified our ordering into the field the small force which we had at that time disposable in upper India, and the engaging in fresh hostilities, the duration and extent of which it was impossible to calculate with any certainty, when the season of the hot winds had actually commenced. We could not view the occurrences at Bhurtpore as constituting any such emergency; nor were we prepared to admit that we were bound by any engagements, express or implied, to support the accession of the rightful heir to the Bhurtpore raj by our immediate resort to arms, at all hazards, and without any reference to time, circumstances, and considerations of general expediency." This was a pretty statement. Why, good God! they all knew that our conduct with respect

respect to the native powers of India depended, in most instances, on engagements not half so strong as those by which we were bound to the lawful Rajah of Bhurtpore ! Why, therefore, should Lord Amherst have indulged in insinuations of this kind, implying, as they did, a censure on the proceedings of an old and experienced commander ? His lordship went on to say, in a similar strain, " Besides, Sir D. Ochterlony has evidently acted upon the most imperfect and unsatisfactory information regarding the real facts of the case." Why, so far from this being correct, he (Mr. Hume) would undertake to say that, if there were any man in India in perfect possession of the necessary information, that man was Sir D. Ochterlony, who had been on the spot for twenty years. His lordship proceeded to say, " No cull had been made by him (Sir D. Ochterlony) on Durjunt Sal, for an explanation of his views and conduct; and we were consequently wholly ignorant both as to what plea he might have to offer in justification of the apparent violence of his proceedings, and likewise what object he professed in exciting disturbances." Now, he would ask, was it fair to assert that Sir D. Ochterlony did not make a call for explanation on Durjunt Sal ? He did make that call ; but he well knew that if he made it without having an imposing force at hand it would be useless. But, suppose Lord Amherst and the Indian government had been unanimous in proceeding to hostilities, would it not have been their duty, in the first place, to allow a trial of negotiation, backed by the force which Sir D. Ochterlony had assembled, evidently for the purpose of giving weight to any proposition which he or the government might make ? If that plan were adopted, the British would have had an opportunity of withdrawing from the contest (their demands being conceded) with much more honour and credit than they afterwards could do, considering the situation in which they were placed. Sir D. Ochterlony could not tell what the government thought respecting the motives of his conduct ; but it certainly was the most unfair thing that could be conceived, to say that he did not understand his own plans, or know what he was about when he marched his troops towards Bhurtpore, stating that he would, thus supported, go there and negotiate, if he were allowed so to do by the government. On that ground he (Mr. Hume) contended that Sir D. Ochterlony had been most injuriously treated ; and the character of that gallant officer would necessarily suffer if the proprietors agreed to the vote which they were now called on to give. If the whole of the Bhurtpore business could have been peaceably settled (as he believed it could) by Sir D. Och-

terlony, he, for one, could not agree to a vote of thanks to the Governor-general, because, instead of supporting the decisive and energetic measures which Sir D. Ochterlony had set on foot in defence of the British faith, honour, and character, he thought fit to countermand them. He did not know the exact loss that attended the subjection of Bhurtpore ; but, had Sir D. Ochterlony's plans been carried into effect, it might have been avoided. When Sir D. Ochterlony ordered those troops to march, the fortress was in a defenceless state. The ramparts were out of repair, there was no water in the ditch, and the force within the walls were divided in opinion ; a part of them being attached to the young heir, and the remainder favourable to the usurper's authority. If, at that moment, Sir D. Ochterlony had appeared before the place, it must undoubtedly have fallen, with not one-tenth of the trouble which afterwards occurred in its investment. Were they not also to consider the great expense which was occasioned by this procrastinating policy ? Durjunt Sal, with his usurped power, and having possession of a strong hold, could muster about him all the disaffected troops in the country ; and, therefore, it was impossible to retake the fortress, and to do justice to Bulwunt-Singh, without using absolute force. The despatch to which he had before referred, stated, however, that Sir D. Ochterlony had no right to act as he had done ; though the result proved that his view of the policy that ought to have been adopted, was perfectly correct. He (Mr. Hume) was extremely sorry, when Durjunt Sal was called on for an explanation, that some words of course—" that he did not mean to usurp the Rajarship,"—should have imposed on the Governor-general. A few days, however, had only elapsed, when that which Sir D. Ochterlony had anticipated, came to pass. The usurper, after endeavouring to throw blame on Ram Ruttun, the uncle of the young Rajah, who had fallen in the contest, addressed a letter to the Governor-general, to which he signed his name, as Rajah, and claimed the whole power and authority connected with that situation. This was only a few days after the Governor-general, in consequence of Durjunt Sal's representations, had actually accorded him his confidence. At the time that he made those false representations, the usurper was laying his plan to seize on the government, and to possess himself of the treasure in the fort. If Lord Amherst had permitted Sir D. Ochterlony to proceed, 50 lacs of rupees would have been rescued from the gripe of the usurper. Sir D. Ochterlony said, " I deem it wise to secure the friendship of this state, by guarding the regular succession of the Rajah ; because, the trea-

sure

sure in the fortress is immense; and if it gets into unfriendly hands, it never can be used in any other way but in hostilities against us. Therefore, I think it prudent, and politic, and wise, to secure a good understanding with the lawful prince." Sir D. Ochterlony's prudence told him, that, if the Company had the Rajah under their protection, they would probably receive some of this treasure, with which they might pay their debt, or which they might expend for some other useful purpose. Sir D. Ochterlony knew well, involved in war as the Company were, in another quarter, that energy and decision should be manifested; and this he distinctly stated in his letter of the 25th of April, 1825, in which he tendered his resignation to the Governor-general. He there says, "I considered that every moment's delay was submission to disgrace; and I feel that a few days delay in the arrival of your express would have brought matters to an amicable and honourable conclusion." Sir David Ochterlony observed elsewhere, "that the course proposed by the Governor-general, could not be followed without placing in peril the best interests of the Company." He, therefore, for one, would not agree to an approval of the conduct of Lord Amherst; opposed, as it was, to the safe and long-tried experience of Sir D. Ochterlony. What that gallant officer had foretold actually happened; and six months after his energetic measures had been defeated, the government was obliged to carry into effect that which he had advised. He (Mr. Hume) contended, that nothing had occurred of a novel character, but that the self-same causes for warfare existed for months before. He would wish to know, then, what new circumstances induced the Governor-general to change the opinion he expressed to Sir C. Metcalfe, on the 16th of September; when he observed that "the Company had no right to interfere in the disputes going on at Bhurtpore." Had the rival bands ravaged the country, or become in any other way offensive or dangerous to us, we should have had a new ground for our interference. But he had looked in vain for any such fact. We must then come to this important conclusion, that Lord Amherst, having countermanded the wise measures adopted by Sir D. Ochterlony for settling the disputes at Bhurtpore without bloodshed, did, after allowing six months of preparation to the usurper, without any change of circumstances, think fit to direct measures for reducing the fortress. He now directed Sir C. Metcalfe to support the rightful prince, though he had before said that he did not know who was the rightful prince. He further directed that the usurper should be expelled, and

a regency appointed during the minority of the young prince. All this was in opposition to his former declared opinion, and yet he (Mr. Hume) could discover no ground for the change in his sentiments. The conduct of his Lordship certainly justified the assertions, that he blew hot and cold with the same mouth. He did not mean to pronounce one word of censure on the manner in which the operations were conducted at Bhurtpore. In the subsequent votes, to the officers and troops, he fully concurred; and he willingly gave them his humble praise for their conduct in the difficult situation in which they were placed by the imprudence, the ignorance, the vacillation (he knew not what to call it) of Lord Amherst. If any proprietor thought proper to move a vote of censure on Lord Amherst, he would certainly join him. No man present, would, he was certain, wish to cast any stigma on the memory of that gallant officer, (Sir D. Ochterlony) after he had read to them a general order published at his death by the same Lord Amherst, who wrote to the Court of Directors impugning his talents and his abilities for his situation. [Mr. Hume then read a general order, of July 28th, for which see *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xxi. p. 225.]

This was the way in which Lord Amherst spoke of the man whom he had employed every means to lessen in the opinion of the Court of Directors. The treatment which that gallant officer received led to his death. He died broken-hearted; not only though the disgrace which he conceived had been inflicted on himself; but also because he anticipated the most lamentable consequences to the interests of the Company from the system which the Governor-general was pursuing. The Court of Directors should consider that the friends of Sir D. Ochterlony were not present to repel the charge which this resolution brings against him; for the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst was virtually a vote of censure upon Sir D. Ochterlony, on the grounds which he (Mr. Hume) had stated he should give his unqualified opposition to the motion, and he hoped the court would support him.

Dr. Gilchrist observed that he would give his hon. friend an opportunity of redeeming his pledge of supporting a motion for a vote of censure on Lord Amherst. He would move a vote of censure on his Lordship, because he once belonged to the Bengal Army, on a distinguished member of which Lord Amherst had cast such obloquy. He felt conscious, that he was acting uprightly, and as a friend to the Company. Had Lord Amherst deferred for six months his invasion of the Burmese territory, it would have been more important to the interests of the Company than the short delay which he said ought

to

to have been made by Sir D. Ochterlony. He (Dr. Gilchrist) now stood up to defend the reputation of a brother officer of the Bengal Army. It should not go forth to the world, that, because that brave officer was no more, and had no longer any favours to bestow, no one would rise up to defend his character, and move a vote of censure on Lord Amherst for his conduct respecting Bhurtpore. He (Dr. Gilchrist) had read all the papers, and the more he read, the more he felt convinced that if there were cause to censure Lord Amherst for his conduct respecting the Burmese war, there is twenty times more reason to condemn the measures he pursued with regard to Bhurtpore. Sir D. Ochterlony would have taken the fortress by a *coup de main*. This might have been productive of mischief had he not succeeded; but it appeared that his failure was impossible. A doctrine had been broached in that court which he was sorry to hear; namely, that "We should render slavish submission to the executive power." An hon. prop. had stated that he would support the opinion of the executive, because they must be better acquainted than he was with the facts of any case. He (Dr. Gilchrist) would not pin his faith to the sleeve of any man. In his opinion, the resolution would cast a stain on the memory of a brave and gallant officer. Would to heaven that he were now living that honours might be conferred on him! It had long been the opinion of the officers of the Company, that they were thrown into the back-ground by the king's officers, who, they thought, deprived them of honours which they ought to enjoy. To entertain such feelings was unjust towards the king's officers, and must be prejudicial to the interests of the Company. There were not less than 2,000 proprietors, and yet how few were present to consider this great question by which they were to raise one man to the skies, and to bury another brave officer beneath a load of obloquy! On examining the list of proprietors who had perused the papers with the view of making themselves acquainted with the question under discussion, he (Dr. Gilchrist) found only seven names inscribed as having done so. Here was a proof of the supineness of the proprietors. If men in power were not watched and checked, they were sure to do wrong. He hoped to see in that court a greater degree of spirit and manliness than had prevailed for many years past. They were approaching a crisis which must decide the fate of the Company. If Lord Amherst had erred in the means he adopted to bring about even a successful issue, a vote of thanks ought not to be passed to him. He would enable his hon. friend to redeem his pledge by moving a vote of censure on Lord Amherst for his conduct respecting Bhurtpore.

The Chairman remarked, that, as this was an amendment to the original motion, it was necessary to reduce it to writing.

Dr. Gilchrist then wrote the following amendment:—

"That this court, on mature consideration of the papers submitted to it, is of opinion, that the conduct of the governor-general in council, in his forbearance to proceed against the usurper of Bhurtpore, at the time that Sir David Ochterlony ordered troops to assemble, deserves our decided disapprobation and censure."

Mr. Hume seconded the amendment.

Gen. Thornton said, he was quite as unwilling as the learned Doctor to support the executive body when he thought they were in the wrong. It had been his misfortune to differ very frequently from the Court of Directors, and it always gave him much concern to do so; but he now had considerable pleasure in stating, that he agreed with them as to the propriety of thanking Lord Amherst, in one instance, for his forbearance, and, in the other, for the spirit and activity he displayed in maintaining the war. He (Gen. T.) had attentively listened to both debates, and he thought the speech delivered on a former day, by the hon. member for Aberdeen, decidedly proved that the measures adopted by Lord Amherst against the Burmese were indispensably necessary. It was clear that the Burmese were continually making aggressions and committing cruelties, to which it was requisite to put a stop. The forbearance of former governments had not produced the desired effect, and humanity demanded the adoption of decisive measures. It had been said, that the war was undertaken at an improper time; but a gallant officer (Sir J. Malcolm) whose book had been quoted, stated, that he did not know that the time selected was an improper one. He (Gen. T.) was therefore justified in supposing that the war was undertaken at a proper moment. The gallant officer made a speech which met the approval of the court in general, and which shewed Lord Amherst's conduct to have been perfectly correct. No man could estimate more highly than he did the talents of the late Sir D. Ochterlony. He deserved all the praise that could be given to him, but it was not to be expected that he or any other man should be always in the right. It appeared that he was hasty in his proceedings respecting Bhurtpore. He (General T.) gave credit to Lord Amherst for maintaining forbearance as long as possible. When compelled to resort to force, he sent forth an army in a proper manner and their exertions had been crowned with such signal success as they ought all to rejoice at. For his conduct on both occasions Lord Amherst was entitled to the thanks

thanks of the Company, and such being his sentiments, he felt himself bound to vote against the amendment and for the original question.

Mr. Mills had anticipated a less protracted discussion on the question before the court, when he considered the apparent merits of that question as well as contemplated the glorious situation of affairs in India at the present moment. It was the opinion of the hon. member who had opened the debate (Mr. Hume) that where argument was wanting, abuse could easily be supplied. He (Mr. M.) considered that the present case offered an illustration of that remark, for from the beginning to the end of Lord Amherst's career there had been no lack of abuse, indeed it had been most liberally bestowed on his lordship by individuals in that court. The great fault of Lord Amherst appeared to be that of having done more than was expected of him. Some hon. gentlemen seemed to regret very much that their melancholy predictions had not been fulfilled, and to have been woefully disappointed that all their anticipations of defeat and disgrace had been thwarted by victory and glory. It was at least to be expected that those gentlemen who had in the absence of all proof and without giving Lord Amherst time for a reply, denounced him as incapable of managing the affairs intrusted to him, would have seized the present opportunity of recanting their error and of adding their testimony in favour of his lordship's merits. The line of conduct they had adopted was, however, very different, and they seemed to have formed a determination to pursue his lordship with a malignity for which he (Mr. M.) was quite at a loss to account. The question before the court, inasmuch as it related to Lord Amherst's merits, had not as yet been touched upon. That nobleman had, by the judicious policy he had pursued, raised the glory of the British arms in India, and placed its character in the most illustrious situation. The fall of Bhurtpore had had the result of placing the British Indian empire on a more secure basis than any event that had occurred for a great number of years. This opinion was founded on good grounds, on the authority of individuals who had the best means of forming a judgment on the subject from their intimate acquaintance with the country. He sincerely hoped the hon. gent. who had opened the debate that day, and who seemed to him to betray a most unjust and ungenerous feeling towards Lord Amherst, would remain in court until the close of the discussion, in order that he might see with his own eyes what impression the attack he had made on Lord Amherst would produce on the court.

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Lord Amherst had been honoured by his sovereign with a proud mark of distinction. In parliament ministers had given notice of proposing a vote of thanks to him, already that court had awarded to him a vote of thanks for his conduct relative to the Burmese war by a triumphant majority, and he (Mr. M.) trusted that its decision on the present occasion would be no less favorable to the character of his lordship. (*Cries of hear!*)

Sir C. Forbes was glad to find that silence had at length been broken on the other side of the bar. Both on the present occasion, and at the last court, the hon. chairman had proposed a vote of thanks without condescending to state any grounds for that proceeding. Both the questions, should, in his opinion, have been preceded by a motion to print the papers, and by so doing time would have been given to every proprietor to come to an honest and conscientious opinion on the point at issue. Not one hundredth part of the members of the court could possibly have made themselves acquainted with the subject they had come to decide upon. Nothing he had heard that day could incline him to vote in favour of the original question. He could have wished the present motion had not been introduced in the regular routine manner adopted on similar occasions. He imagined they had reversed the style of introducing such subjects in that court. The court was called upon to approve a vote of thanks, without being informed of the grounds and reasons of such a measure. In the olden time (and it would be well for them if they would revert to the process of former days), when a vote of thanks was presented for the approbation of the court, it was always preceded by a variety of details, which he (Sir C. Forbes) thought were very much wanting on the present occasion. And more particularly was this practice observed, in cases in which the Court of Directors had not concurred in opinion. He considered that those gentlemen behind the bar, who had not concurred with their colleagues in their view of this question, were in duty bound to stand up and acquaint the court with their reasons for non-concurrence. An hon. director had told him that on a former occasion the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst was carried by a large majority. He considered that the court ought to be informed of the nature of the majority alluded to by the hon. director. By obtaining such information they might be enabled to judge whether the question had been carried by a majority of hands or a majority of brains. (*Hear, hear!*) He had heard that the hon. director he had before alluded to, was one of those who formed the small majority on the question. If such were the

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the fact, he trusted that hon. director would rise and tell them, in that manly manner which always distinguished him, the reasons for not concurring in the vote. He also hoped that those hon. directors who voted in opposition to him, would likewise rise and explain the grounds of their assent. He observed, on looking behind the bar, that there were not above one third of the directors there. At the discussion of the former question, only twelve of those gentlemen were present, and not one of them held up his hand, either for or against the motion. He gave the hon. director who had just sat down, great credit for the straight-forward way in which he expressed his sentiments in favour of Lord Amherst. He (Sir C. Forbes) believed that the sentiments he (Mr. M.) expressed, were those he had entertained from the commencement of Lord Amherst's administration; and he trusted that hon. director would give equal credit to those who differed from him in opinion. (*Hear!*) The hon. director had spoken of malignity being exhibited against Lord Amherst. He (Sir C. Forbes) would in kindness, attribute that expression to the circumstance of that hon. director's being unaccustomed to address the court (this being his maiden speech). He would, in charity, believe that he was hurried into saying what he was not warranted in doing. (*Hear!*) He (Sir C. Forbes) could for his own part, conscientiously disclaim any personal feeling of resentment. He never had any acquaintance with him. His lordship bore the character in private, of an honourable man; and he firmly believed that a more amiable man did not exist. If he (Sir C. Forbes) was not mistaken, it was in contemplation, about this time last year, to recall his lordship, and send out the Duke of Buckingham in his stead. (*Hear!*) If he had fallen into a mis-statement on this head, he trusted the hon. chairman would set him right. On a former occasion, a proprietor put the same question to the chair, and had he added an s to the word, and said *chairs*, perhaps he might have obtained an answer different from what he then received. The fact was, however, he believed, perfectly notorious. The fact of the Duke of Buckingham's having been proposed to succeed to the Governor-generalship of India, was as well known as that the sun was in the heavens. He asked then, what had operated so great a change in opinion with regard to Lord Amherst? The war had doubtless terminated successfully, and the British arms had been crowned with brilliant success. Granted. No man could feel greater happiness than he did at the success of the war. He thought they were fully warranted on that score, in not recalling Lord Amherst.

So far he would go. After such glorious events, he should be sorry to hear of Lord Amherst's recall. He did not, however, believe that peace was firmly established; indeed he should not be surprised, if at the moment he was speaking, the war was renewed. Rangoon, since the Company's forces had taken possession of it, had been deserted by nearly all its inhabitants. In that quarter, he was informed, a man might ride for miles without meeting a single soul. It was not his desire to urge the recall of Lord Amherst. He regretted that in the subsequent clauses of the motion, a sufficient degree of notice had not been bestowed on the Company's officers, as well military as marine. He regretted that those individuals who ought to have stood forward in support of the Company's officers had not on this occasion done so. Certain he was, that the Company's officers were entitled to praise. He knew that Commodore Haynes, of the Bombay Marine, had particularly distinguished himself, and was allowed on all hands to have exerted himself gallantly and usefully. He knew him to be as brave an officer as ever trod the decks of a ship, and was only one of the numerous instances to be met with in the Bombay Marine, of officers who would do credit to the navy of his majesty, or any other in the world. He repeated his congratulations to Lord Amherst, on the score of the successful termination of the late attack on Bhurtpore. He had been informed, that it was in contemplation to confiscate all the treasure and jewels of the Rajah. He hoped he might have been misinformed in this particular, and should rejoice to hear it disavowed from behind the bar. He regretted that conduct of a like character had been so frequently exhibited in India. The Company, in almost every case, in which it had interfered between the native powers, had eaten the oyster themselves, and left the shell alone to the other parties. His idea of the matter was, that they were not warranted in destroying the fortress of Bhurtpore, and had no claim upon any property found there. The same game was played upon the Rajah of Umerapoorah, seizing upon all his ornaments and the stores he had purchased at Madras, and which he was thus obliged to pay for twice over. Before he sat down, he could not avoid noticing, that in the votes of thanks, no notice is taken of the Bombay government, although it had taken a part in the very great exertions made during the late war. What reason could there be for omitting all mention of the Bombay government. He had spent some of the happiest days of his life in that presidency, and therefore did not like to see its merits slighted. He again repeated, he bore no hostility to Lord Amherst ; but

but if no reasons were offered to induce him to change his opinion, his determination was not to support the vote of thanks.

Mr. Mills rose and begged to say, that nothing was further from his intention, than to impute improper or malignant motives to any one.

The *Chairman* trusted, that as there were some points in the speech of the hon. baronet which might seem to call for a reply from him, he should be allowed to trespass for a short time on the attention of the court. It was always with reluctance that he interposed himself to the interruption of any proprietor wishing to deliver his sentiments, and he would not, he could assure them, take up much of their time, for there was nothing in the world he had a greater dislike to than the sound of his own voice; and he wished that feeling was more prevalent in the court. The hon. baronet had charged either himself or the late chairman, with having made a misstatement concerning a certain report—which report the hon. baronet considered as founded on the most unquestionable authority. He felt himself, then, under the necessity of denying *in toto* the fact. The hon. baronet had said, that he had heard from authority, which was not to be doubted, that the recall of Lord Amherst had been proposed by the Board of Control, and that it had been determined to appoint the Duke of Buckingham in his stead.

Sir C. Forbes in explanation said, that his statement was, that the recall of Lord Amherst, and the appointment of the Duke of Buckingham in his stead, had been about a year ago proposed to one of the chairmen.

The *Chairman*.—"If the hon. baronet intended to comprehend him (the *Chairman*) in his statement, he must deny that any such proposition was ever made to him. Indeed, he was not aware that any authority existed for such an arrangement, except in a paragraph or two in the newspapers; and, perhaps, the inclination of the noble duke who had been alluded to. (*Laughter.*) This he was confident of, that no proposition of the nature described by the hon. baronet had been made to the chairman of the Company by any authority that could have the slightest right to interfere on the subject. The hon. baronet had spoken about the omission of thanks to the Bombay government. He (the *Chairman*) did not know that that government had done any thing with regard to the late events in India, to call for such distinction. It had done nothing beyond obeying the orders of the supreme government, relative to the contribution of a part of the force serving at Bombay, to co-operate in the war. The hon. baronet could not fail to remember, that in all the

instances in which the Bombay government had been before distinctly thanked, it had furnished and equipped a large proportion of troops acting separately under their orders, and had directly taken part in the operations of the war. The wars against Tipoo Sultan, and against the Pindarries, were instances of this. On those occasions, the Bombay government stood in a more prominent situation than it appeared to have done in the last war: and it surely was not reprehensible in the originators of this question, seeing the difficulty of carrying a vote of thanks at all in this court, to limit themselves to those cases only in which they were pre-eminently due. It was not his wish to undervalue the exertions of the Bombay government, but he must own, he did not think them entitled to expect a vote of thanks on the present occasion. As he had, he hoped, given a satisfactory reply to the observations of the hon. baronet, perhaps, it would be permitted him to offer a few remarks in justification of the course he had adopted in bringing forward the present motion. He concurred in the opinion expressed by the hon. member for Aberdeen of the necessity there existed for commencing hostilities against the authorities at Bhurtpore. But the point on which they differed was as to time. The Company were bound by the previous acts of the representations of the Bengal government, to maintain the succession of the legitimate Rajah. Acts, be it observed, however, never officially communicated to that government. He could not but regret, however, that the hon. member, in order to impugn Lord Amherst's character and conduct, should have brought into invidious comparison, the services and superior intelligence of as gallant an officer as ever served under the Company's standard.—(*Hear !*)—The hon. member had spoken likewise of the injustice done to that gallant officer by the government of Bengal. (*Hear !*) Now, no one could be more ready than he (the *Chairman*) to bear testimony to the justice of the hon. member's commendations on that distinguished officer in the field, but it was not, therefore, his opinion, that every act of that gallant individual in his counsels demanded the unqualified support and blind confidence of the government. He (the *Chairman*) did not, therefore, think that Sir David Ochterlony was to be exempted from that control which is lodged in the hands of the Governor-general, and which it is not only proper for him to exercise, but which he is bound to execute, under no trifling degree of responsibility, as this day's debate exemplified. Though the *Chairman* was willing to admit that a large discretionary power of employing the military forces, when a necessity arose, should be lodged in persons exercising the

the functions of political agents, yet he could not go the length of allowing that such individuals were justified in taking on themselves, without any communication with the supreme government, and wholly unsanctioned by its authority, to call together the whole army of the Upper Provinces; and march it against the strongest fortress in the country, and one too, where the Company's forces had unfortunately received a repulse in a former attack. Such a course as he had described, was undoubtedly contemplated by Sir D. Ochterlony; and the Bengal government could deserve no greater praise in his judgment, than for the prompt and decided manner in which it put a stop to such proceedings on the part of the gallant officer. The course that government adopted, was wise and prudent. His (the Chairman's) opinion on the subject was, that had Sir D. Ochterlony proceeded to Bhurtpore, though merely for the purpose of opening a negotiation, the insufficient force he would have taken with him, would never have had the effect of producing such a panic in the mind of the usurper, as to lead to his resignation of his usurped power; neither would the possession of the fortress, whether obtained by negotiation or by treachery, have produced the same effect on the Indian population as its acquisition by force. But from the measures adopted by the supreme government, the most satisfactory results were experienced. The fall of Bhurtpore, effected by the employment of adequate means, was a fortunate event, inasmuch as it had taught the natives the hopelessness of contending against the British power, and had dispelled the idea generally entertained among them, of the impregnability of that fortress, and had proved that no rampart they could raise would stand before the Company's forces. He had a word more to say, respecting the time the expedition proceeded against Bhurtpore. Had the attempt been made at the period contemplated by Sir D. Ochterlony, I have the authority of the Commander-in-chief, from the inadequacy of the means at his command, to pronounce that it would have been physically impracticable to reduce the fortress; and when to this is added the season of the year, which would certainly have introduced incalculable sickness amongst the European portion of the army, the judgment and prudence which dictated forbearance, is I conceive, incontrovertible. It has also been stated, in support of Sir D. Ochterlony's plan, that the fortress might have been taken by surprise. When the fact is that with a greatly increased force and the exertions of the ablest engineers, six weeks were consumed in taking the place, he asked, Was it probable a *coup de main* would, in the first instance, have accom-

plished the point? He had never heard of a scheme more improbable than that of Sir D. Ochterlony's. He asked, what would have been the probable consequences of a failure in such an undertaking—a second failure, it must be recollected. He would not hesitate to say, that an insurrection throughout the whole of that part of the country would have been the consequence; and he challenged any man, acquainted with the feverish and festered state of the native mind, to deny the probability of such a disaster shaking to its very foundation the British power in India. Under the circumstances he referred to, he felt himself bound to concur in the proposed vote of thanks to Lord Amherst and the Indian government, convinced that in so doing he best discharged his duty to the Company and to his country. (*Hear, hear!*)

Col. L. Stenhope observed, that the gallant general (Thornton) had said that humanity called for the prosecution of the Burmese war; but he (Col. S.) would say, that such humanity would lead to the extinction of the human race. An hon. Director (Mr. Mills) had braved the hon. member for Aberdeen, by advising him to stay and see the result of the discussion; but let that hon. director exchange patronage with his hon. friend (Mr. Hume), and then how would the discussion terminate? That hon. director had thought fit to accuse of malignant feelings all those who disapproved of Lord Amherst's conduct. Such an imputation he begged leave to disclaim. In private life, he believed a more honourable and amiable man than Lord Amherst did not exist; he could not agree with the hon. bart. (Sir C. Forbes) in his opinion respecting the dismantling of Bhurtpore, which he (Col. S.) thought to be a good military measure. They had been told by the Chairman, that it was impossible to take Bhurtpore by surprise; but it must be borne in mind that at the time Sir D. Ochterlony wished to advance against that fortress, there were contained in it two parties opposed to each other, one of which would certainly have sided with the Company's forces, and in all probability would have put the place into their hands. It could excite no surprise that the thanks of this court should be awarded to Lord Amherst, when they recollected that the thanks of the House of Commons were obtained for the Walcheren expedition; and when history told them that some of the greatest monsters that ever breathed had been praised and deified by the Roman senate and people. His (Col. S's) opinion was that Lord Amherst, instead of thanks, deserved impeachment on account of the Burmese War, and marked censure for his delay with respect to Bhurtpore. While Lord Amherst's tardy measures before Bhurtpore were in-

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vicing every state in India to arms, Sir D. Ochterlony was ready to do what the Duke of Wellington or any other brave and skilful commander would have done in his place; namely, to march up his troops and at once attack the enemy in support of the rightful heir of the deceased Rajah. (*Hear!*) And yet such a bold and decisive step was by my Lord Amherst disapproved of as rash and precipitate. Rash and precipitate! Could any more contemptuous expressions be used, if his Lordship had been speaking of the conduct of a boy of seven years of age? And yet this was the language applied to an old, a veteran soldier who had so much distinguished himself in India; but neither his grey hairs nor his heroic deeds in our service could protect him from such taunting expressions as these. (*Hear!*) That court was composed of gentlemen,—of men who loved honour—and their motto therefore ought to be *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*. He called upon them, therefore, not to pass an implied censure upon the dead in this instance by their un-called for, their undeserved praise, of Lord Amherst, who had described Sir D. Ochterlony's conduct, as rash and precipitate. It was idle to say that the force upon that occasion was insufficient to attack Bhurtpore in the manner proposed by Sir D. Ochterlony; when Lord Amherst himself, in his dispatches, acknowledged that force to be ample. He had heard of Lord Amherst sitting in council and taking advice according to precedent, as to the mode of conducting the war. But he would ask, was Lord Amherst, who had failed in his diplomacy with the Burmese, was Lord Amherst, who had established the censorship of the press in India, (an act for which alone he deserved universal censure) was he to decide how such a place as Bhurtpore should be attacked, or was he to act upon the advice and counsel of the saintly Mr. Harington, with his bible, his beads, and his Koran,—and the sagacious Mr. Fendall whose name was only associated with pens, ink and paper? Were such men as these, placed at the distance of 1000 miles from the spot, better able to advise Lord Amherst as to the mode of attacking Bhurtpore than Sir D. Ochterlony, as famous for his general diplomacy, as for his defence of Delhi and his exertions in the Pindarree war? (*Hear!*) It was much more fit that they should employ themselves in raising monuments to the memory of those brave fellows, who perished in the swamps of Arracan and Rangoon, than that they should bestow their time in praise of Lord Amherst. Whatever might be said to the contrary, that praise did not come from the heads or the hearts of those who proposed it; and he was quite sure, that its being bestowed on Lord Amherst, would not be received with

satisfaction in India. It would not be received with satisfaction by the civil department; and he felt convinced, that it would give no satisfaction either to his Majesty's troops, or to the India army, (between whom he assured the court there existed none of that nonsensical rivalry which had been talked of) but least of all would it give satisfaction to our ill-treated native troops. Under all the circumstances of the case, he thought a vote of censure more called for, than a vote of thanks to his Lordship.

Capt. Maxfield observed that the argument had gone back again to the Burmese war; and he had pledged himself, when the conduct of Lord Amherst came again under discussion, to raise his feeble voice, and endeavour to do his Lordship that justice which he deserved. No member of that court could accuse him (Capt. Maxfield) of ever having pinned his faith to the sleeve of another man's argument; unless when he found he could do so, with a clear and unfettered conscience. The Burmese war had been at first partially unpopular not only in that court but in India also. That war, however, was not commenced by the desire of Lord Amherst himself, but by the advice of his council. He would be able to shew, that his Lordship was actually driven to a declaration of war. The commerce of India was at a stand, and that branch was for war: the shipping interests were for war upon the same grounds. The Company's Treasury overflowed, the interest of money was very low, and war, it was thought, would give it a fillip. The Company's civil servants had no objection whatever to a war, and it was in fact almost declared before his Lordship arrived in India; so that unless his Lordship read all the papers upon his voyage out, it was impossible that he could turn round on his advisers and say, "You are all mistaken in your opinions, and I am determined not to go to war." Lord Amherst, not being able to do this, was obliged to coincide with the general opinion, and war was declared. There was, perhaps, no service less interested on the subject of a war than our marine, though perhaps none more competent to give an opinion on its propriety. He remembered that, in 1813, when a cause of war was given, a single twenty-gun vessel, bearing the Company's colours, was sent to demand satisfaction. That vessel was so badly provided, that had she been attacked, the Company must have been disgraced by her capture; yet so much afraid were the Burmese that their town would be burned by this single ship, that they came at once to terms, and war was avoided. It might be said that a naval force could have been sent to inflict punishment at Rangoon; but they had no adequate naval force, and they never would,

would, until government gave them one. The war, then, having been necessary, the manner in which it was conducted, and the happy conclusion to which it was brought, were such as to entitle Lord Amherst to the thanks of that court. Much pains had been taken to impute blame to Lord Amherst for having commenced war at such a season. Now he (Capt. Maxfield) thought that, if war must be commenced in that quarter, that was the most proper season for doing it, as, at the beginning of the monsoons, the most proper winds prevailed for conducting the flat vessels used on such occasions. So much for the Burmese war. He now came to the attack on Bhurtpore, which, it was agreed on all hands, was necessary; the only difference being as to whether we ought to have commenced that attack a little sooner. It should be remembered, however, that we had our hands full at that time, and that we ought not to be too precipitate. It should be remembered too, that we had attacked that fortress in 1804 with as brave an army as we ever had in India, and that we were three or four times defeated. Lord Amherst, with this experience before him, felt it right to put an end to one war before he commenced another. The defeat sustained by the brave and gallant General Lake was a severe lesson, by which Lord Amherst was bound to profit, and to act with caution and circumspection in his attack on Bhurtpore. No man would feel more sorry than himself that any censure, either direct or indirect, should be cast upon the memory of the late gallant Sir D. Ochterlony, and he was sure nothing of the kind was intended. It should be recollected that, although Sir David was at the head of the troops at that time, yet, as the responsibility of any failure, in the event of an attack, would attach to Lord Amherst, he was bound to pause and take advice before he hazarded such a step. Sir C. Metcalfe (than whom no military man was more competent to advise Lord Amherst as to the mode of conducting the war) recommended that negotiations should precede force; and Lord Amherst was justified in acting upon that advice. Lord Amherst had received a lesson in the Burmese war; and he (Capt. Maxfield) would have thought it very wrong if his lordship had plunged at once into the attack upon Bhurtpore. He fully acquitted his lordship of having entered into either war with any other than the most upright and honourable intentions; and therefore he should give his most decided support to any motion of thanks proposed to him by that court.

Sir John Sewell observed that much praise had been given to Lord Amherst for his forbearance in delaying the attack upon Bhurtpore from April until Sep-

tember. Now, if this were a justifiable and necessary war, then let them inquire what cause there was for commencing it in September, which excuse did not equally exist in the previous April? It had been said that the season was the great objection against beginning in April; but it had been shewn that the season was not the occasion of the delay, and therefore they must look to other causes. It was clear, from the correspondence of Lord Amherst upon this subject, that the delay arose from the fact that his lordship had not made up his mind as to whether he would interfere with the internal concerns of Bhurtpore, or who should succeed the late Rajah. It had been stated that Lord Amherst had not arrived in India until after the offence complained of was given. Lord Amherst arrived in India in 1823, and the cause of action did not arrive until the spring of 1825; so that his lordship must have made himself master of the policies of the territories around him, and all the facts connected with them. He could not pretend to say whether his lordship had employed himself in forming his mind upon those subjects, but any man who was a candidate for the government of India was a very unfit person to fill that office, who did not, by reading and inquiry, make himself master of the history of India, its policy, alliances, and connections, and also of the policy and connections of the different states with which our territory was surrounded. The learned gentleman then proceeded to give a history of the circumstances which led to our having espoused the cause of the young Rajah. He then contended that it was the duty of Lord Amherst to have taken immediate steps to check the rebellion; and that had he done so before the usurper had time to strengthen his authority, he must have reduced him at once to a sense of duty. The precedent established of allowing a usurpation of the power of our friend and ally, was calculated to produce the most dangerous consequences in the native Indian courts. Under those circumstances, though, he would not go so far as to assent to a vote of censure on the Governor-general, for his tardy measures on that occasion—because the knowledge of such a vote in India, might weaken our authority there, still he considered himself justified in voting against the motion for thanks, and the more especially as sufficient time had not been allowed to the proprietors to make themselves acquainted with the whole of the papers.

Sir J. Malcolm said he was too much associated with persons and events that had been alluded to in the course of this debate, to remain silent. He should not, however, after what had been said on both sides of the question, before the court, dwell

dwelt upon details. If he did, he could expose some errors for he could speak from personal acquaintance with men and transactions of which others had only notes. For instance, he could satisfy a learned proprietor, that when he spoke of Runjeet Singh, he meant Rhundeer Singh—that he mistook grandfathers for fathers and so forth. With such points, however, he (Sir J. Malcolm) would not trouble the court, but limit himself to a consideration, whether Lord Amherst and his government merited their thanks for the measures which they had adopted towards Bhurtpore. An hon. proprietor had by an allusion to the operations against that celebrated fortress, in the year 1805, recalled feelings to his mind, which would induce the court to pardon a short digression.

The late Lord Lake said, Sir J. Malcolm, stood too high to require his praise, no commander ever lived more in the hearts of his troops, or was more entitled to do so from his qualities, and above all, his humanity and courage. That nobleman had been compelled, not only to attack Bhurtpore with inadequate means for a regular siege, but to persevere at great hazard, and sacrifice of life, in efforts for its reduction. His failure was memorable, but was to be ascribed to causes that neither reflected upon the memory of the commander, nor the reputation of his gallant troops. The hero who had taken by a *coup de main*, the strong fortress of Alighur (a splendid achievement) who had won the battles of Delhi and Laswarri, and had taken Agra and Deeg, was not likely with such an army as he commanded to anticipate insurmountable obstacles at Bhurtpore, the strength of which was then but superficially known, and circumstances of the moment probably compelled him to the attempt he made. Runjeet Singh, the prince of Bhurtpore, had acted with marked treachery to the English government—he had violated the treaty into which he had entered. His relation to the government of Holkar, while it in some measure accounted for this conduct, rendered it more necessary to punish it, Bhurtpore was not to be considered as a common fortress of a petty chief. One of its former princes, Sooruj Mul, had, after the famous and disastrous battle of Pamput, granted a protection to the Marhatta fugitives, which raised his reputation and that of his descendants. These had become particularly connected with the family of Holkar, and Jeswent Row, with his collected army was encamped under the walls of this city. Not to have attacked it under such circumstances had been to abandon the impressions made by an almost unparalleled tide of success. He (Sir J. Malcolm) would not dwell upon the failure of four successive attacks and the great loss we

had sustained—more persevering valour, was never displayed, and though we did not then reduce this fortress, almost all the results that could have been produced by that success, were the reward of our great efforts, in the attack combined with the actual operations carried on at the same period against Holkar. That chief was forced to fly Hindustan, deserted by the great body of his followers, while his ally, the prince of Bhurtpore, dreading another attack, sued for forgiveness, which was granted on his paying a large sum of money, and promising future allegiance.

Such (said Sir J. Malcolm) is a short account of our former failure, but though that had no immediate had local effects it made impressions over all India; the nature and extent of which proved beyond any event he (Sir J. Malcolm) had ever known, the character of our power in that country. The belief of that having been successfully resisted, dwelt even in the insane mind, and he had known several persons who had lost their reason rave about Bhurtpore, and come to him with plans for its reduction. These facts established that an extraordinary importance belonged to all proceedings connected with Bhurtpore, such required the utmost caution and consideration. Here he (Sir J. Malcolm) must express his astonishment at the scope and spirit of one of the principal arguments which had been made by those who spoke against the motion. They tried to convince the judgment, or at least interest the feelings of the court, by assuming that a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst, would condemn to obloquy the memory of Sir D. Ochterlony, in direct opposition to whose advice the Governor-general had acted. What were the facts? Sir D. Ochterlony who had succeeded him (Sir J. Malcolm) in office, when he left India; had conceived that it was necessary to act against a chief who had usurped the power, if not the name of prince of Bhurtpore. Satisfied with the correctness of his own judgment, and acting with that zeal and activity by which he had ever been distinguished, he, in anticipation of the approbation of government, assembled a considerable body of troops, and a great train of artillery. This was done with extraordinary celerity, and without reference to Calcutta. The reason was he had to run a race against time—for the season of the hot winds was at hand, and that of the monsoon not far distant. He did not blame him (Sir D. Ochterlony) for taking such responsibility upon himself. He (Sir J. Malcolm) probably would have done the same in his situation. Local officers in high trust, naturally took a warm and anxious personal interest in the affairs committed to their charge. They would not be fit for their situations if they did not, and it was to be expected that men of ardent

ardent minds should feel the deepest chagrin and disappointment, when their measures were not approved by their superiors. But did such considerations exempt a government from the duty of judging such questions? And was it not evident their judgment, free from local feeling, and influenced as it must be by many circumstances connected with the general interests of the empire, must often lead to a different view from that of their agent. It was so in the present case, and who could pronounce against the caution of government, when the capture of Bhurtpore, after a siege of six weeks by a force far superior in numbers and equipment to that assembled by, Sir D. Ochterlony, gave evidence of its strength being beyond what any one had calculated. But (said Sir J. Malcolm with great warmth) "am I to be told, because I think that the government acted with that combined caution and energy which is described in the proposed vote of thanks, that I condemn to obloquy the memory of my lamented friend, Sir D. Ochterlony? I would join, such are my feelings towards him, in no vote that could have that effect. I knew him intimately for twenty years, and valued no man higher. Well has that valuable officer merited all the praises which have been bestowed upon him this day. His fame is associated with that of his country in India. He has died at the age of sixty-eight, in the active performance of his duty, after fifty years of honourable service, and left a name that will be revered as long as the army exists to which he belonged. But we are told our vote, if in favour of Lord Amherst, will tarnish an hitherto unsullied reputation. I believe the exact contrary—I think that it will add to his reputation, as it will prove that to his latest breath he retained that bold and aspiring spirit upon which it is grounded. This (said) Sir J. Malcolm, is my opinion, and if it be my lot to fill like him, a soldiers' grave at such an advanced age, I ask no prouder record upon my tomb, than that in the last act of my life, the ardent courage of the soldier, triumphed over the cold calculations of the politician, and led me in my desire for distinction to overlook many obstacles to success."

But the situation of Lord Amherst, required a different feeling and conduct, he was bound to consider and weigh, with a calmness abstracted from all personal fame, and with a knowledge of the bearings of the question upon other interests beyond what his local agent could possess. Every point connected with such an undertaking as the siege of Bhurtpore, which if it had failed, would in all human probability, have added to the embarrassments of the Burmese war, that of hostilities with almost every state in India—and no govern-

ment could have been more criminal than one that ventured at such a period upon such a measure, without collecting every means that should render success, as near certain as it was possible to render it in cases of such a nature, (*Hear, hear!*) With such sentiments, (concluded Sir J. Malcolm) and from believing that the reduction of Bhurtpore, has added more than any other event could, to the prospect of continued peace, he gave the vote his entire approbation.

Mr. Trant was anxious to say a few words in answer to what had fallen from an hon. director (Mr. Mills) in an early part of the discussion. That hon. gentleman had called upon those members of the court who had upon the last occasion voted against the motion of thanks to Lord Amherst to come forward on the present occasion and make the *amende honorable*. He (Mr. Trant) had, upon a former occasion, expressed in that court an opinion favourable to Lord Amhersts commencement of the Burmese war; but he had not sufficient information of all its details to enable him to give a decisive vote on that occasion. When he was last in that court, he remained to a late hour anxious to learn whether any just cause had been assigned for this war; and he did this because he did not wish to express opinions which could injure any man, and because he did not fear either to declare or retract his opinions when he felt it his conscientious duty to do so. He did say upon a former occasion that India was in a state which could give satisfaction to no man who had the interests of that territory at heart. Since that court was held he had applied himself most diligently to the papers, and had read every syllable of three folio volumes out of the thirteen which have been submitted by the Court of Directors for their information. From the additional information he had received he felt that the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst was dictated by truth, reason, and justice. The hon. member for Aberdeen had stated that in spite of the advice of his council, Lord Amherst had opposed the recommendation of Sir D. Ochterlony, who advised the immediate attack upon Bhurtpore. He (Mr. Trant) did not think this quite right; but, afraid of trusting his own recollection, he retired into the next room, and brought with him into court the opinions of Mr. Harington, Mr. Fendall, and Sir Charles Metcalfe, who, in conjunction with his lordship, stated that they were yet unprepared as to the final decision with respect to Bhurtpore, and that much depended upon the inquiries which were making by Sir D. Ochterlony. This dispatch was signed by Lord Amherst, Sir E. Paget, and Sir Charles Metcalfe, and was sufficient to show that no difference existed between Lord

Lord Amherst and his council. He had lately seen an officer not long returned from that quarter who declared that we had not a man too much employed in the taking of Bhurtpore; and so anxious was Sir Charles Metcalfe upon the subject, that he had been heard to say he would give his right arm for the possession of the place. (*Hear, hear!*) Under all these circumstances he felt called upon to support the resolutions, and if other hon. members would only peruse the papers as he had done, he should feel surprised if they did not come to the same conclusion. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Twining observed, it was not often that the court was called upon to give its decisions upon two such grave and serious questions as those that had recently come before them. If the question for the consideration of the court at that moment was, who was the fittest man to fill the situation of Governor-general of India, there might well be, without any offence to Lord Amherst or any other gentleman, a great diversity of opinion, and the more so when they bore in mind the brilliant succession of governors-general lately engaged in their service. But they were now judging of Lord Amherst's conduct. Shortly after his arrival in India the Burmese war commenced, and then his lordship was accused of being too precipitate, that war be brought to a successful conclusion; in the attack upon Bhurtpore he was accused of being too tardy, but who would venture to say that his lordship had not, in both cases, acted with the greatest deliberation and wisdom, when they found that he brought both to a glorious termination? (*Hear, hear!*) When he considered the very delicate and important situation in which the governor-general was placed; that even though he was surrounded and fortified by an experienced council, still he was obliged to look to the parent country for approbation, and often for instruction, it was not to be wondered at, that he should weigh his every act with the most attentive consideration. There was one point upon which he was anxious to say a few words; he meant the allusion to the case of the late Sir D. Ochterlony; he was quite sure there was but one opinion entertained in that court as to the merits and services of that gallant and much lamented officer. (*Hear, hear!*) It was much to be lamented, that the last hours of a man, so illustrious and so brave, should have been clouded by vexation and disappointment. (*Hear, hear!*) It was a proud gratification, however, to his friends to know, that as no one dared to reproach his character while alive, so no one dare to cast an imputation on his memory in death. (*Hear, hear!*) However great the character of any military man commanding in India, still, as the responsibility

rested upon the governor-general there could be little wonder that he should pause before he entered upon any enterprize so serious and important, as any of those in which Lord Amherst had recently been engaged. The victory at Bhurtpore had been mainly achieved by the personal exertions of Lord Combermere. It was difficult, upon such occasions, to obtain unanimity upon a vote of thanks of this description, but it was painful to consider what the effect produced in India would be if a vote of censure were passed against the noble lord, whose conduct it was meant to approve of by the vote proposed to the court. As to Lord Amherst himself, he (Mr. Twining) had not the honour of his acquaintance, but he knew enough of his lordship to be able to state, that he was one of the most amiable and generous of men in private life; that he felt most acutely the slightest attack upon his honour, and might therefore be supposed to say, with the poet:—

"Honour! 'tis a derivative from me to mine,

And that alone I plead for."

Mr. Pattison. The subject of the Burman war having been again brought under discussion, an hon. baronet outside the bar (Sir C. Forbes) had called upon the directors to get up an answer for the course they had taken upon that question. He assured that hon. baronet, that he (Mr. Pattison) had given a most conscientious vote in favour of Lord Amherst for his conduct in the Burmese war, and he was, from equally conscientious motives, doubly anxious, if possible, to vote in favour of his lordship's conduct in directing the attack on Bhurtpore, the taking of which was of such vital importance to the interests of the Company. (*Hear, hear!*) The court had been amused that day by a long speech from the hon. member for Aberdeen, through the whole of which there ran one prevailing monosyllable, and that was the monosyllable *if*. The hon. gentleman had qualified every assertion which he made with the small but important word *if*. (*A laugh.*) There was no doubt but we could live amicably in India, and avoid all necessity of going to war, *if* we could do as we pleased without it. Let that hon. gentleman, however, consider for a moment what had been said by the gallant officer on the other side (Sir J. Malcolm) relative to the strength and importance of Bhurtpore. It would have been highly improper to attempt storming that fort, hitherto considered impregnable, with a minor force. Lord Amherst had a grave and serious duty to perform, in weighing which was the most proper course; and he thought it a great proof of his lordship's skill and ability, that, engaged as he was in the war with Ava, he had the magna-

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nimity to order the fortress of Bhurtpore to be invested rather than at once attacked. His lordship, by adopting this course, shewed that the courage which he possessed was the courage of the lion. A gentleman, speaking of Lord Amherst, said, that his lordship had never shewn the least symptom of a tyrant-like disposition, and that he had never seen a man of more gentle and amiable manners. He (Mr. Pattison) was therefore justified in stating, that that noble lord possessed not the ferocity of the tiger, but what was much better, the true courage and generous feeling of the British lion. Lord Amherst could not see the legitimate and helpless heir of the deceased Rajah attacked and about to be dethroned without interposing for his protection. Lord Amherst was accused of having been slow in commencing that interference; but why was he slow? It was because he felt that it was a step that required to be judiciously weighed. It was the characteristic of true courage not to rush headlong into danger, but to weigh coolly what ought to be done; and, having once made up one's mind to go on in an open and manly, but at the same time, bold and determined manner. Suppose Lord Amherst had allowed Sir D. Ochterlony to make a sudden attack upon Bhurtpore, and that that attack had failed, what would have been the consequence? He would here borrow one of the hon. gentleman's *ifs*—and ask, if that attack had been made and had failed, what then would be the ruin and destruction which must have been brought upon the whole government of India? (*Hear, hear!*) Had such a disastrous event taken place, it would have required the whole energies of the empire to restore peace and tranquillity to our possessions in India.—(*Hear, hear!*) Instead of this, however, it had been the good fortune of Lord Amherst, to control the destinies of India by subduing our greatest enemies, and compelling them to give us satisfaction for the past, and security for the future. It was much to the credit of Lord Amherst, that he had by the skill and prudence of his plans, possessed himself of a fortress which had baffled every effort of that brave and enterprising general, Lord Lake. (*Hear, hear!*) When he considered that these important services had been rendered to the Company by Lord Amherst, it was matter of wonder to him, that any hon. proprietor should rise and move a vote of censure against him in that court. It was hardly to be expected that there would be unanimity upon almost any vote that might be proposed; but he confessed, that he was not prepared to expect a vote of censure upon Lord Amherst from any quarter. He did not expect, that the hon. proprietor by whom

that vote of censure was proposed, would turn round and alter his opinions; that would indeed be a turn about more than ever had been heard of before. (*Hear, with a Laugh.*) A vote of censure upon a nobleman like Lord Amherst! and for what? Because he had achieved two victories, and taken possession of a fortress hitherto deemed impregnable!—(*Hear, hear!*) He would not detain the court by any further observations, nor should he have trespassed upon them at all, were it not that he felt called upon by what had fallen from the hon. baronet, to make a few observations.

Dr. Gilchrist rose amid loud cries of "spoke, spoke," to say a few words in answer to what had been stated by an hon. director (Mr. Mills.)

The *Chairman* said, that the hon. director had distinctly disclaimed any personal allusions on the observations he had made.

The amendment was put and negatived, there being only *three hands* held up for it.

The original question was then put and carried by a very large majority.

On the motion of thanks to Lord Combermere,

Mr. Hume said, in answer to the contradiction he had been charged with, he begged to state, that he held in his hand a minute signed by Mr. Fendall, Mr. Harington, and Sir Edward Paget, in which they protested against the war. He would read to the court the note of the Governor-general, dated the 6th of August, which would shew the view which his lordship took of this matter. Here the hon. member read an extract from Lord Amherst's letter in order to shew that he (Mr. Hume) was borne out in his statement relative to his lordship's opinion of our interference in the internal concerns of Bhurtpore. He (Mr. Hume) had not altered his opinion upon that subject. An hon. director (Mr. Pattison) was mistaken in supposing that all his (Mr. Hume's) statements turned upon an "if." He said, he would take the opinion of Sir D. Ochterlony against that of Lord Amherst, as to the attack on Bhurtpore. He regretted that such bombast and fulsome compliment had been made use of in bestowing praise on Lord Amherst, for conduct which was calculated to draw down upon him the severest censure. He assured the court, that he should have taken that praise to be meant as the keenest censure in disguise, had it come from any other gentleman than the hon. director (Mr. Pattison) whose conduct was so open and straight forward upon all occasions. That hon. gentleman, in bestowing praise upon Lord Amherst, had talked of "lions," "tigers," and of "lion's courage," and "lion's heart;" and other phrases,

phrases, which they were in the habit of meeting in their despatches from India, and which were bestowed as appellations upon individuals not to denote their courage, but their rank and station. On this ground it was, that he should have supposed censure, and not praise, was meant by the use of such terms, had they come from any other than the hon. director. (*Hear!*) As to the other hon. director, (Mr. Mills) if he had not been in the court before, he (Mr. Hume) could excuse the observations which he had made. But if he had been in the court before, then there would be no excuse for the language which he had used in speaking of what had fallen from him. He (Mr. Hume) had never said one word against the private character of Lord Amherst. He would ask whether any hon. member had a right to accuse him of having made doleful prophecies, and of being displeased at their non-fulfilment? It was impossible that he could utter any prophecy with respect to Bhurtpore; and if the hon. member alluded to what he said of the war with the Burmese, he now repeated, that that war had brought disgrace upon our arms—that it was fraught with every evil—that it was attended with great expense, and that he, (Mr. Hume) for one, would willingly have consented to withdraw, upon any terms, from a contest so rashly and unnecessarily entered into.—One word more as to what had fallen from an hon. director (Mr. Mills) and he should have done. He appealed to those around him, whether any observations which he had made, deserved to have the terms “unjust” or “ungenerous” applied to them? If he was unjust it was because he had the courage to express his opinions openly and fearlessly. But he threw back the terms upon the hon. director by whom they had been used. The term unjust, was not applicable to the discussion of the conduct of a public man. If such a feeling were to be entertained, it would be impossible to enter into the merits of the conduct of any servant of the company. He said then, that it was neither “just” nor “generous” on the part of the hon. director, to apply those epithets to the observations made by him. In coming to discussions in that court, they ought to act with calmness and with temper, and while they honestly differed in opinion upon certain points, they should take care not to leave room for observations, which could only have the effect of lessening their credit and character elsewhere. (*Hear, hear!*) Whatever might be his opinion, with respect to the manner in which the war had been conducted, he felt that the officers and men engaged in it, were entitled to many thanks, for the boldness with which they entered into it, and for the manner in

which it was terminated, at a period of unequalled danger and difficulty. (*Hear, hear!*) But he hoped that they would receive something more substantial than thanks. He trusted that the million sterling which we were to receive, would be divided amongst the troops; and even that sum would be insufficient to make up the losses they sustained during the late war. (*Hear, hear!*) But he hoped, at the same time, that they would not seize upon the property of the rightful sovereign, we went to support. If they did thus they would bring disgrace upon the character of the company. Let that prince pay an adequate proportion of the expense of the war, but let it never be said that the East-India Company rewarded their troops by the confiscation of the property of their friend and ally.

Mr. Mills rose to explain. He said that he had already disclaimed, in the most unqualified manner, any imputation of personal motives to hon. members. One part of his own observations, however, he must with some qualification, repeat. The hon. proprietor who last addressed the court, had charged Lord Amherst with the grossest ignorance; this he did when the noble lord had no opportunity of defending himself, and therefore, he (Mr. Mills) considered such conduct both unjust and ungenerous to the noble lord. In saying this, he felt that he was not guilty of more, or indeed of so much personality as the hon. proprietor himself.

Dr. Gilchrist rose amidst cries of “question” and “spoke,” to reply to the remarks of an hon. director (Mr. Mills), but was called to order by the chairman.

The resolution of thanks to Lord Combermere, for the judgment and skill with which he planned, and personally conducted the successful attack on Bhurtpore, a fortress hitherto considered impregnable in India, was then put and carried unanimously.

The next resolution was a vote of thanks to Major Generals Sir Thomas Reynell and Jasper Nicolls.

Dr. Gilchrist said it was singular, after the time given to the inhabitants of Bhurtpore to prepare for their defence, that they did not make a more formidable resistance. But the fact was, an old prophecy operated in our favour. That prophecy was, that Bhurtpore could never be taken until all the water in the ditch was swallowed up by an alligator (*loud laughter*). Now the natives pronounced the name of Lord Combermere *Caum-meer*, which in their language was ‘alligator,’ and they considered his lordship turning off the water a fulfilment of the prophecy (*laughter*).

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The next resolution was a vote of thanks

to the brigadier-generals, brigadiers, and other officers, for their gallant services in the war of Bhurtpore. It was carried unanimously.

The fourth resolution was, "that this court does acknowledge and highly approve of the steadiness, discipline, and valour displayed by the British and native troops, and that they were entitled to its thanks." It was put and carried unanimously.

On the question that the court do adjourn,

Sir Charles Forbes expressed a hope, that the next occasion of their being called together in that court, would be in order to take into consideration the propriety of paying some public mark of respect to the memory of that great and good man the Marquis of Hastings, who had recently departed this life (*Hear, hear!*) He was sure such a proposition, coming from the Court of Directors, would be cordially received, and unanimously approved of by the proprietors at large (*Hear!*). He trusted also, that he was not going too far in expressing a hope that before another year passed over, he should see the statue of that noble Marquis, as an acknowledgment by the Company, of his great merits, and most able and important services. (*Hear, hear!*)

Adjourned.

East India House, Dec. 20.

A quarterly general Court of Proprietors of East-India stock, was this day held, pursuant to the charter, at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

The Chairman (*Sir G. A. Robinson*), acquainted the court, that a statement of the expense incurred on account of the regiment of Royal East-India Volunteers, for the last year, and an estimate of the expense for the year ensuing, were laid before the proprietors. The expense last year, was £4304, 16s. 1d.; the estimate for the ensuing year was £3947.

Mr. Hume, "I beg to know the number of men of which the corps consists, and the particular items that form the expense?"

The Chairman—"The full complement of men is, I believe, 800."

Mr. Hume—"What does the expense consist of? Is it for arms, clothing, and pay?"

The Chairman—"It consists of a variety of items—pay, clothing, arms, ammunition, and the rent of the field in which the men are exercised."

DIVIDEND.

The Chairman stated, that it was appointed at this court to consider of a dividend on the company's capital Stock, for the half year commencing on the 5th

of July last, and ending on the 5th of January next. He then moved, that a dividend of 5½ per cent. should be declared on the capital stock, in conformity with a resolution of the Court of Directors, which was agreed to unanimously.

SHIPPING SYSTEM.

The Chairman stated, that at the last general court a proprietor (Capt. Maxfield) had given notice of a motion relative to certain clauses of the 58th of Geo. III; and the court were now ready to entertain it.

Capt. Maxfield wished to know whether the directors were now sending out young men to the Bombay marine?—Knowing the situation in which that corps had been placed for a long time past, he believed it would be better to get rid of it altogether, rather than preserve it in its present state. To this subject he meant to allude largely, in the course of his observations on the 58th of Geo. III.

The Chairman said, that, as the Hon. Proprietor intended hereafter to speak on the subject at length, there was no need to introduce it now.

Mr. Wigram rose to a point of order. The hon. proprietor had an undoubted right to ask questions at the general court; but he would put to him whether the practice which had recently prevailed of asking a great variety of questions at the commencement of the day, did not retard the business of the court?—(*Hear!*)—In his opinion, it was a very inconvenient course, unless the questions put referred to the matter immediately before the court. As the hon. proprietor had declared his intention to advert to the subject in the speech he was about to make, surely that was sufficient. The hon. proprietor had better reserve his questions until the regular business of the day was concluded.

General Thornton said, that if the existing custom were objected to, and a new regulation adopted, the proprietors would not be able to get an answer to any question; and thus they would be precluded from receiving that information which ought to be given to them. Surely the best time for asking questions was before the business of the day began. If the regular business went on first, a question would not be heard, and would remain unanswered. He thought, therefore, they ought to proceed in the way to which they had been accustomed; and which, he believed, was approved of by the proprietors at large.

Capt. Maxfield begged leave to give notice, as it appeared he was out of order in asking questions before the business began, that he would ask questions when the ordinary business of the day was closed.

Capt.

Capt. M. observed, the subject he was now about to bring forward, he meant the consideration, with a view to their repeal, of certain clauses of the act of the 58th George III, deeply effected the shipping interest of this country, and the commercial prosperity of the East-India company. Under that act, they were obliged to take up ships of a certain size, and for a certain period, whether they wanted them or not; and they were compelled, in lieu of any of those vessels that might be burned or lost, to cause others of the same description to be built. By this provision a very great benefit was conferred on the ship owners. The question was whether it was desirous that such a state of things should be continued? A system of this sort, while it was beneficial was injurious to the Company, who were compelled to engage one particular class of vessels, and competition was prevented. So much had this class of ships become a matter of monopoly, that the interests of the Company were greatly impaired by it. At the same time he concluded that, at the time the legislature passed this act, they took it for granted that the executive body looked so sharply to the interest of the Company, as not to allow any objectionable clause to pass unnoticed.—The legislature, under this impression, were indifferent as to the mode in which those clauses were modelled. In other words, they felt that it was the affair of the executive body to point out any injurious enactment, and not their's. Therefore, when he found clauses authorising the appropriation of sums of money for indemnifying ship-owners, he looked to the directors and called on them to check the system. They all knew that it was necessary to take up ships for six voyages, whether they were really wanted for that time or not, and the owners must be paid for that time. If they were lost, other ships were to be built—and this was stated to be done as an indemnity to the owners. But ships of this kind ought to be, and he believed were, usually insured, and therefore, when they happened to be destroyed, the loss was proportionably decreased. Considering that circumstance, he thought it very unfair that the Company should be compelled to take up a ship of the same rate, in lieu of that which was lost, whether they required it or not. This provision went to confine the trade to China to ships of a certain class, and to exclude 19-20ths of the shipping of the port of London from a participation in that trade, which had the effect of keeping up the freight, manifestly to the injury of the Company. The hon. proprietor then proceeded to speak of the Company's war marine. The duties imposed on their vessels of war were entirely distinct from those performed by ships employed in the

mercantile service. The officers were sent out to their navy, from this country, in the same way as military officers were sent out to the army. They held commissions, and were prevented from trading in any way. The Bombay marine was a most meritorious body—but yet they had been treated without delicacy or feeling. The records of that house, proved that they were ready to stand by the Company under all circumstances, and in all perils. When the Company's army was mutinous, that marine did not follow the example. They remained faithful to their duty, in spite of every difficulty.—One great difference between their commercial and military navy was this. In the former, individuals naturally looked to the owners for promotion, and generally received it. In the latter, promotion depended on the Company—and the prayer and entreaties of the military marine, had been studiously disregarded. While he was on this point, he begged leave to notice a circumstance which had lately occurred in India. The hon. proprietor then adverted to certain proceedings, in which a Capt. Betham, and the marine board at Calcutta, were concerned. The latter, he observed, had ordered an individual connected with the military marine to be tried for a breach of duty, and they had placed on the Court of Inquiry, contrary to every objection, a captain in the merchants' service, and consequently without that knowledge which every member of the court ought to possess. By this act the military character of the court was destroyed. Now, he asked, was the marine board borne out in this proceeding by the order of 1806? It was not necessary for him to inquire, whether a marine board, appointed by the government of Calcutta was a legal body or not; but certainly the placing of a captain in the merchants' service on the Court of Inquiry, rendered its proceedings worth nothing, and the individual aggrieved might bring his action against every one of the parties. If this were the only instance he could find of irregularity and oppression, he should observe a profound silence. But this was only one out of a thousand—and it said as little for the marine board of Calcutta as it did for the government. He knew not whether this marine board at Calcutta was established in consequence of any order; but he was convinced, that much mischief to the company's interests might be traced to it. Their military marine had long been accustomed to undeserved neglect, to unmerited degradation, and shameful persecution. Those benefits which other branches of the Company's service enjoyed, were not extended to them, as they ought to have been, on the principles of justice and liberality. That body, so unworthily treated, had been constantly

constantly devoted to the interest of the Company, though their urgent representations were constantly disregarded. But "let the stricken deer go weep." Now, to return to the subject of his motion.—If they were not obliged to take up ships of 1200 tons, for six voyages, if they were permitted to employ good British ships of 500 tons burden, it would at once open the door to competition, would cause the employment of thousands of tons of the shipping of this country, and would give a flip to the commerce of Great Britain which was now in a languishing state.—Such a measure would, he thought, if it emanated from that court, add strength and force to the Company's claim for the renewal of their charter. It would also, he thought, be well, if they removed all useless finery from the equipment of their ships. They ought to be so fitted out as to bring home tea, which formed their great monopoly, in as cheap a way as possible. If they adopted the measures to which he had alluded, it would remove the prejudice that existed against them for keeping up the rate of freight. He could introduce an argument to shew, that the best interests of England must be raised by the adoption of this course; and that the Company would be enabled to crush any enemy that dared to compete with them. The hon. proprietor concluded by moving the following resolutions:—

"First, that with a view to better enable this Company to defray the heavy expenses of the late war in India, as well as to place our affairs on the most favourable footing, at the close of our charter, it becomes desirable to economise in every way in which it can be effected without impairing the efficiency of those branches of the Service on which the safety of India depends."

"Second, to effect which, this court recommend to the Court of Directors, to take the necessary measures to obtain a repeal or amendment of such part of the Act of the 58th of Geo. III, which compels us to engage ships for six voyages whether required or not, in lieu of such as may be burnt or lost."

"Third, to amend the Act so as to enable the Company to permit the shipping generally of this country to participate in the advantages derivable from our constant demand for tonnage, as well as to avail ourselves of those advantages which competition on so extensive a scale would offer, by rendering all good British built ships of not less than 500 tons burthen, eligible for our trade with China, and to be engaged for single voyages only."

The *Chairman* said, he never felt more surprised in his life than he did at the various observations which were contained in the speech of the hon. proprietor.—It was so exceedingly complicated, and he

had mixed up in it so many different subjects, that it was quite impossible to follow the hon. proprietor's remarks. The hon. proprietor had spoken in one place of the degradation of the marine service, and he had made various other observations, which seemed to have so little reference to the motion, that he (the Chairman) hardly knew what to say in answer to such an heterogeneous mass of observations. He would, however, offer a few words on the resolutions proposed by the hon. proprietor. The first resolution he thought contained that kind of truism which no one could deny, and no person would attempt to dispute—it declared, "that, the better to enable the Company to defray the expense incurred by the late war in India, as well as to place our affairs on a more stable footing, it becomes desirable to economize in every way in which that object can be effected, without impairing the efficiency of any branch of the Company's service." Now, the necessity of economising, he could assure the hon. proprietor, was felt by the Court of Directors, and was strictly acted on by them. Then came the second resolution, pointing out the way in which the hon. proprietor thought the system of economy might be extended; and it set forth, "that, to effect this object, the Court recommend the Court of Directors to obtain a repeal or amendment of such part of the Act of the 58th Geo. 3, as renders it imperative on the Company to take up ships of 1200 tons for six voyages, whether they were wanted or not."—The view which he (the Chairman) took of that clause of the act of parliament was very different from that of the hon. proprietor. Going back to a distant period, when the whole of their shipping system underwent a modification, it would be found, that it was considered by the court at that time as the most eligible plan, that, whenever ships were required for the China trade, vessels of a certain size and description peculiarly calculated for that trade, should alone be employed. It was required, that those ships should be taken up for six voyages. The object of which necessarily was, to obtain the cheapest rate of freight; an effect that would be produced by the security which the owners had that the Company should employ their vessels a long time; and, looking to the length of time occupied by the voyage, the period for which the vessels were taken up, was in those days considered as something like the natural life of a ship. The Hon. Proprietor in recommending economy by taking up vessels for a short time, seemed to overlook the fact, that a more cheap rate of freight was obtained when a vessel was taken up for six voyages certain, than could be procured if the contract were for a shorter period.

period. Out of this system arose a further obligation on the Court of Directors to provide for such of those vessels as might be lost. If any of those ships, happened, in the course of a voyage to be lost or destroyed by any accident, it was directed, to make some compensation for the loss which the owners had suffered, they should have a certain preference in building another ship in the room of that which was so destroyed. But still there appeared as much pains to be taken as could possibly be expected, to keep up the principle both of economy and of competition; and in order to prevent unreasonable rates of freight being demanded by the owners, it was directed, that the ship intended to replace that which was lost, should be built at the lowest rate of freight tendered for the building of the ship last contracted for, before the contract for the new vessel was entered into. Now he was not aware of any mode by which they could provide better for insuring economy on that head; the act being so framed, it would, he thought, be improper to apply for its repeal. It would, indeed, be an act of injustice; because, with respect to those persons who were at present under contract or engagement to the Company, the repeal of the act would have the effect of an *ex post facto* law; and on that ground alone he would oppose any such proposition. With respect to the last resolution, which called on the court to pray for an amendment of the act of parliament, so as to enable the Company to permit generally the shipping of the country to participate in the China trade, as well as to avail themselves of competition on a large scale, by allowing ships of 500 tons burthen to be employed in that trade; he could not consent to it. The engagements at present existing between the Company and those owners who had entered into contracts with them, they could not with justice abrogate. Whatever ships were now in existence in the China trade, which had performed six voyages, were employed from year to year at a freight agreed upon by tender, upon public advertisement. In providing for any deficiency, the lowest tender was always preferred, and therefore it could not be said that there was no opening for competition amongst the shipping interest of the country; besides, there were other reasons for which he felt it would be highly inexpedient, in the existing state of things, to go to parliament for any alteration of the act; and entertaining that view of the case, the hon. prop. must excuse him for meeting his proposition with a negative.

Mr. Hume said, if he understood the position of the hon. prop. rightly, it was this, that ships of smaller dimensions than 1,000

tons might be usefully employed in the China trade. Days and weeks had been wasted in that court in discussing the subject. The proposition made by him and others, when it was under consideration, was to place the China trade, with respect to its shipping, on the same footing as the trade to India, and to allow ships of 500 tons to proceed to China as they did to India. The hon. mover had hinted at the propriety of dismantling, in some degree, the Company's ships; then the question came, whether ships so far dismantled, would be sufficiently cheap to come in competition with the merchant-traders. Now, in his opinion, those vessels might bring tea home from China without having thirty guns on board, just as well as other ships brought silks home from India. Vessels did now come from that country with valuable cargoes at £11, £12, or £13, per ton, while the Company were paying £22, or £23, per ton. The subject was a very important one; but as the motion was now worded, it was extremely difficult to come to a decision on it. If the Company could save the difference of freight between £12 and £25, or £12 and £22, per ton, they ought to do so; unless some question of policy, with respect to India, interfered; for the whole depended on that. If a motion on that particular point were brought forward, and the motion of the hon. prop. were withdrawn, he was sure that every one of the proprietors would be ready to join in the discussion. There was one part of the hon. prop.'s speech which he, in common with the hon. chairman, did not know how to meet. If the hon. prop. brought charges relative to the Bombay marine, and could prove that it was a degraded and unworthy service, it was proper that those charges should be investigated. The hon. prop. had described the marine establishment as having long suffered neglect, degradation, and contempt.

Capt. Masfield.—“ I said persecution.”

Mr. Hume understood the hon. prop. to have spoken of degradation; and he submitted, that charges of a nature so very serious should not be incidentally introduced to the notice of the court. (*Hear, hear!*) If the hon. prop. could substantiate those charges, he (Mr. Hume) would be most happy to support him in any measure that would bring the whole subject to a clear discussion, in order to remove such abuses if they existed; or if they did not exist, to prevent such charges from being made in future. As to the case of Capt. Betham, he was not prepared to argue it, not having the resolution of 1805-6 before him; he thought, however, that the officers of the Company's regular ships should not be

be left in such a situation as to be obliged to appeal to a court of law to know what their rights were. In his opinion, it would be better if the hon. prop. this day gave notice that he would bring the question of the Bombay marine before the court hereafter. He understood, that on a former occasion the then chairman had said it was intended to keep up and improve the marine establishment; if that were the case, he thought no time ought to be lost in inquiring into its present situation. Having thus stated his opinion, he would suggest that by withdrawing the present motion and proposing another of a more simple nature, the hon. prop. would be better able to attain his object.

The *Chairman* said he thought that a more satisfactory proof could not be adduced, to shew that the company's marine establishment was not the kind of service which the hon. proprietor had described, than the presence of that hon. proprietor in the general court. He would maintain, that the service alluded to, was neither degraded nor neglected. He was disposed entirely to concur in what was stated by his predecessor in that chair; namely, that it was in the anxious contemplation of the Court of Directors to improve the situation of the marine service; and measures were now in progress to effect that object; which measures, he hoped, would afford general satisfaction in every respect. But he certainly did not think that the introduction of this question, and the discussion of it in that court, would tend to remove the difficulties which opposed themselves to the views of the executive body in another quarter. At the same time, when he spoke of difficulties in another quarter, he should be guilty of injustice if he did not declare, that a more anxious desire to meet their wishes could not be imagined, than existed in the mind of the respectable nobleman who was at the head of that department of his majesty's government, in which this subject must be considered. The time was not far distant, he was sure, when the valuable corps that had been alluded to, would be placed on a footing extremely desirable in every point of view. With respect to the China trade, and the class of ships employed in it, he would briefly state some additional reasons, situated as the company were with respect to that trade, for approving of the present system in preference to that recommended by the hon. proprietor. It must be in the recollection of every gentleman, that during the discussion relative to the renewal of the existing charter, one of the strongest arguments used by those who supported that renewal, was the benefit which the country derived from the class of ships

employed by the Company in the China trade. They were so fitted for war, as well as for commerce, that they prevented the necessity for, and the expense that must attend, furnishing a convoy. Now, if they had a class of ships of only 500 tons burden, it would be impossible for them, in time of war, to sail to or from China without an adequate naval force for their protection, which would create a very heavy expense; and it was one of the arguments used in favour of the larger class of ships, that that expense was thereby saved. A remarkable instance had occurred to shew the propriety of adopting this description of vessels. They all must recollect that 20 of the Company's ships, containing property to the amount of more than as many millions, had been safely brought home in the face of an enemy,—in the face of a strong French naval force,—which had intercepted that fleet,—by Commodore Sir Nathaniel Dance. (*Hear, hear!*) He thought the advantages that were derived from this class of shipping, in that single case, were almost sufficient to put aside the question of difference of freight, as compared with vessels which could not have defended the property which they contained of such immense value. As he said before, he much questioned the expediency of going to parliament with any view to the alteration of this law; gentlemen must feel that it certainly was not prudent to moot questions in parliament, that were calculated to elicit various opinions, as to the renewal of the Company's charter; that was a question which, when the proper time came, he hoped they would be able to meet successfully; but certainly it was not expedient to force it prematurely into discussion. On these grounds it was that he would join the hon. member for Aberdeen, in requesting the hon. proprietor to withdraw the present motion. Whether the hon. proprietor was so inclined he did not know. If he were not, then he (the Chairman) had but one course to pursue, and that was to meet it with a negative.

Mr. *Twining* said, he had, on a former occasion, taken the liberty of stating that, from the observations of many years, he considered the manner in which the cargoes from China were brought to this country was a most essential point. They had uniformly found that those cargoes arrived in a far better condition than when they were brought home in smaller vessels; and a moderate saving to the Company was thereby effected. He believed that some importance was, by the Chinese government, attached to the character of the Company, on account of the fine class of ships they employed in the China trade. He therefore hoped that no hasty change would be made which might

might have the effect of destroying a class of ships which was honourable and beneficial to the company.

Dr. *Güchris* was particularly pleased with the observations of the Chairman, on the remarks made by his hon. friend. Eight or ten years ago a proposition was brought forward in that court with respect to their mercantile navy, on which he could wish to receive some information. It had been made a matter of complaint, by certain gentlemen in that court, who had sons and other relatives in the mercantile navy, that there was not sufficient attention paid on board those ships to the morals, religion, and instruction of the young midshipmen. The Court of Directors, at that time, promised that something should be done to remedy the evil,—that regular schools of morality, religion, and practical information should be established on board.—Now if they had been dilatory on this point, then the court had a right to entertain a little suspicion that promises coming from professors were not always performed. A very extraordinary instance had happened lately in the case of the *Marquis of Hastings*. He believed there had, in that case, been a great want of subordination, which proved the necessity of establishing such institutions as he had adverted to. Perhaps the circumstances to which he had alluded, had arisen in consequence of the Court of Directors not having done what they had promised. In the case of that vessel two officers had been put under arrest, and the captain had disappeared under extraordinary circumstances; and he gathered from the public papers that fire was placed on board of that ship in such a manner as to endanger her being blown up. He heard, that, even in their regular ships, no attempt was made to give the young midshipmen an education, either with respect to morals, religion, or that information which they ought to possess.—In his opinion, if the Bombay marine had been promptly employed, at an early period, the Burmese war might have been prevented. He thought that the Bombay marine had been neglected; and he was happy to find that an amelioration of that service was contemplated. He trusted that that desirable change would not be procrastinated. With respect to the motion before the court, he agreed with his hon. friend (Mr. Hume) on the propriety of withdrawing it, in order that the subject might be brought forward in a tangible shape at some future day, when the directors might be prepared to meet it.

The Chairman begged leave to state to the court, that there had been no neglect of the recommendation which the Court of Directors had received from the Court of Proprietors on the subject of the education, &c. &c.

tion, and the protection of the morals of the young men employed on board the Company's ships: and if the worthy proprietor were on board one of the ships he would find, under the regulation which would now be read to the court, that every care had been taken by the Court of Directors to remove any ground of complaint that might have previously existed.

The following resolution of the Court of Directors, of the 5th December, 1821, which had been submitted to the Court of Proprietors, on the 20th of March 1822, was then read:

Resolved,—“That advertising to the very early age at which midshipmen are permitted to enter into the service in the Company's own ships; the limited education, as well moral as nautical which they can have attained at that time; their exposed situation from associations which the performance of their duty must frequently occasion; and the important trusts which the service opens to them in future life:—The commander (independently of the necessary attentions to religious duties which the regulations enjoin) be required to give his best assistance towards carrying into effect a system of education for the midshipmen in his ship:—and for that purpose to make such arrangements as will afford all practicable opportunities of improvement among those young persons, not only in their professional pursuits, but in their general education.—That the commander shall for this purpose avail himself of the aid of all or any of the officers on board, and shall, on the conclusion of each voyage, report to the Committee of Shipping the names of such officers as shall by their endeavours have best promoted the objects of the committee.—That all the midshipmen who are not particularly engaged on the duty of the ship, do every morning after breakfast assemble in the cuddy or some other convenient place which the commander may appoint, and there be instructed in navigation, &c. until noon.—That each midshipman do work his day's work, and keep a journal in which he is to enter the full work of each day; and that such journal be sent to the Shipping Office at the conclusion of each voyage, for the purpose of being laid before the committee for their instruction. That one watch of midshipmen do take observations for the latitude at noon every day, and that every other favourable opportunity be embraced to make them skillful in taking lunar observations, as well as finding the latitude and time by the stars.”

The Chairman said, he now stated most distinctly that every thing had been done in conformity with that regulation. Of all the arguments that could be adduced
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against

against the employment of a smaller class of ships in the China trade, the circumstance which the hon. proprietor had mentioned relative to the *Marquis of Hastings*, was perhaps the strongest, as she was a private ship. This was a most unfortunate instance to adduce, for it made directly against the proposition of the hon. mover.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, that when he was in search of truth, it was of very little consequence to him whether he wounded friend or foe. Truth was his object, and he would elicit it by every means in his power. He, however, had understood from friends of his, that in the regular ships little attention was paid to the education of the young men. A school looked very well upon paper, but the question was, whether the system was carried into effect? He had long since thought that the young midshipmen should have occidental and oriental instruction; and that they should also pursue their nautical studies at the same time. But the people laughed at him, at that period, when he argued that instruction in different branches of learning, as well as in morality and religion, should be extended to the young men. The regulation which had been read was very good; but who, he asked, were the persons directed to see it carried into execution?

Mr. *Trant* bore testimony to the excellent conduct of the captain with whom he returned to this country. On board his ship the utmost attention was given to the improvement of the young men in every respect.

Capt. *Maxfield*, in reply, said, the hon. Chairman had bewailed the utter impossibility of following him through the various arguments he had made use of. Now the Act of the 58th of Geo. III. embraced so many matters, that he felt himself justified in wandering a little. His hon. friend (Mr. Hume) had noticed what the rate of freight paid was, and what it ought to be, and he was ready to put the issue of the case on that point. He contended that the Company might have ships at £14 per ton instead of £22, if they would employ ships of 500 tons burthen instead of those of 1,200. The objection to the former class of ships appeared to arise from a preference given to size, without any reason being given to establish the pre-eminence of those large vessels. If they wished to come to a proper test, they would go to commercial men, and they would find that none of them paid so high for their freights as the Company did. Now, if those individuals got their goods properly conveyed in those smaller vessels, and at a lower rate of freight, why should not the Company? If it were said that this system had continued for many years, he would answer

that that was no reason for letting it always rest in the same state. The situation of the Company's affairs was now very different from what it was in the early part of their history; formerly those large ships might have been necessary, but the circumstances of the present day and of that period were as distinct and different as the antipodes. They had not then a navy to cover the ocean. But their continuing to keep a number of guns on board was preposterous, because there were not men enough to work them. How could 30 guns be fought by 50 or 100 men? With respect to *Commodore Dance*, no man was more ready than he was to afford him applause and approbation for his conduct; but he must say that the appearance of the ships which *Commodore Dance* commanded did as much in producing the result that had been alluded to, as the skill and bravery of the commander. They might, out of the saving which would unquestionably arise by employing smaller vessels, make good the loss of the whole of the fleet to which allusion had been made, if it had been taken. What he said was, "Insure your shipping and cargo at *Lloyd's*, and then you might sit down in perfect security." He never thought of dismissing the ships at present in their service; but he wished them to get rid of the system. The hon. Chairman had observed, that as the act was in existence, it would be highly inexpedient to apply for any alteration or amendment of it. If this were so, then no act of parliament could be improved; and an act, when once passed, must go on to eternity.

The hon. Chairman had also stated that the system of competition was allowed, and that peculiar advantages were derived from it. He knew that, but it was not so extensive a competition as he wished for, nor could it be so while they confined themselves to ships of 1,200 tons burthen. The hon. Chairman had likewise noticed what he (Capt. *Maxfield*) had said with reference to the *Bombay* marine, a subject which he conceived ought to be brought forward specifically, though the present was not, perhaps, the most convenient moment. The hon. Chairman said that the executive body were directing their earnest attention to the improvement of that service. He had heard the same thing for the last twenty-five years; and yet every despatch that went out brought something to depress and dispirit the naval officers. While certain orders which the court had sent out in 1806, with respect to the marine service, remained unrepealed in that house; he would ask what ground there was to suppose, that his Majesty's ministers would consent to any improvement in the situation of those who were attached to that service. His Majesty's

jeaty's ministers would smile if under such circumstances King's commissions were required, and the case which he had referred to, the Court of Inquiry at Calcutta, fully bore him out in these sentiments. He did not say that the Bombay marine was unworthy of support, but that it was neglected, persecuted and degraded. These were the facts, and after such treatment the more gentlemen chose to applaud that service, the deeper was the injury, the greater the insult. The circumstance of himself being respectable or otherwise had nothing to do with the point in question. It was true he was a member of the Court of Proprietors. He could tell the court that it did not arise from his situation in the marine service, and surely his appearing in that court ought not to be made the subject of remark, or attack.

Mr. Twining—"I beg the hon. proprietor's pardon, but I think he has misunderstood the hon. Chairman."

Capt. Masfield—"I must, I think, understand the hon. Chairman's observation only in this way, that having the means of appearing here it is imputed to me as a fault that I have noticed the Bombay marine."

The Chairman—"To that I say "No."

Capt. Masfield—"If the Bombay marine possessed any such advantages, as enabled those who are attached to it to return to this country without losing their intellect or their voice, it was not, perhaps, much owing to the Court of Directors; but the fact was, that an individual in that service possessed very few advantages. His means were so limited, his efforts so discouraged, he felt himself so mortified, that if painful reflections did not break up his constitution, the treatment he received was sure to lessen him in his own estimation. He might devote himself to the Company's service at the "cannon's mouth," but still there was little chance of his benefiting by his bravery. He knew no reason for continuing that marked line of distinction which was resorted to with respect to this corps. When they served with his Majesty's forces, they were precluded from sharing prize or pension; they were placed on a different footing from any other body of men. He would now say a word or two with respect to economy in their affairs. Economy was studied in their military arrangements, and he wished to know why the same principle was not equally applicable to the civil and commercial department? It was not by withholding from the vessels a sufficient quantity of powder and shot, that the true spirit of economy was shewn. He recollected a ship being sent out as convoy without enough of ammunition to fire a dozen salutes. That ship was, however, sent out as a nominal convoy, that was the very worst species of economy; but when they recollected that during the war the Com-

pany engaged merchant ships at £44 and £46 per ton, while in their yards men-of-war were building at £31 10s. per ton, frigates at £28 per ton, and sloops at £24 per ton. It was easy to see what an immense saving might then have been effected with proper management, at that time too, it should be remembered, when they were engaging vessels on these extravagant terms, then ships were sailing from India with only one third freight. An instance had occurred where the Bombay government had in their possession a large quantity of cotton; now was it not to be supposed, if they had any true idea of economy, that directions would be given to send that cotton to China for sale instead of sending specie from this country for the Chinese market. This, however, was not done; the cotton was disposed of at Bombay; and the commanders carried it to China in the Company's ships, and sold it at the profit which ought to have been secured for the Company. If he were as indifferent to the interests of the Company as their government appeared to be, he would view with great pleasure the conduct pursued on these points, because, notwithstanding any majorities in that court, those circumstances tended to open the eyes of the public, who would draw very different inferences from those which were arrived at here.

The motion was then negatived.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MILITARY AND MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Mr. Hume said, he did not anticipate any objection to his motion. He wished to obtain copies of the orders issued by the government in India respecting the qualifications necessary for officers holding the situation of interpreters to regiments and to courts-martial, and also of the orders sent out on that subject to the several presidencies by the Court of Directors. It had been said some time ago that so much attention was paid to the regulations on this point in India, that little care or attention was necessary respecting it at home. That was the very thing he was anxious to have explained. He knew that orders had been issued by the Governor-general in 1819, directing that no officer should be permitted to hold the situation of interpreter until properly qualified by a competent knowledge of the Hindoostanee language. He also found that other orders were issued in Calcutta by the Commander-in-chief in 1823, by which it was declared, that no officer should be allowed to hold the situation of interpreter to regiments or courts-martial unless he had received instruction and was properly qualified in that language. He was allowed two years to qualify, and if at the end of that time he had not perfected himself in the language

so as to be able to act, some other person was appointed in his place. These were regulations which, if strictly adhered to, would be productive of much benefit to the service, but he was given to understand that notwithstanding their existence, many officers had been allowed to hold the situation of interpreters who had not a sufficient knowledge of the language and who had not passed any examination in that respect, and that in many cases no examination whatever was deemed necessary. It was on this account he was anxious to learn the nature of the regulations in the several presidencies, and whether they were the same in each, and he hoped the Court of Directors would have no objection that this information should be laid before the proprietors. If it should be found that the regulations on this matter were not the same in the different presidencies, he trusted that some general regulations would be made which should be equally applicable to all. He also wished to know, as experiments had been made in India with those regulations, how far they had been successful and how many examinations had taken place of military and medical officers since those orders had been issued. He was particularly desirous of information as to the medical officers, under the new regulations, and to know how far the experiment was successful with respect to them, because formerly it was necessary that all medical officers should qualify before they went out, but now that practice had been discontinued. It was of very great importance to the service, that medical officers should be qualified as soon as possible by a knowledge of the language of the country, for it was impossible for a medical officer to perform his duty efficiently in India, without a competent knowledge of the native language. He understood, that in Bombay it was a regulation that no medical officer could be appointed to a regiment or other situation connected with the native troops, until he was properly instructed in the language of the country; and that such qualification was to be ascertained in all cases by examination before the appointment could take place. He should now move for "Copies of any orders issued by the Governor-general, or Commander-in-chief in each of the Presidencies, as to the regulations to be observed in the appointment of officers as interpreters to courts-martial, and to native regiments;—also the orders issued by the Court of Directors to the several Presidencies on the same subject:—also to an account of the number of officers who had passed examinations in each Presidency, previously to their appointment as interpreters: distinguishing the name of each officer, the date and place of his examination, and

the regiment to which he was appointed."

The hon. proprietor moved for similar returns with respect to the regulations for the examination and appointment of medical officers in India.

Dr. *Gilchrist* seconded the motion.

The *Chairman* said, that as the papers called for were for the purpose of information upon a subject which might fairly come under their cognizance, he could have no objection to their being laid before the court.

The motion was then put and agreed to.

ATTENDANCE OF THE DIRECTORS.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he wished to put a question to the hon. Chairman, which he hoped there would be no objection to answer. He thought it important that those who were not behind the curtain, should have some intimation as to how the business of the Company was done by those within the bar. As a member of the Company, he was entitled to this information. He was a partner in the Company, and he could assure them that he would not be a mere sleeping partner in the concern. — (*A laugh.*) — But that while he lived and was able to attend in his place, he would, from time to time put question after question, in order to elicit such information as, in his opinion, it might be of advantage to the interests of the proprietors to possess. He understood there was a roll kept of the attendance of every director at the several meetings of that body, and that it could be easily known by reference to that roll, how many directors attended on any particular occasion. There were two courts, lately held, at which it was understood, the directors were not at all unanimous on the subject of a vote of thanks to Lord Amherst. Now he should like to be informed of the number of directors who attended at each court, because he had heard it from one of themselves in that court, that the motion of thanks had been carried (among the directors) by an overwhelming majority. It might be so; but they had no such overwhelming majority in that court (the Court of Proprietors.) — Perhaps the whole number of directors in attendance did not exceed thirteen, which were necessary to constitute a legal court. He hoped, therefore, the Chairman would have no objection to give him the information required.

Mr. *Parry*, in the absence of the *Deputy Chairman* (the Chairman having left the court for a short time) stated, that he was not able to give the information which the learned gentleman required. — There was a record kept of the attendance of directors, which was open to the Committee of Bye-laws.

Dr. *Gilchrist* asked whether there was not

not a roll kept by which it could be ascertained how many were present at each court. He wished for the information only as to the last two courts.

A Proprietor wished to know whether the learned gentleman meant to ask how many directors attended at the two last general courts, or in the Court of Directors.

Dr. Gilchrist said—in the Court of Directors only.

Mr. Wigram said he apprehended that it was not in the power of the Chairman to grant the information required, and the question itself, he thought, was altogether irregular. The chairman made no memorandum of the number of directors present, at any meeting of their body. All that was necessary for him to ascertain was, that a sufficient number was present to constitute a legal court; but beyond that he did not count the numbers. The number who attended at every court day, was entered in a book, and that book was always laid before the Committee of Bye-laws, but was not open to the inspection of every member of that court. If the object of the hon. proprietor was to ascertain whether any director dissented from the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst, he might do so in another manner. The learned gentleman might call for the production of any such dissent if he pleased.

Mr. Hume said he believed his hon. friend (Dr. Gilchrist's) question was not distinctly understood. His object was to get an account of the number of directors who attended at particular days, and he thought that such information was possessed by the Chairman, and that a proprietor had a right to ask it. He recollected, that some time ago, when a proposition was before that court, for raising the salaries of directors to £1,000 a year, it was stated that an account was kept of the number which attended at each court, by which (as this account was said to be open to the proprietors), any one of them might see the degree of attention paid to the business of the Company by each of the directors, and whether he was acting up to the promise made at the time of his election, when he solemnly undertook to attend to the business of the court, on each court day, unless he should be prevented by illness. Now, it might on many occasions, be important to the proprietors, to know how many directors were present in their court, on the passing of any particular vote; such for instance as that of the vote of thanks to Lord Amherst. It might also be desirable to know how many, whether nineteen or twenty, or the whole number, or only the mere legal number constituting a court, in order to be informed whether they performed their duty regularly. This information every proprietor had a right

to expect, pursuant to the pledge given on a former occasion by the chairman.

Mr. Wigram, in explanation, said, he had not stated that no book was kept of the attendance of members. On the contrary, he had stated that a book of the kind was kept, but it was always laid before the Committee of Bye-laws, and he did not think that every proprietor had a right to inspect it.

Mr. Loch said, that even if the book in which the attendances of directors were entered, was produced, it would not afford the particular information which the learned proprietor desired, because it would not shew the number actually present at any particular vote. The attendances on court days, were marked by entering the initials of the director under that date, if he attended before twelve o'clock, but he might go away after, and the book would not shew whether he was present or absent at any particular discussion, or had joined in, or opposed any vote on that day.

Mr. Twining said, that as a member of the Committee of Bye-laws, he could say, in reference to the attendance of directors, that considering the various duties to which they had to attend, their attendance on the several committees, was much more numerous than he should have thought it would be.

Mr. Hume did not understand that it was the intention of his hon. friend, in putting the question before the court, to cast any imputation whatever, on the conduct of the directors for non-attendance.

Dr. Gilchrist thought the proprietors should know what was the state of the Court of Directors, on the days to which he had adverted, and on all occasions. On looking round this court now, he found there were very few directors present. Why should this be so when business was to be done? He would contend that directors did not do their duty if they did not attend on every day, when business was to be done.

Mr. Weeding objected to the question, as being most frivolous and improper. The general Court had selected a certain number of gentlemen from their own body to form a Committee of Bye-laws, whose province it was to inquire and report upon the duties performed by the Company's servants in the East-India House, and to see that the bye-laws of the Company were duly observed. The hon. proprietor's question was an improper interference with the office of that committee, independently of its most trifling nature. (*Hear, hear!*) It required a knowledge, not of the attendances generally of the East-India Directors, but of the particular attendances only upon the two occasions, when votes of thanks were passed in the Court of Directors to Lord Amherst, and the military and naval

naval force in India. The learned doctor seemed to be in quest of a recruit or two, if he could possibly obtain one by implication or conjecture from behind the bar, to aggrandize his mighty minority of three in his motion of censure, in which he was so signally defeated. That motion, by the way, in his (Mr. Weeding's) opinion, was not one of censure upon Lord Anherst, whose character and conduct defied the attempt of the hon. gentleman, but upon the mover himself, and those who had the misfortune to agree with him, for the total want of reason and of policy, which characterized it. The course which the learned gentleman was pursuing, was trifling with the time of the court, and if he persisted in it, he (Mr. Weeding) must exercise the right, which every member possessed, and move that this court do now adjourn.

Dr. Gilchrist contended, that he was not trifling with the time of the court.

Mr. Cahagan said, the learned gentleman had at first confined his question to the two days he had named, but he now wished that the attendance of directors, on all occasions, should be communicated to the court. He had heard from a member of the Committee of Bye-laws, that he was surprised that so many directors should attend so regularly, considering the great variety of business to be done, and the many private committees to which they had also to attend.

The question was not pressed further.

MILITARY AND MEDICAL VACANCIES.

Mr. Hume observed, that he would pass to another, and a more important subject, on which he wished to obtain some information from the chair. Two years ago he had called the attention of the court to what he considered was a defect in the practice, of allowing vacancies in the number of European military officers to remain long without being filled up, by which the Company's troops were left without a sufficient number of Europeans to command them. He was then told that the subject was under consideration. Now he wished to be informed, whether any thing had been done on the subject since? He had been informed, on good authority, that so many were the vacancies in the Indian army, that there were some corps of 1000 men in which there were only three European officers. He wished to be informed whether any measures were in progress for filling up the vacancies made by the officers taken from the command of native troops and placed on the staff. There was, he understood, a very great deficiency of European officers, at the present moment in the Company's troops, particularly in Western India. He wished also to know, whether any and what steps had been taken for filling up the vacancies in the medical department of the army.

The deficiency in the number of medical officers was in some parts of India at present truly lamentable. This was particularly the case in Western India, so great was this deficiency that the Medical Board found it impossible to supply the absence of even one medical assistant. The losses in the medical department in India were so great, and the necessity of having a greater number in each regiment were so strongly felt, that the King's regiments serving in India, had now by the consent of the directors, three medical officers (one surgeon and two assistant surgeons) instead of two as heretofore. He thought that a similar regulation would be of great advantage in the native regiments, for he believed, it would be found on inquiry that a very considerable loss of human life had occurred from the want of a sufficient number of medical officers in the army. He would, therefore, beg to be informed, whether any complaints on this subject had been made from the Bombay government, and whether any and what steps had been taken thereupon?

The Chairman said, the hon. prop. had a considerable advantage over him, as he had many sources of private information while he (the Chairman) could consult only public and official records of the circumstances to which the hon. prop. had referred. He would tell the hon. prop. what the rule of the Court of Directors was with respect to vacancies in the number of medical officers. Every year a list was made out of all the vacancies which had occurred, and then steps were taken for filling them up, and he did not know of any better course to follow. In answer to the question put to him, he would say that he was not aware, that any complaints had been made from Bombay or elsewhere of a deficient medical establishment. Whether the establishments in those places were sufficient might be a question with the hon. prop.; but he (the Chairman) believed they were. He was aware that an additional assistant surgeon had been recommended to each of the King's regiments in India, and in that recommendation the Court of Directors entirely concurred. The King's regiments were differently circumstanced from those of the Company, but he thought that even including the late addition made to the King's regiments, the Company's corps were as well supplied with medical officers as those of his Majesty's service.

Mr. Hume, said it did not follow that because there had been no complaint of the deficiency of medical officers, that there was a sufficient number attached to the several corps. As it had been considered right to increase the number of surgeons in the King's regiments, he thought that for similar reasons an increase ought to take place in those of the Company.

Company. Any attempt at making a saving to the Company in this respect, would be the very worst possible kind of economy (*Hear, hear!*) and might be attended with consequences highly injurious to the Company's interests in India. He therefore thought that court could not too strongly recommend the appointment of an extra number of medical assistants to our native corps. The greatly increased extent of our territories in India, rendered an entirely new modelling of our medical establishments there extremely desirable, for from every information which he received from thence our present number of medical assistants there was by no means adequate.

The *Chairman*, said that the hon. prop. must be aware, that each corps in India, had a surgeon and assistant surgeon—but it was said that by the new regulation the King's regiments would have a surgeon and two assistant surgeons. The reason why the Court of Directors concurred in the propriety of this addition and at the same time did not think it necessary for their own corps was, that the King's forces in India had no medical staff to resort to as the Company's troops had.—At every military station, there was an hospital, belonging to the Company, the services of whose medical officers could at all times be available for the troops if necessary. Besides this the troops had the advantage of having their hospitals attended and the surgeons assisted by native dressers, who had received instruction in the medical establishment of the Company, and whose assistance had been considered very beneficial to the service. Under these circumstances he did not think there existed the same necessity for a third European surgeon in the native corps which there did in the King's regiments.

Mr. *Hume* remarked, that such was the great mortality sometimes in the medical department of the army, that whole corps were deprived of the assistance of an European medical officer. Now against such a calamity he would be anxious to guard by having a number in each regiment sufficient to supply any sudden loss. He remembered on one occasion, when he was serving in the medical department in India, that such had been the loss of life in that department, that he was the only medical officer with a division consisting of 8,000 men in the field. This he was aware was a scarcity of medical assistants which seldom occurred, but nearly an equal deficiency had been felt on other occasions and in other parts of India, and it was of the utmost importance, that the recurrence of such a case should be guarded against as much as possible. He did not say that the directors were to blame for such deficiencies

as those he had alluded to, but he would maintain, that there prevailed a very mistaken notion as to the number of medical and military officers necessary for our native corps. If all the medical and military officers regularly appointed to each corps could be kept up, the number might be found sufficient:—but that would be impossible, and where deficiencies were created by mortality and absence, it was impossible from the present number employed to supply them. He had understood that some regulation had been made by the Marquis of Hastings, with respect to the number of officers on the staff corps—but whatever might have been the effect of such regulation, he would contend that at the present moment the number (particularly of medical officers) in India was not sufficient. In this respect a new event had grown up in that country which it was the duty of the court to supply. It was the duty of the directors to follow the example set to them by government, and by allowing a larger number to each corps, than had hitherto been attached, to guard as far as possible against the effects of a great mortality in the medical department.

Mr. *Wigram* hoped the court would permit him to say, that the deficiency of officers in particular corps to which the hon. prop. had adverted had not been caused by an absolute want of European officers in India but by having a great many from each corps placed on staff appointments.—To prevent any future inconvenience from such a practice an order was sent out in 1823 directing, that only a certain number of officers should be taken from each corps to fill staff appointments. With respect to the alleged deficiency of medical men, he begged to add, that there had been a very considerable addition to the number made last year. An increase of fifty had been made at Bengal, and proportionate additions at the other presidencies. The hon. prop. in looking at the Company's medical establishment, founded himself too much on what had been done in the King's regiments without allowing himself to consider the different circumstances in which these regiments and the native troops were placed.—without taking into calculation what had been stated by the hon. Chairman, that the native troops have the advantages of a large medical staff; while the King's regiments relied altogether on the surgeons attached to them respectively. The company's troops had also the advantage of the assistance of the native dressers, which was by no means inconsiderable.

Col. *Baillie* recollected the instance to which the hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume) had referred, in which he alone had to perform the medical duty of a large body of native

native troops, consisting of five battalions. But the hon. proprietor should also bear in mind that every one of those corps had its full complement of medical officers, surgeons, or assistant surgeons at setting out, such however had been the mortality in that branch of the service, added to the casualties of war, that of all the medical officers originally attached to the division, the hon. proprietor was the only one left to do duty. When he mentioned this circumstance, it would be doing injustice to that hon. gentleman if he omitted to bear testimony to the great zeal and unremitting attention with which he performed the arduous task of acting as the sole medical officer to five corps in addition to the discharge of other important duties which had devolved upon him at that period. Those various duties the hon. gentleman had performed in a manner which gave entire satisfaction to himself (Col. Baillie) and he was sure he might add to every other person in the army. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. Gilchrist wished to be informed by the hon. Chairman whether the regulations made by Lord Amherst, for the purpose of giving medical instruction to natives with a view to their acting as assistants in the Company's troops, were still observed. This establishment reflected very great credit on his lordship, and he for one as a friend to the prosperity of India, cordially thanked him for his great exertions to render that establishment effectual, so that if he opposed a vote of thanks to his lordship, in one case, he thought, they were justly due to him in the other, he approved altogether of the establishment of a native school of medicine and he would give it every assistance in his power, but he wished to know, whether the establishment was still continued, or whether it had been knocked on the head?

The *Chairman* assured the hon. and learned gentleman, that the establishment to which he alluded had not been knocked on the head, on the contrary every encouragement was held out to it, and it was going on in a flourishing condition, and much benefit to the company would he had no doubt be derived from it.

MUTINY AT BARRACKPORE.

Mr. *Hume* rose to submit a motion which arose out of the proceedings of the last two days; he thought after what had been said, on the subject of the affair of Barrackpore much as he wished that in India it should be buried in oblivion it should not be allowed to remain without further investigation. It was also due to the character of the noble lord at the head of the Indian Government, as also to that of the gallant general Sir E. Paget, that an immediate inquiry should take place, when he mentioned the name

of Sir E. Paget he could not omit to notice what had been stated, that his name had been omitted from the vote of thanks in which other officers in India had been included in consequence of his conduct at Barrackpore. It had been represented that he (Mr. Hume) had eulogised the conduct of Sir E. Paget. If he had done so, it certainly was without his own knowledge for he had not intended to do so, but at the same time, it was not his intention to condemn him without full information, as to the facts. But enough had already transpired to convince him that it would be an act of the greatest injustice to Sir E. Paget to prevent the fullest investigation of the whole circumstance from being gone into. Imputations had been cast upon his conduct on that occasion, and that too from quarters where much information as to the real facts was likely to exist, which called loudly for examination. He had seen and now possessed a letter written by the son of Lord Amherst, to a friend in the Company's civil service, in which he alluded to a report that had then just reached India from England—that his father was about to be recalled, in consequence of his share in the proceedings at Barrackpore; and, after other remarks he added that the government of India had not given an opinion on the conduct towards the troops, "out of delicacy to Sir E. Paget, who being a member of that government, would thus be called upon to pronounce censure on himself." He (Mr. Hume) did not mean to cast any blame either upon Sir E. Paget or Lord Amherst, but he thought that, circumstanced as they both were, the court had every right to demand such information as would lay the blame, if blame existed, in the proper quarter. He had information on the subject from various sources, but he preferred getting the official account. He perceived, by the Calcutta Gazette, a general order from the Governor-general, from Fort-William, dated 4th November, 1824, and in that order an account is given of the transaction, very different, he believed, from that which would be proved by a statement of the real facts. The hon. proprietor then proceeded to read the general order, given in this journal, vol. xix. p. 467, commenting upon the several passages as he proceeded.

Mr. *Wigram* rose to order, and observed, that if the hon. proprietor intended only to move for papers, he was rather out of the regular course, in going into a minute detail of facts, which the production of those papers might or might not substantiate. If nothing but the production of papers was sought, it would be much better to abstain from any discussion on the possible contents of those papers.

Mr.

Mr. Hume said, that he only stated a few of the facts which had reached him on this subject, and would now refrain from offering another word, provided the motion was granted. But though he did not intend to lay before the court the whole of the information which he possessed, (preferring that they should have it from the official documents, for which he would move) he could not avoid making a few comments on some matters that appeared to be admitted on all hands. He would not dwell upon the loss of life which had accrued on that disastrous day, but merely observe, that by the order given by the Commander-in-chief to the European and native troops, and to the artillery, a destructive fire was opened, and a charge was made, causing the immediate destruction of from 400 to 600 persons. An occurrence of this kind had never taken place in India before—it was unprecedented in any nation. He did not mean, again he begged to repeat, that the noble Lord at the head of the government, or the gallant Commander-in-chief were to be condemned for the course which they had pursued. It was possible that they might be altogether free from any blame; but justice required that in such a case every inquiry should be made, to ascertain where the fault lay; and it was with that view that he now called for information. The British public would never be satisfied, the people of India would never be conciliated, while that information was withheld. When so much had been said about the sending away two persons from an island, was it possible to suppose that the public would be contented at passing an outrage of this magnitude unnoticed. In England, fortunately, the people were so sensitive on subjects involving the loss of life, or of liberty, by acts of oppression, that it was impossible to suppose that this subject could be allowed to rest where it now stood. The inquiry was necessary, to prevent the risk which we ran of losing entirely the possession of India; for was there any man weak enough to assert, that if we ever lost the affection and confidence of the native Indians, we could long continue to uphold our present dominion in that country. It appeared, that of forty-seven sepoy of one company tried, six had been hanged; and of twenty who were tried, of another company, four had suffered death; of the whole sixty-seven, those who had not suffered capital punishment were, by commutation of their sentence, condemned to imprisonment and hard labour for life—a punishment to them more disgraceful than death itself. After these transactions government appointed a commission, consisting of three

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intelligent officers, to examine into the whole circumstances connected with the mutiny. These officers had agreed to a report, which was laid before the government, and a copy of it was upon the table of the directors. What he asked was, that they should lay that document before the proprietors, as the most authentic information which they could receive on the subject; by that means they would have an opportunity of seeing where the blame lay, if any at all were to be attributed. His motion would include, along with the copy of that report, a copy of the general orders of the government of the 4th Nov. 1824; also an account of the number of mutineers that were hanged, and a copy of any orders sent out by the directors respecting the mutineers who had been sentenced to hard labour, and the officers dismissed. The document to which he had before adverted, the extract from the Calcutta Gazette, went on to order, after describing the attack upon the mutineers, that the whole of "the native commissioned and non-commissioned officers (belonging to the revolted corps) be instantly discharged the service, as totally unworthy of the confidence of government or the name of soldiers." It should be recollected, that this very same document, in its second paragraph, stated that the revolted corps refused to march "with the exception of about 180 men and the non-commissioned and commissioned officers." It was thus admitted that these men took no part whatever with their revolted companions; and yet, without the imputation of crime, they were thus for ever dismissed the Company's service. Now, what he would contend was, that where this indiscriminate punishment had been inflicted, the court ought to be put in possession of the grounds on which such sentence had been decreed. It was impossible, with justice to Lord Amherst, that his government should be charged with the whole blame of the transaction. That court was, he conceived, bound to shew to the native troops, and to the whole people of India, that they would not suffer a case involving such important consequences, to pass over without the most minute investigation. The hon. prop. then moved, "That there be laid before this court a copy of the proceedings of the committee appointed in Calcutta to inquire and report on the mutiny of the native troops at Barrackpore, in November 1824.

"A copy of the general orders of the Bengal government of the 4th November (No. 335, of 1824), respecting the mutiny of the 47th regt. of native infantry at Barrackpore.

"A return of the number of the mutineers that were hanged, and the number whose

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whose sentences were commuted to labour on the roads."

"A copy of any despatch containing the orders of the Court of Directors to the Bengal government respecting the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the mutineers who had been placed on the roads to labour, and respecting the native commissioned officers of the 47th regiment, who had been dismissed by orders of government of the 4th Nov. 1824."

Dr. Gilchrist seconded the motion.

Sir C. Forbes said, that in supporting the motion, he did not intend to give any opinion as to whether censure should or should not be passed on particular individuals. He at present blamed no party. His object was to procure information. (*Hear, hear!*) The accounts which had reached this country respecting this horrible transaction, from several quarters, were so various and contradictory, first implicating one party and then another, that it was dangerous to place any reliance on them; and justice to the parties whose names had been mentioned required that the fullest and most authentic information should be laid before the public. Sooner or later this should be done; for it was absurd to suppose—indeed it was impossible—that parliament should be told that 400 or 500 of our fellow-subjects had been sacrificed, without, at the same time, making public the grounds on which that horrible massacre had been resorted to. (*Hear, hear!*) In the statement of the numbers who actually fell on the 2d of November, there was, he believed, some exaggeration. From the information which had reached him on this subject, he was led to believe that the whole number who perished, including men and women, and possibly children, did not exceed from 300 to 400. But who could have said what the numbers might have been, when the orders were given to pursue the unfortunate men, who fled at the first discharge, not to spare one of them, but to destroy all the men within their reach. It was positively stated, that many who were wholly innocent of any mutiny—not in any way connected with the mutineers—were put to death in this almost indiscriminate slaughter. Some were hunted like beasts through the fields, pursued into the houses where they had sought shelter, and there butchered in cold blood. He would mention one instance which had reached him, as a proof of the manner in which the orders given had been executed, when every man of colour who came in the way seemed to be a fit object for vengeance. One man, who happened to be near the scene of slaughter at its commencement, seeing his countrymen fall, became naturally alarmed, and sought his safety in flight. He was pursued by two European soldiers, to avoid whom he

got up into a tree. He had scarcely reached that imagined shelter, when the guns of both his pursuers were levelled at him. An officer, who saw the affair, called out to the soldiers not to fire; but he had scarcely uttered the words, when one of the muskets was discharged, and the unfortunate native fell wounded to the ground. The soldiers went up to him, when he raised his hands and supplicated for mercy, calling aloud in the Hindoostanee language, "I am not a sepoy, I am only a gardener to the great man" (the Governor-general). And this really was the fact. He had been employed in the Governor-general's garden at Barrackpore. (*Hear, hear!*) What, he asked, would be said if, by the orders of government, 300 or 400 of our best troops had been sacrificed in the open day, on the ground of mutiny, if no other explanation of the affair were given, but that the men were destroyed because they had mutinied—and that no farther inquiry would be permitted into the transaction? A case of the kind, as far as the mutiny, had well nigh happened some time ago in this country. A regiment of the Guards had refused to obey the orders of their officers, on the ground of some alleged grievance. The officers went to their men and reasoned with them upon the absurdity of continuing in disobedience; and while they were thus endeavouring to bring them to a sense of their duty, troops were drawn round London, and every preparation made to use a summary mode of reducing them, had not the persuasions of the officers been effectual, and thus rendering a recourse to violent measures unnecessary. Had it, however, been otherwise—had force been used, and those men been destroyed, would parliament have been satisfied with the explanation that the case was mutiny, and that in such case the government had a right to kill men, women and children, without allowing any farther inquiry? Why then was that line of conduct to be justified in India, where every thing depended on public opinion, which would be so justly condemned amongst us? Were we to say to the people of India, that because the case was their's no justice would be done—no inquiry was to be made?—(*Hear, hear!*) He threw no blame on the Governor-general, or Sir E. Paget, or on the officers acting under the orders of either. A great deal might have been caused by bad management, or from mistake; but that court was bound in justice to make itself acquainted with the real facts, in order to bestow censure or praise where they might be deserved. On these grounds, and on these alone, he voted for the motion before the court. It had been said that it would be much more for the interests of the Company to allow

allow this affair to rest where it was, as it would be only renewing unpleasant recollections to discuss it at this moment. In this view of the case, he could not concur. He thought that every motive of honour and justice, and even of self-interest, strongly urged its examination on the court. As long as he continued to have a vote in that court,—as long as he held a seat in the House of Commons, as long as he valued the interests of the native people of India, so long would he continue to press this measure, until the information he sought was obtained, and until some measures were adopted by which the recurrence of similar outrages might be in future prevented. He would pledge himself, that if he were spared, he would, in the House of Commons, year after year, and month after month (*Hear, hear !*) bring this subject forward for the purpose of its investigation. He might perhaps, be thought to have expressed himself warmly on this question, but it was the warmth of honest feeling. He had no vindictive motives to gratify, and he was sure that none would be attributed to him. (*Hear, hear !*) He had no acquaintance with any of the parties who might be directly affected by the investigation. His only object would be what he considered the good of the native subjects of India, and the permanence of the Company's power in that country (*Hear, hear !*)

Mr. Weeding was desirous of testifying that there was one person at least, before the bar, decidedly opposed to the present motion, and he hoped that further reflection on the part of the hon. baronet, who had just sat down, would lead him to abstain from the perseverance he had threatened, and not allow his feelings of benevolence to weigh against his better judgment. The papers called for were shewn to be unnecessary by the very statement of the hon. gentleman who had moved for them. He had informed them that several courts-martial were assembled to try the mutineers at Barrackpore, after the first act of severity, which had subdued them. At these trials, not once, twice, but three times, many were found guilty of mutiny, and on one occasion forty-nine men were condemned to suffer death. What better testimony could the court have than the result of these deliberate and judicial enquiries? It shewed the necessity, however deeply to be deplored, of the severity which had been exercised. Unless gentlemen were prepared to contend, that military law should not govern military service, they would not consent to the present motion. It would have the monstrous inconvenience of erecting the Court of Proprietors into a tribunal for the trial of the military officers who had been engaged in suppressing

the mutiny. What military man would submit to such a tribunal? The inquiry then could only lead to irritation and angry discussion. Without the possibility of doing any good, it would tend to revive an unhappy occurrence, which all of them deplored, and most of them desired to forget. On these grounds he should oppose the motion. (*Hear, hear !*)

The *Chairman* rose to state the reasons why he should give his vote in opposition to the motion before the court. One of those reasons was that which had been furnished, by the hon. proprietor himself, in the outset of his speech, namely, because he wished the whole subject to be buried in oblivion. Another reason why he opposed the motion was, that it had been already brought before the court, discussed and negatived. It was on that occasion stated, that the whole question would be renewed in the House of Commons, with the view of inducing that house to order the production of the whole of the papers sought for. That motion had, however, not yet been brought forward there. If it should, and the House of Commons should decide upon publishing the whole of the documents, it had of course the power of doing so; but he, as a director of the East-India Company, would not take upon himself the responsibility of giving to the world papers, the publication of which could do no good, and might be productive of much mischief; the less would he do so, as he was under the firm persuasion that oblivion would be the best, in this case, for the true interests of the Company. The hon. member (*Mr. Hume*) had suggested, on the authority of private communications, that the omission of Sir E. Paget's name in the late vote of thanks, was caused by his conduct at Barrackpore. With private information, or private communications, he (the Chairman) had nothing, and would have nothing to do on this question, and he must be excused if he declined to receive them as authority; but he begged to be allowed to observe, that the affair of the mutiny had not occasioned the omission of Sir Edward's name from the vote of thanks. Had that transaction never taken place, it would not have occurred to his mind to include the name of that gallant officer in a vote of thanks, for military operations, in the personal conduct of which he had no share. He had felt it necessary to say thus much, to remove the erroneous impression which seemed to exist somewhere, that the omission of Sir E. Paget, in the votes of thanks, was owing to his conduct in the Barrackpore mutiny; and for the reasons he had already assigned, he would vote against the motion before the court.

Capt. *Magfield* said it might be necessary for him, briefly, to explain to the court, the apparent inconsistency, of having voted against a similar motion to the present, on a former occasion, and of voting for it at the present. He thought that when first the question was brought forward, the minds of hon. proprietors were excited and their passions influenced by the various exaggerated accounts which had then reached this country, with respect to the transaction, and while under such influence, it appeared to him that it would be improper to grant papers, on which important motions might be founded. But it never was his opinion, that those papers ought to be withheld altogether, or that the affair should be buried in oblivion. In this he concurred with his hon. friend, (Sir C. Forbes) or rather as he might call him, the friend of the human race. He agreed with him that this subject would never be forgotten, and that it should not be omitted as a subject of discussion until the whole of the details were laid before the court, that a proper judgment might be formed of it. For himself he would add, that in a case where human blood had been shed, it should never be said of him that he would consent to bury in oblivion the conduct of the persons by whose orders it had flowed, until the most distinct and satisfactory explanations were afforded of the causes which led to such a disastrous result. He did not mean to say that he would assent to a vote of censure on the individuals, by whom such orders were given—on the contrary, he admitted that those orders were called for by the necessity of the case, but then, what objection could there be to allow that necessity to be publicly known?

Col. *Baillie* begged, as an old military servant of the Company, that he might be allowed to say a few words on this important question, and to state his reasons for concurring cordially with the hon. chairman in his wish that the subject of the mutiny at Barrackpore should now be set at rest for ever. The grounds on which he founded that wish were generally those which had already been stated to the court; but more particularly his conviction that no good purpose could possibly be answered by the inquiry, while much mischief might arise from it. It had been argued, that the proceedings at Barrackpore should be further inquired into, in order that the causes of the mutiny might be ascertained, and the blame attached to those who deserved it; but, in fact, the necessary investigation had already taken place, to the fullest extent that the justice of the case required. The causes of the mutiny were known, and as far as practicable, had been obviated. The suppression of the mutiny, which was indispensable in the first instance, having been

accomplished, the unhappy and misguided mutineers were subsequently brought to trial, before the only competent tribunal, found guilty, and some of them had suffered the extreme punishment of the law: to many of them mercy had been extended in anticipation of the orders of the Court of Directors; and it was now known, beyond a doubt, that the whole of that portion of the army in which disaffection had been supposed to exist, had returned to a proper sense of their duty, and allegiance to the government. What then could be the use of further investigation or inquiry? The greatest good, which could at any time be proposed by such a course, must be, to guard against the recurrence of such unfortunate events in future, and to restore a proper feeling to the army; but these objects were already happily accomplished; for let us look to the present state of the Company's army in India; let us consider the perfect discipline, extraordinary zeal and devoted attachment to the Company which had so recently distinguished that army, and for which we have just been employed in conveying to them our merited thanks and approbation; and can we think that more desirable results could be produced by the proposed investigation? (*Hear, hear!*) The conduct of the native troops, on the recent memorable occasion, clearly proved, that whatever might have been the causes of irritation which had led to the mutiny at Barrackpore, they were now totally removed, and the confidence of the troops restored. What good end then could it answer to recommence a painful investigation, already concluded in India, and to renew the recollection of circumstances, which it ought to be the wish of every true friend to the army and the British empire in India, to bury in oblivion for ever. Could such an investigation in this country have the effect of convincing the troops, more firmly than they appeared to be already, of the paternal care of the government, and of its desire to attend to their wants and comforts to the utmost practicable extent? He was satisfied it could have no such tendency, and if not, what good could it produce? The court already knew that a mutiny had unhappily existed, that it was quickly suppressed, that an investigation of the causes had taken place, that those causes had been removed, and that the troops had returned to their duty, what more could be desired? He (Col. B.) must further beg leave to observe, that the inquiry now proposed to the court, appeared to him to be not only unnecessary, but altogether unprecedented. Mutinies, in the best constituted armies had unhappily often been known, and would perhaps continue to be so, they arose frequently from local and temporary causes which were

were sometimes easily removed; but, in no case, to the best of his recollection, had investigation like that now proposed been deemed expedient at a distance of time, and after the circumstances were nearly forgotten. He was old enough to remember a case of mutiny similar to the present in a native corps at Midnapore; the 15th battalion of sepoy, commanded by Captain Ludovick Grant. This battalion, for some alledged grievance or want of comfort, refused to embark on foreign service, and were reported to the commanding officer of the station to be in a state of mutiny. Other troops were immediately employed to coerce them, they were fired upon, and some of them were killed, others were seized, tried by a court-martial, and afterwards punished with death, the remainder submitted and returned to their duty. This happened during the government of Lord Cornwallis, one of the best and most virtuous of our governors. It was he who had selected the individual who commanded the mutinous corps, from a number of his brother officers, many of them senior to himself, as an officer peculiarly qualified for this command, though the result had, in this instance, proved unfortunate, yet no blame had ever been imputed either to the government or to the commanding officer of the corps; and the mutiny being happily suppressed, no further investigation took place and the matter was very soon forgotten. On the whole, therefore, he (Col. B.) must repeat his entire and perfect conviction that any further inquiry in this case was not only unnecessary but mischievous, and therefore so far from agreeing to the motion which had now been proposed, he had no hesitation in assuring his hon. friend and relation (Sir C. Forbes), that whenever again he should bring forward in that court or elsewhere his threatened motion on this subject, he (Col. B.) would be ready again to oppose him by every means in his power. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. Gilchrist observed, that the gallant colonel seemed to deprecate further inquiry on the ground that the troops were already satisfied and had returned to their duty; but that they were satisfied there was no better proof than the gallant colonel's assertion, and with every respect for him, he would say, he believed him to be mistaken in that assertion. He (Dr. G.) thought it would be an abandonment of duty to allow this subject to pass over without inquiry, and while he lived and moved and had a being, he would never suffer his tongue to be in oblivion with respect to it (*A Laugh*). In every view which he took of the case he thought information was called for. He did not seek for such information with the view of criminating the Governor-

general or the Commander-in-chief or any other individual. Until the documents were laid before them, no one could say with whom the fault lay. The gallant Colonel, had founded one objection to farther enquiry on the great zeal evinced by the native troops in the service of the company, and that he took as a proof that they were satisfied, and that nothing farther should be done in the affair of the mutiny. Now he thought there was another way of accounting for the zeal of the native troops. They were zealous because they looked to that court for justice—they looked to it for inquiry. Some of their comrades had been sent to work in chains in distant parts of the country—others had been put to death, and their bodies hung up and left as prey to the fowls of the air. Was it possible that the troops could be satisfied with such harsh treatment? It was urged that inquiry would cause dissatisfaction, but he would contend, that the surest way to cause dissatisfaction would be in the attempt at concealment, for it would be impossible to give satisfaction unless the fullest inquiry were gone into. They were told that an inquiry had been already instituted by a court-martial, but how did they know whether the interpreter who acted at that court was acquainted with the Hindustanee language or could give an exact translation of what the native witnesses said. He could assure the court that he was a sincere and staunch friend to the Company, and had an earnest wish for the promotion of its best interests. He would say to them, that they never could be secure of the affections of their native subjects, unless they treated them with kindness. While on this topic, he must say, that the very worst policy which the Company could have adopted, was that of ordering European soldiers to be the instruments of punishing the mutineers, to let them hunt the poor black fellows like beasts, who, while they sought shelter in hedges and ditches were most brutally attacked and destroyed without mercy. That was not the way to conciliate the good will of the natives to the British forces, or to the Company (*Hear, hear!*) The Company he knew were now in great strength and prosperity, but reverses might come, and it would be well to make friends in time. The Company would do well to be wise in time, and not to drive from them the natives of India who would be their best friends in the hour of trial.

Mr. Trant observed, that every motive of sound policy was, in his opinion, in favour of allowing the subject of the mutiny to pass without farther comment. He fully concurred in what had fallen from the gallant colonel (Baillie) as to the propriety of suffering the matter to rest where it

it was. Being convinced that no one good purpose could be answered by the production of the papers, but that on the contrary they would be calculated to excite much mischief, he would give the motion his decided negative.

Mr. *Hume* in reply observed, that hon. proprietors opposed the production of the papers on different grounds. The hon. Chairman had adverted to his (Mr. *Hume*'s) intention expressed on a former occasion in that court, to bring this question before the House of Commons.—Now he would tell the hon. Chairman why he had postponed that motion. It had been intimated to him, on authority on which he had every reason to rely, that Sir E. Paget was on his way to England, and that he would of course be able to give much information on this subject.—Being unwilling to bring on an important discussion in the absence of those whose conduct it might implicate, he had postponed it, but in so doing, it was never his intention to give it up altogether. The hon. Chairman had said, that the House of Commons might discuss the matter, and publish the documents if they pleased, but that he would not undertake the responsibility; but were they prepared to say, as officers of the India Company, that the House of Commons, and not that court, might be the proper place for discussing their most important affairs?

The *Chairman*.—"I did not say so."

Mr. *Hume* continued.—It had been said, that the House of Commons might discuss them and publish them;—but he contended, that if they were prepared to admit that the House of Commons—and not that court, was the proper place for discussing their affairs, they (the directors) ought to abdicate their authority. Their compliance with such a doctrine, would be completely giving up their power to be exercised by others, and would pave the way for its final annihilation. If they used their authority in this way, he, for one, when the time should come at which their charter would expire, would oppose its renewal on the ground that they had suffered the most important Indian affairs to be discussed and decided not by themselves, but by the House of Commons. That Company were the sovereigns of India, and ought not to allow, while they possessed that power, any others to exercise it for them; if they did, they might be assured they would soon lose it altogether. It had been urged as an argument against the further investigation of this question, that it had been already decided by court-martial. That was a most inconclusive argument; a man may be tried by a court-martial, for mutiny, and punished with death, for disobedience of orders. But the question might still remain whether such orders ought to have been given.

The mutiny, in this case was not doubled, but it might be of the utmost consequence to know its cause. On that ground, alone, information would be necessary. The question of the mutiny and that of the production of the papers were quite distinct things. It was certain that the Commander-in-chief, or the Governor-general, or some persons exercising the Company's authority, did cause the death of several of their fellow subjects. Was that no fair ground for investigation? If they once established the precedent that hundreds of their subjects might be put to death at the word of one man, and that such conduct was to pass without examination, there was no security for the Indian natives, and for the permanence of the Company's power in that country. An hon. director had told them that justice had been already done. Where did he find that shewn? Was it in the documents which the Court of Directors possessed? If it were, why not lay them before the Court of Proprietors, on whom they might produce the same conviction? The reason why he moved for the papers, was to know whether justice had been done, but the hon. director (Col. Baillie) told them it was his opinion it had been done, and therefore they must have no further inquiry.

Col. *Baillie*, begged pardon for interrupting the hon. gentleman. His reason for stating that justice had been done, was the apparent and acknowledged restoration of a proper feeling among the troops, whose good conduct and discipline during the late war, afforded sufficient evidence that justice had been done to them, independently of any written documents which he, therefore, thought totally unnecessary.

Mr. *Hume*. The gallant colonel might have given that explanation after he was done, without interrupting him. One of his (Col. Baillie's) first sentences was, an assertion that there was no occasion for further inquiry, on the ground that justice had been already done. Now this was assuming the whole question; but take it on the gallant officer's own shewing—admitting that the troops were as obedient as he had stated, he did not by any means think it conclusive of the fact, that full justice had been done. But without giving any information of this kind, the hon. Chairman and the gallant colonel were for burying the whole affair in oblivion. He was surprised how any body of men could concur in the expression of such a wish in this case.

The *Chairman* said he had repeated the wish expressed by the hon. proprietor himself.

Mr. *Hume* said, it was true he did wish that it should be buried in oblivion in India; but had he expressed any desire that it should be passed over in this country? While he did hope that it would be forgotten

forgotten there, justice, and an anxiety to guard against the recurrence of similar events, demanded that the court should have the whole case before them. Let them not blame him, if, at the next court, he should state the whole of the information which had come to his knowledge on that subject. It was said that private information ought not to be attended to. Undoubtedly he would prefer official information if he could get it; but, as he could not, he must make use of that which was within his reach. If the court refused this information, it would be believed they acted from fear. It would be said that they wished to shelter certain individuals, to protect them from the consequences of having caused the death of 400 or 500 persons; and it would be no unfair conclusion, from a refusal of the only documents upon which a correct knowledge of the facts could be obtained.

After some discussion as to whether the resolutions should be put to the vote together, or one by one, the former mode was adopted, and the Chairman declared that the motion was negatived.

Mr. Hume said, "the ayes have it."

Mr. Weeding said there were only six for the motion.

The Chairman—If the hon. member has any doubt as to the decision of the chair, he can call for a division.

A division then took place (Mr. Hume and Mr. Weeding being tellers), and the numbers were declared to be—

For the motion 6

Against it 26

Majority..... 20

Before the court adjourned, Captain Maxfield gave notice, that at the next quarterly general court he would move for the production of papers, shewing the mode in which business was conducted at some of the boards in India.

Mr. Hume said, on reference to the decision to which the court had just come, he had abstained from making any objection to the vote of the directors against it. He thought they ought not to have voted, as they themselves were in some degree to blame, for not having directed the allowances to be given, from the want of which, he believed the mutiny had arisen. However, he now gave notice that at the next quarterly general court, he would submit another motion on the subject of the meeting; on which occasion he would feel it to be his duty to lay before the court the whole of the information which had reached him on that subject.

The court then adjourned.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, July 26, 1826.

Government Securities.

Buy.] Rs. As.	Rs. As. [Sell.
Prem. 27 12 Remittable Loan 6 per ct. 36 12 Prem.	
Disc. 1 0 Five per ct. Loan. 1 8 Disc.	
Prem. 4 0 New 5 per cent. Loan.... 0 2 Ditto.	

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares—Prem. 5,600 to 5,600.

Bank of Bengal Rates.

Discount on Private Bills.....S.Rs. 7 0 per cent.
Ditto on Government Bills..... 5 0 ditto.
Interest on Loans on Deposit..... 7 0 at 2 m.

Prices of Bullion.

Sovereigns, each	Rs. 10 8
Guineas, do.	11 0
Old Gold Mohurs	18 0

Madras, Aug 10, 1826.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350
Madras Rs., per 336 Sa. Rs. 28½ Prem.

At a Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 26½ Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350
Madras Rs., per 336 Sa. Rs. 18 Prem.
At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 38 Disc.

Bombay, July 29, 1826.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 30 days' sight, 105 Bom. Rs. per 100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 31 days' sight, par.

Singapore, July 1, 1826.

Exchange.

Gov. Bills on Bengal, at 31 days' sight, per 100
Sp. Dis., Sic. Rs. 200.
Private Bills on London, at 3 months, per Sp. Dis., 4s. 3d.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

LAW.

ADMIRALTY COURT, November 29.

East-India Bottomry Bonds.—A question of bottomry, respecting the ship *Atlas*, stood over from last term, in order that it might be considered whether the bond in this case was really a bottomry bond, seeing that it contained a condition (common, it was alleged, to all such bonds in India) that the sum borrowed should be repaid by the owners, whether the vessel did or did not reach its port of destination.

Dr. Lushington was preparing to argue this day in support of the bond, when

Lord Stowell observed that he had considered the subject attentively, and was of opinion that the court had no jurisdiction in this case. Its jurisdiction was strictly limited to hypothecation-bonds. A bottomry bond, whereby the bottom of the ship, *pars pro toto*, was hypothecated, left some risk to the lenders, which justified the large interest such bonds bore. The Roman law, which recognized these instruments, termed the interest *pretium periculi*; but, in the present case, there was no *periculum*; the property of the owners was liable whether the ship should sink or swim. It required, however, a knowledge of Oriental mercantile usage (which he did not possess) to decide the question, since the form of the bond appeared to be customary in India. He therefore recommended a reference to merchants acquainted with the usages of the East.

On a subsequent day, his Lordship was informed that the parties could not agree to refer the question. It therefore waits the judgment of the court.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

A special general meeting of this Society was held on the 7th Dec., at the Society's house, Lincoln's-inn-fields, for the purpose of taking into consideration what proceedings it was necessary for the Society to adopt in consequence of the death of the late Bishop of Calcutta; the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair.

The secretary read the report of a committee, which recommended that, out of respect to the memory of the lamented Dr. Heber, the proceedings of the Society, as connected with his death, should be referred to a special meeting, and not mixed up with the general business of the Society.

Extracts of considerable length were then read from communications received from India, announcing the sudden death

of the Bishop, and the deep gloom which that occurrence had thrown over the whole Christian world in the East. Documents were also read descriptive of Bishop Heber's opinions and wishes on a variety of subjects connected with the Christian church in India. The agents of the Society, from whom many letters were read, dwelt strongly on the magnitude of the episcopal jurisdiction in the East, and unanimously recommended the appointment of three sees—one to each of the chief presidencies; as no bodily vigour, nor mental activity, could enable one individual to preside advantageously over an episcopacy comprehending such a vast extent of territory, and containing so many inhabitants.

The Chairman said, the first business of the meeting should be to pay the best tribute it was now possible to pay to the great and good man who had departed: he should therefore submit a series of resolutions, pledging the Society to carry into effect the recommendations of the late lamented Bishop Heber.

A number of resolutions concerning the local government and proceedings of the Society's agents in India were then put, and declared by his Grace to have passed *nemine contradicente*.

It was then proposed, that application should be made to his Majesty's Ministers to appoint a bishop for each of the three chief presidencies in the East; and a memorial founded on that resolution was read and unanimously approved of. Similar memorials were agreed upon, to be presented to the Board of Control and the Directors of the Hon. East-India Company.

Dr. Barnes, the late Archdeacon of Bombay, detailed the proceedings of Bishop Heber from his appointment to the see of Calcutta until his death, highly eulogizing his character and virtues. The establishment of three sees in India, he conceived was called for by humanity as well as policy; Bishop Middleton having sunk under the weight of labours which no single individual could properly undertake.

Mr. Trant said, that he had the honour of a close intimacy with Bishop Middleton, and should never forget the last interview he had with that estimable man. He said, he felt that his health was sinking, and added: "Tell my friends in England, that I have been sacrificed to the heavy duties which my appointment here has thrown upon me, and that any person sent out to preside over the whole episcopacy of India must be sacrificed." After hearing these, he might say the dying words of that pious man, he (Mr. Trant)

should not utter a syllable from himself in support of the resolutions.

The Chairman declared his readiness to forward the memorials: a vote of thanks having passed to the Archbishop (upon the motion of Sir T. D. Acland) for his conduct in the chair, the meeting separated.

THE DECCAN PRIZE MONEY.

The *London Gazette*, of December 8, contains a further notice of a distribution of the above prize money, to commence at the office, 8, Regent Street, on the 12th December, and end on the 13th March 1827.

The following are the particulars of the booty:—

POONAH.		Amount of Shares.	
General Staff	Commander in	£.	s. d.
H.M.'s 66th regt.	Chief	5,576	7 5
Forces of the Presidency of Bombay.	Brigadier Gen.	1,619	14 9
Engineers	Lieut. Colonel	388	14 8
Horse Artillery	Major, &c.	259	3 1
Foot Artillery	Captain, &c.	139	11 6
Poonah Auxil. Artil.	Subaltern, &c.	64	15 9
Ordnance Depart.	Troop Qr. Master	16	3 11
European regt.	Staff Serjt., &c.	3	4 9
Light Inf. bat.	Serjeant	2	3 2
1st regt. N.I. 2d bat.	Rank and File	1	1 7
3d do. 1st do.	Subadar, &c.	6	9 6
4th do. 1st do.	Jemadar, &c.	2	3 2
6th do. 2d do.	Havildar, &c.	1	1 7
7th do. 1st do.	Nalgues, Drummers, &c.	0	14 4
9th do. 2d do.			
Resident Escort			
Pioneers			
Dooley Corps			
Poonah Auxil. Brig.			
1st bat.			
Ditto ditto 2d ditto			
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.			
Madras Foot Artillery			
Pioneers			
SINGHUR.		Amount of Shares.	
General Staff	Commander in	£.	s. d.
H.M.'s 22d Lt. Drag.	Chief	5,230	14 8
detach. flank bat.	Brigadier Gen.	2,359	1 6
Forces of the Presidency of Bombay.	Colonel	943	12 7
Engineers	Lieut. Colonel	586	3 6
Foot Artillery	Major, &c.	377	9 0
European regt.	Captain, &c.	188	14 6
7th N.I. 1st bat.	Subaltern, &c.	94	7 3
9th do. 2d do.	Staff Serjt., &c.	4	14 4
Pioneers	Serjeant	3	2 10
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.	Rank & File, &c.	1	11 5
Engineers	Subadar, &c.	9	8 8
Foot Artillery	Jemadar, &c.	3	2 10
12th N.I. 3d bat. 6 cos.	Havildar, &c.	1	11 5
15th do. 2d bat. 4 cos.	Nalgue, Drummers, &c.	1	0 11
Rifle Corps 4 compa.			
Pioneers 2d bat. detach.			
POORUNDER.		Amount of Shares.	
General Staff	Commander in	£.	s. d.
H.M.'s 23d Lt. Drag.	Chief	459	15 2
detach. flank bat.	Brigadier Gen.	203	10 2
Forces of the Presidency of Bombay.	Colonel	81	8 1
Engineers	Lieut. Colonel	48	16 10
Foot Artillery	Major, &c.	32	11 2
European regt.	Captain, &c.	16	5 9
7th N.I. 1st bat.	Subaltern, &c.	8	2 9
9th do. 2d do.	Staff Serjt., &c.	0	8 1
Pioneers detachment	Serjeant	0	5 5
Poonah Supernumerary Auxil. Bat.	Rank & File, &c.	0	2 8
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.	Subadar, &c.	0	16 3
Engineers	Jemadar, &c.	0	5 5
Foot Artillery	Havildar, &c.	0	2 8
12th N.I. 3d bat. 6 cos.	Nalgue, Drummers, &c.	0	1 9
Rifle Corps			
Pioneers detachment			

SOUTH OF THE KISTNAH.

General Staff		Amount of Shares.	
H.M.'s 22d Lt. Drags.	Commander in	£.	s. d.
detach. flank bat.	Chief	259	12 3
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.	Brigadier Gen.	233	9 8
Engineers	Lieut. Colonel	56	0 8
Horse Art. att. to 22d Lt. Drags.	Major, &c.	37	7 1
Foot Artil. detach.	Captain, &c.	18	13 6
5th Lt. Cav. 3 troops.	Subaltern, &c.	9	6 9
4th N.I. 3d bat.	Staff Serjt., &c.	0	9 4
9th do. 2d bat. 5 cos.	Serjeant	0	6 2
13th do. 2d do. 2 cos.	Rank & File, &c.	0	3 1
Pioneers, 4 compa.	Subadar, &c.	0	18 8
	Jemadar, &c.	0	6 2
	Havildar, &c.	0	3 1
	Nalgue, Drummers, &c.	0	2 0

WABSDOTA.

General Staff		Amount of Shares.	
H.M.'s 22d Lt. Drags.	Commander in	£.	s. d.
detach. flank bat.	Chief	6,708	5 2
Forces of the Presidency of Bombay.	Brigadier Gen.	3,189	13 5
Engineers	Colonel	1,275	17 4
Foot Artillery	Lieut. Colonel	765	10 5
European regt. 7 cos.	Major, &c.	510	6 11
7th N.I. 1st bat.	Captain, &c.	253	3 5
9th do. 2d bat. 5 cos.	Subaltern, &c.	127	11 8
Pioneers detach.	Staff Serjt., &c.	6	7 6
Poonah Supernumerary Auxil. Bat.	Serjeant	4	5 0
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.	Rank & File, &c.	2	2 6
Engineers	Subadar, &c.	12	12 5
Foot Artillery	Jemadar, &c.	4	5 0
12th N.I. 2d bat. 6 cos.	Havildar, &c.	2	2 6
Rifle Corps, 4 compa.	Nalgue, Drummers, &c.	1	8 4
Pioneers detachment			

HILL FORTS.

General Staff		Amount of Shares.	
H.M.'s Royal Scots 2d bat. 2 cos.	Commander in	£.	s. d.
Forces of the Presidency of Madras.	Chief	1,048	3 2
Engineers	Brigadier Gen.	1,051	3 3
Foot Artillery	Lieut. Colonel	228	5 6
European regt. 3 cos.	Major, &c.	168	3 8
2d N.I. 1st bat.	Captain, &c.	84	1 10
13th do. 2d do. detach.	Subaltern, &c.	42	0 11
Pioneers 5 cos.	Staff Serjt., &c.	2	2 0
	Serjeant	1	8 0
	Rank & File, &c.	0	14 0
	Subadar, &c.	4	4 1
	Jemadar, &c.	1	8 0
	Havildar, &c.	0	14 0
	Nalgue, Drummers, &c.	0	9 4

LORD AMHERST AND LORD COMBERMERE.

The King has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, granting the dignities of Viscount and Earl of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to William Pitt Baron Amherst, Governor-General of India, and his heirs male, by the names, styles, and titles of Viscount Holmesdale, in the county of Kent, and Earl Amherst, of Arracan, in the East-Indies.

The King has also been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, granting the dignity of Viscount of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to Stapleton Baron Combermere, General and Commander of His Majesty's Forces in the East-Indies, and his heirs male, by the name, style, and title of Viscount Combermere, of Blurtmore, in the East-Indies, and of Combermere, in the county palatine of Chester.—*London Gaz.*

MR. JUSTICE RYAN.

The King has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Edward Ryan, Esq., on being appointed Judge in the Supreme Court at Calcutta.

SHIP LAUNCH.

On Dec. 14, the *Sussex*, of 1,400 tons, built for the East-India Company to replace the *Kent*, destroyed by fire in the Bay of Biscay, was launched from the yard of Messrs. Gordon, at Deptford, in the presence of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex and several of the nobility and gentry.

TWO CHINESE FEMALES.

There are now exhibiting in London two *soi-disant* Chinese women, one about twenty-four, the other about eighteen years of age.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES
IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L.Dr. Capt. W. Paribby, from h.p., to be capt., v. G. Paribby, who exch., rec. diff. (7 Dec.)

11th L.Dr. L. H. French to be corn. by purch., v. Pearson prom. (16 Nov.); T. Salkeld to be corn. by purch., v. Lewis prom. (7 Dec.)

13th L.Dr. Corn. B. MacMahon to be lieut. by purch., v. Campbell prom. in Cape corps of cav. (30 Nov.)

1st Foot. Lieut. R. Bennett to be capt. by purch., v. Carter, whose prom. has been cancelled (3 Aug.); Hosp. As. E. Greatrex to be assist.surg., v. Finnie prom. in 1 W. I. Regt. (16 Nov.); Lieut. H. C. Fraser to be capt. by purch., v. Anderson prom. (12 Dec.)

3d Foot. Lieut. C. Walker, from h.p. 4th F., to be lieut., v. Antrobous, whose app. has not taken place (16 Nov.); Lieut. J. S. Hughes to be capt., v. Wood dec.; Ens. J. Hanna to be lieut., v. Hughes; C. H. Darling to be ens., v. Hanna, all 7 Dec.

6th Foot. Ens. A. Connor to be lieut. by purch., v. Curteis prom. (7 Dec.)

20th Foot. Maj. Hon. E. Cust, from h.p. to be maj., v. Jackson prom. (12 Dec.); Capt. C. J. Deshon, from h.p., to be capt., v. Tovey prom. (16 Nov.); Capt. E. B. Brooke, from h.p., to be capt., v. Crokat prom. (23 Nov.)

38th Foot. Capt. T. Daly to be maj. by purch., v. Finch prom.; Lieut. H. Fothergill, from 64th F., to be capt. by purch., v. Daly (both 12 Dec.); Lieut. C. Stewart, from h.p. 74th F., to be lieut., v. Gambier app. to 38th F. (9 Nov.)

41st Foot. Ens. E. J. Vaughan to be lieut. by purch., v. Tatwell prom. (9 Nov.)

46th Foot. Ens. H. E. B. Hutchinson from 76th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Sutherland prom., Serj. Maj.—Williams to be qu.mast., v. Madigan dec. (both 7 Dec.)

47th Foot. Hosp. As. S. Teevan to be assist.surg., v. M'Curdy dec. (23 Nov.); Ens. W. O'Hara, from 36th F., to be lieut., v. J. R. Scott, who resigns (7 Dec.)

48th Foot. Capt. P. Macdougall to be maj. by purch., v. Morisset prom.; Lieut. C. H. Roberts to be capt. by purch., v. Macdougall (both 19 Dec.)

54th Foot. Ens. F. W. Johnson to be lieut. by purch., v. Clarke prom. (7 Dec.)

63d Foot. Ens. R. Kelly to be lieut. by purch., v. Hotham prom.; H. S. G. Bowles to be ens. by purch., v. Kelly (both 19 Dec.)

87th Foot. Surg. A. Armstrong, from Ceylon Regt., to be surg., v. Leslie dec. (34 Apr.)

89th Foot. Ens. S. I. Sutton, from 88th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Van Bearle prom. (16 Nov.)

97th Foot. Capt. T. Reeves, from h.p. 15th F., to be capt., v. Cave prom. (12 Dec.)

Ceylon Regt. Assist.surg. A. Macqueen, from 83d F., to be surg., v. Armstrong prom. in 87th F. (24 Apr.)

Allowed to dispose of their half-pay. Capt. J. Kirkman, 6th F.; Capt. L. Crawley, 48th F. (both 12 Dec.); Capt. H. P. Cox, 30th F.; Capt. F. Winkle (Lt. Col.), 40th F. (both 19 Dec.)

INDIA SHIPPING

Arrivals.

Nov. 29. *Marquis of Hastings*, Martin, from China, 30th April, and Batavia 23d July—also *Catherine*, M'Intosh, from Bengal 4th June; both at Deal.—30. *General Palmer*, Truscott, from Madras 30th July; in Margate Roads—also *Re-Rance*, Maitland, from Bengal, Mauritius, and the Cape; at Deal.—Dec. 3. *Richard and John*, Woodward, from the Mauritius 10th Aug.—also *Lady Rowena*, Russell, from N. S. Wales; both at Deal.—4. *Orynthia*, Welsh, from Singapore 8th July; at Gravesend—also *Columbus*, Brown, from Bengal 11th May; off Dover.—7. *Pyramus*, Brodie, from Bombay 24th June—also *Medina*, Briggs, from Bengal 2d June; both at Deal.—10. *Morning Star*, Buckham, from Ceylon 8th Aug.; at Deal—also *Marquis of Anglesea*, Steward, from the Mauritius; off Dover.—H.M. frigate *Alligator*, Chads, from Madras 16th Aug., and Ceylon 1st Sept.; at Portsmouth.—14. *Barrosa*, Hutchinson, from Bengal 12th May, and Madras 9th June; at Gravesend—also *Mary Anne*, M'Dorald, from Bombay 31st July; at Deal.—23. *Princess Charlotte*, M'Kean, from Bengal 4th July; at Liverpool.—24. *William Young*, Morrison, from Bengal 20th July; at Liverpool.

Departures.

Nov. 26. *Mariner*, Norworthy, for Cork and N. S. Wales; from Deal.—27. *Huskisson*, Wallace, for Batavia; from Liverpool.—Dec. 4. *Kent*, Alcock, for Van Diemen's Land; from Deal.—12. *Loretto*, Thompson, for Batavia and Singapore; from Liverpool.—15. *David Scott*, Thornhill, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth—also *Maitland*, Studd, for Ceylon and Bombay, from Deal.—16. *Tiger*, Rikharis, for N. S. Wales and V. D. Land; from Deal.—16. *Elphinstone*, Ritchie, for Bombay; from Greenock—also *Cassandra*, Frier, for Bengal; from Glasgow.—21. *St. Leonard*, Rutherford, for Bengal; and *Mangles*, Cars, for Bombay (with troops); both from Deal—also *Noron*, Leget, for the Mauritius; from Liverpool.—23. *Ceres*, Warren, for Bombay; from Deal.—24. *Vesper*, Talbert, for Madras and Bengal; and *Seppings*, Loader, for Ceylon; both from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per *General Palmer*, from Madras: Mrs. Col. Stackpoole; Mrs. Col. Macleod; Mrs. Col. Baillie; Miss Baillie; Mrs. Smart; Mrs. W. Grey; Mrs. Mitchell; Mrs. Banister; Mrs. Grey; W. Peyton, Esq., sen. member Medical Board; J. Thomas, Esq., Civil Service; Capt. Taylor, 4th L.C.; Capt. Evanson, H.M.'s 54th Foot; Lieut. Harris, H.M.'s 20th Foot; Lieuts. Chinnery, Chambers, Reid, W. Grey, Holland, Mitchell, Hoffman, and Beauchamp, Hon. Company's service; two Misses Baillie; two Misses Banister; two Masters Stackpoole; Masters Grey, Forbes, and Davies; two Masters Baillie; two Masters Banister; 120 soldiers, invalids of various regiments.

Per *Enobia*, from Bengal: Maj. A. Poynts; Capt. W. Warburton; Lieuts. J. Thomson and G. Byrne; Lieut. and Adj. Brannan; Paymaster W. Blair; Assist.surg. A. Cumming, H.M.'s 67th regt.; 130 King's invalids; 17 Company's ditto.

Per *Marquis of Hastings*, from Batavia: Mr. Byers.

Per *Orynthia*, from Batavia: Capt. Johnston.

Per *Lady Rowena*, from New South Wales: Mr. Doyle; Lieut. Piggott, 3d regt.; Mr. Burnalds, R.N.; Mr. S. Stewart; Mr. Kelly; Mrs. Gray; Mrs. Work; ten children.

Per *Pyramus*, from Bombay: W. Chaplin, Esq., late of Dacca; J. Farish, Esq., Secretary to

to Government: Capt. Paul, 3d cav.: Capt. Eden and Lieut. Curtis, H.M.'s 5th Foot; Lieut. Bellamora, 9d N.I.; A. Walker, Esq., assist. surg.; R. Farr, Esq., merchant; Capt. W. R. Best, late of the *Perseverance*, from the Cape; Capt. Douglas, H.M.'s 98th Foot; Master Farish; 4 servants.

Per *Reliance*, from Bengal: Mrs. Hemmings and child; Mr. Berry, from the Mauritius.

Per *Medina*, from Bengal: Lieut. Robertson; 3d N.I.; Lieut. M'Crae, 64th N.I.; Miss Sparrow and servant.

Per *Columbus*, from Bengal: Lieuts. Barnard and Blake, H.M.'s 38th Foot; Lieuts. Beville and Fitzgerald, H.C.'s service; Dr. Walsh, H.M.'s 80th regt.; three children of the late Capt. Swinton.

Per *Mary Ann*, from Bombay: Col. Dunbar, Nat. Cav.; Col. O'Donoghue, 47th regt., and family; Capt. Smith, late 4th Dr.; Lieut. Kean, H.C.'s service; Mrs. Drew; Thomas Fox.

Per *Boreas*, from Madras: Lieut. Malmédia; Mrs. and Master Malmédia. From the Mauritius: Col. Barry, chief secretary; Mrs. and Master Barry; Mr. Mrs. and Miss Mylius; Rev. M. Crow; Mrs. and Master Crow; Miss Schofield; Messrs. Pattle and Beattie, R.N.; Capt. Starkins, Mr. Dobbins, and Mr. Collins, late of the brig *Mariner*; four servants; five invalids.—(Mr. Featherstone, of the Civil Service, died on the 3d July).

Per *Morning Star*, from Ceylon: Lieut. Col. Patterson; Maj. Audain, H.M.'s 16th Foot; Dr. Dwyer, physician to the forces; Lieut. Dwyer, H.M.'s 83d Foot; Lieut. Pacard, Ceylon Rifle Corps; Mr. Lusignan; two Misses and two Masters Lusignan; Miss Audain; Master Rowen.

Per *H. M. S. Alligator*, from Madras: Capt. Kollett and Capt. Keele, R.N.; Col. Godwin, H.M.'s 41st Foot.

Per *William Young*, from Bengal: Mr. Brooks; Ena Webster, H.M.'s 67th regt.; Lieut. Scott, H.M.'s 47th ditto.

Per *Princess Charlotte*, from Bengal: Mr. P. Duncan; Mr. J. Baddeley; Master Baddeley.

PASSENGERS OUTWARDS.

Per *Tiger*, for V. D. Land and N. S. Wales: Deputy Com. Gen. G. T. Maddox and son; Mr. Vallance; Mr. Bennett; Mr. and Mrs. Roland and family; Mr. Coombs; Mr. Wedge and three brothers; Mr. J. Robison.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The brig *Sun* of Calcutta has been totally lost on her passage from Sydney. She struck upon a sunken reef of coral while steering for the entrance of Torres Straits, and went to pieces almost immediately. The first and second officers, with twenty-two lascars, were drowned. Capt. Gillet, with the remainder of the crew, reached Murray's Island in safety in the jolly-boat.

The *James Scott*, Richards, from Singapore and Batavia to London, put into Bombay on the 31st July, to be docked. The chief mate was dead, and the second-mate had fallen overboard and was drowned.

The *Britannia*, Bouchier, from London to Bombay, was lost on the 29d Oct. off St. Helena. She struck on a sunken rock at the mouth of the bay, about sixteen miles from land.

The *Joseph*, Christopherson, from Bengal, arrived at Gibraltar on the 3d December.

Casualties.

Capt. W. Meade, of the *Euphrates*, died off the Cape of Good Hope on the 1st June.

Capt. Remondson, of the *Sir Godfrey Webster*, died at Port Louis on the 26th August.

Capt. Wm. Ostler, of the *Marquess of Hastings*, homeward-bound from China, threw himself overboard in a fit of insanity off the Cape of Good Hope, on the night of the 9th September. A paper, containing the following words, was found upon the table of his cabin in the morning:—"A bad crew and bad chief-mate is the destruction of William Ostler."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 26. At Poplar, Middlesex, Mrs. George Baillie, of a son.

29. At Wellington Parade, Gloucester, the lady of N. J. N. Buckle, Esq., of a daughter.

Dec. 10. At Ryde, Isle of Wight, the lady of Capt. Flint, of the ship *Hope*, of a daughter.

12. At Woolwich, the lady of Maj. Ord, K.B., of a daughter.

16. In Great Cumberland Street, the lady of Admiral Sir Richard King, Bart., of a son.

19. In London, the lady of Mr. J. Du Puy (his Netherland Majesty's civil service), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 21. At St. Martin's Church, John Spark, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Miss Louisa Bayley, of Kensington.

29. At Edinburgh, Lieut. Col. Com. W. D. Knox, of the Bengal establishment, to Jane, eldest daughter of the late John Waite, Esq., London.

30. At St. Pancras New Church, C. Johnson, Esq., of Wallington, Berkshire, to Charlotte Mary, eldest daughter of the late Lieut. Col. Lock, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

Dec. 6. At Edinburgh, W. Tate, Esq., of the Old Jewry, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Maj. John Munro, of the Madras establishment.

7. At Titchfield, Claud Douglas, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Mary Madeline, second daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir A. C. Dickson, Bart.

14. At All Souls' Church, Langham Place, Robert, son of C. Chichester, Esq., of Hall, Devon, to Clarentia, daughter of the late Col. H. Mason, of the Madras cavalry.

16. At Folkestone, W. Knatchbull, D.D., Laudian Professor of Arabic in the University of Oxford, to Anna Maria Elizabeth, eldest daughter of H. Dawkins, Esq.

19. At Edinburgh, Mr. W. M'Crie, merchant, second son of the Rev. Dr. T. M'Crie, to Isabella, only daughter of the late Capt. Thos. Greig, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

20. At Preston, near Bath, Maj. St. John Blacker, of the Madras cavalry, to Anne Hammond, daughter of Sir Chas. Morgan, M.D., of Dublin.

21. At St. George's, Hanover Square, Isaac Nind, Esq., to Louisa, widow of the late W. Paton, Esq., second member of the Board of Revenue, Calcutta.

23. At St. Pancras New Church, J. S. Rodney, Esq., eldest son of the Hon. J. Rodney, chief secretary to government, Ceylon, to Eleanor, third daughter of Joseph Hume, Esq., of Upper Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square.

DEATHS.

Oct. 30. At Cokeremouth, Mr. J. Fallows, father of the Rev. F. Fallows, British astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope.

Nov. 22. At Ashling, near Chichester, S. Douglas, Esq., Rear-Admiral of the White.

— At Berlin, Professor Bode, the celebrated astronomer.

26. At Bath, Col. Edw. Brown, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

28. On board H. M.'s ship *Revenge*, off Naples, Francis Rawdon Hastings, Marquess of Hastings, K.G., G.C.B., &c. &c. Governor and Commander-in-chief of the island of Malta and its dependencies.

Dec. 3. At Edinburgh, Jas. Maitland, Esq., late of the Ceylon civil service.

7. In Buckingham Street, Fitzroy Square, John Flaxman, Esq., R.A., and professor of sculpture in the Royal Academy, in his 72d year.

8. At Putney, Mary Henrietta, daughter of Lieut. Col. P. T. Comyn, 53d regt. Bengal N.I.

12. At Dalton, Capt. Jas. Hodgson, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, son of W. Hodgson, Esq., Upper Bedford Street.

14. At Brighton, Lucy Eleanor, widow of the late Thomas P. Newhouse, Esq.

— At Paris, M. Malte-Brun, one of the editors of the *Journal des Débats*, and a distinguished writer on geography and politics.

July. At Penang, Wm. Chibley, Esq., member of council.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 9 January—Prompt 20 April.

Company's—Cape Madeira—Constantia Frontig-
nac—White and Red Constantia.

Private-Trade—Madeira and Port Wine.

For Sale 12 January—Prompt 20 April.

Company's—Shawi and Beyangee Wool.
Licensed—Cotton Wool.

For Sale 16 January—Prompt 6 April.

Company's and Licensed—Indigo.

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COM-
PANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.CARGO of the *Marquess of Hastings*, from
China.

Company's—Tea.

Private-Trade and Privilege—Tea—Raw Silk—
Silk Piece Goods—Curry Powder.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ship's Name.	Ton- nage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras & Bengal	1827. Jan. 5	Cesar.....	624	Johnston and Meaburn.....	Thomas A. Watt.....	E. I. Docks	William Abercrombie, Birchlin-lane.
	2	Sir Edward Paget.....	483	George Green.....	John Geary.....	City Canal.	John Pirie and Co. Fernan's-court.
	3	Harriet.....	250	Anthony Ridley.....	Ralph S. Kindley.....	City Canal.	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	10	Protector.....	511	Henry Blanshard.....	George Waugh.....	W. L. Docks	John Lynney, jun., Birchlin-lane.
	15	Childa Harold.....	453	Robert Granger.....	Wm. W. West.....	E. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-sq.
	20	Sir Wm. Wallace.....	321	George Wilson.....	George Wilson.....	Lon. Docks	Barber & Co. and Wm. Redhead, jun.
	10	Lady East.....	636	William Richardson.....	Charles S. Evans.....	E. I. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	31	Belconi.....	300	Andrew Talbot.....	Andrew Talbot.....	City Canal.	John Lynney, jun.
	15	General Palmer.....	610	George Truscott.....	Francis Truscott.....	City Canal.	G. Truscott, Castle-ct., Birchlin-lane.
	March 15	Eliza.....	632	David Sutton.....	David Sutton.....	E. I. Docks	Harber, Nente, & Co., Clement's-lane.
Bengal.....	30	Kingston.....	504	William A. Bowen.....	W. A. Bowen.....	E. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, and Co. Austin-friars
	April 5	Roulaugh Castle.....	550	Wigrams and Green.....	George Denny.....	Blackwall	John Pirie and Co.
	Mar. 12	Neptune.....	710	John Cumberlege, jun.....	J. A. Cumberlege.....	E. I. Docks	John Lynney, jun.
	Jan. 6	Isabella.....	350	Stirling and Co.....	Thos. Fyfe.....	W. I. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchlin-lane.
	10	Marcelly.....	300	Hamlin and Crews.....	John Crews.....	W. I. Docks	Robert Thornhill, Mark-lane.
	31	Resource.....	385	Bernard Fenn.....	Bernard Fenn.....	E. I. Docks	William Redhead, jun. Lime-street.
	7	St. David.....	352	John Leslie.....	J. Richardson.....	W. I. Docks	John Lynney, jun.
	5	Warwick.....	277	James Gibson.....	James Gibson.....	Lon. Docks	William Redhead, jun.
	—	Egyptian.....	359	John Fenwick.....	Wm. Lilburn.....	W. I. Docks	William Redhead, jun.
	4	Triumph.....	507	Taylor and Green.....	Thomas Green.....	City Canal.	Robert Thornhill.
Mauritius..... Batavia & Singapore	2	Maidine.....	90	Johnston and Meaburn.....	F. A. Cocklan.....	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	20	Mary and Jane.....	240	John Matches.....	John Matches.....	Lon. Docks	William Redhead, jun.
	10	Intrepid Packet.....	160	Arnold and Woollett.....	Philip Sleenan.....	Lon. Docks	William Redhead, jun.
	35	Victoria.....	280	James H. Southam.....	Jas. H. Southam.....	City Canal.	John S. Brinley.
	—	Cornwallis.....	176	Henry E. Henderson.....	H. E. Henderson.....	Lon. Docks	Henderson and Graham.
	5	Minerva.....	260	James Kaine.....	James Kaine.....	Lon. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	170	J. D. Thompson.....	170	J. D. Thompson.....	William Tayt.....	Lon. Docks	L. Swainson, Nag's-Head-court.
	10	William Maitland.....	240	John Pirie.....	Benjamin Morgan.....	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	15	Earl of Egremont.....	230	Robert Johnson.....	Robert Johnson.....	Lon. Docks	Cookes and Long, Mark-lane.
	23	Lacy Ann.....	238	Robert Brooks.....	Ranulph Dacre.....	Lon. Docks	Robert Brooks, Old Broad Street.
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29th Dec. 1826.

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

FEBRUARY, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

OPINIONS OF THE PERIODICAL PRESS RESPECTING THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

We have in preceding numbers of this journal submitted several articles to our readers upon the subject of the government of British India, our object in which has been at once to remove some gross misstatements and misconceptions thereupon, and to communicate such information, to those who are desirous of knowing the truth, as might qualify them to understand the subject, and to be on their guard against the delusive representations of interested and party writers. We have not confined ourselves to remarks upon the past and actual state of the system of Indian administration; we have adverted to the future, and speculated upon the policy to be pursued when the opportunity arrives for reconsidering the question in Parliament.

The gradual approximation of that period has attracted the attention of divers of our contemporaries of the periodical press, who have delivered their judgments upon the subject, either under the cover of reviews of works relating to India, or more openly, *ore pleno*, in what are termed original articles. We are of opinion that it will not be displeasing to our readers, if we examine some of these writings, and lay before them the specific sentiments of the authors; although we are not to regard them as authentic indices of public opinion in England, they are the notions of various individuals who have, or who ought to have, paid some attention to the subject, and are therefore entitled to, at least, some regard.

We shall begin with the *Quarterly Review*, the last published number * of which contained an examination of Sir John Malcolm's "Political History of India," and of two other works on Indian affairs; in the course of which the writer discloses the sentiments of the political party of which that review has generally been considered the organ.

* No. LXIX. published in December.

The reviewer seems to premise, as a fundamental principle, that some alteration is required in the existing mode by which British India is now governed. Adopting Sir John Malcolm's division of the complex government, into two branches, that in England and that in India, the writer observes, that upon the first the question is whether the object of good government will be best attained by continuing the present mixed system of governing, by the Company and the Board of Control, or by transferring the entire authority to the Crown. The objections to the latter scheme, as urged by Sir John, are partly admitted by the reviewer; he says that the government of our Indian empire requires the attention of *some* authority in England, "and this result we conceive to be attained in a much greater degree under the present system than we could expect it to be under any other that has hitherto been proposed." Resentful as the reviewer shows himself at the free remarks of Sir John Malcolm upon what would be the effect of clothing the Ministers of the Crown with the sole authority over the executive government of India,—the evils to be apprehended from "the urgent desire of satisfying friends, and disarming opponents; of conciliating the public, or of avoiding parliamentary discussions;"—yet after a decent show of defending the Ministers from such *improbable* suspicions, he concludes with the following passage:

Still we cannot but admit that the mutability belonging to the high offices of administration in England, and the change of measures to which contending parties are often pledged, might, if applied to India, materially affect the stability of our extraordinary empire in that country. Dynasties have risen and fallen in the East, without changing the laws or manners of the people; and there unquestionably is a fixedness about municipal and fiscal institutions in India, that renders change, even though directed to obvious improvement, difficult, and makes periodical experiment extremely dangerous. The present system of home administration is a most singular one; but at the same time it combines elements peculiarly adapted, as well to the political interests of our own country, as to the good government of our Indian possessions.

The reviewer, "maintaining the positive efficiency and political convenience of the existing system," proposes to make the Court of Proprietors the instrument by which any improvement is to be effected hereafter, either in the distribution of duties at home, or in the administration of government abroad. He presses strongly upon "the obvious and increasing utility of this Court, as the only medium through which the difficult question of governing India in the present day, with all the benefits of a representative system, without its official vicissitudes, can be obtained."

We earnestly and devoutly hope, if any project of this kind be entertained, that the constitution of the Court of Proprietors may be somewhat changed before it is converted into a parliament for our Eastern territories. We mean no allusion to any present proprietor, when we say that if an individual member of the Court can, by the purchase of £500 India stock, without any election, or inquiry into his character or capacity, acquire the right of harassing and impeding public business, of wasting the time of others by insipid harangues, of increasing the Company's expenditure by moving for mountains of papers which can never be read, such a Court ought rather to be restricted in its powers, than be armed with new ones, which, under its existing conformation, would be available for mischief rather than good.

With respect to the Court of Directors, which Sir John Malcolm proposes to exalt in the scale of authority, the reviewer recommends an improved distribution of the business, by which superintendence of the important departments of Indian administration should be assigned to previously acquired knowledge,

knowledge, and not, as at present, to mere seniority. He proposes that business now delegated to irresponsible persons, should be personally managed by the Directors, who would be answerable to their colleagues and to the proprietors for the application of their time and abilities to the department under their immediate superintendence. He subjoins, however, the following remark :

When the exchangeable value of the patronage possessed individually and collectively by the Court of Directors is taken into view, it may well be a matter of surprise that they do not possess a greater degree of influence on public affairs than at present ; and that the office itself, the qualification being so easily attainable, is not more an object of general ambition. It would, therefore, seem that, however large the amount of patronage, there must be something most innoxious in the exercise of it, which avoids censure by not attracting notice, and so affords the best practical reason for the continuance of this part of the existing system.

With regard to the local government of India, the reviewer seems inclined to admit the expediency of a new division and an increase in the number of the governments, as well as a change in the political character of the Governor-general, analogous to that recommended by Sir John Malcolm. He likewise urges (in opposition to the opinions of the last-mentioned writer) the policy of establishing one common judicial and fiscal system throughout the territories of the East-India Company. Sir John conceives that much mischief arises from "the continued effort to apply the same general rules, principles, and institutions, to every part of our extended and diversified empire;" the reviewer urges, on the other hand, that "with the fact before us, that the bigotted and comparatively barbarous Mahomedan conquerors of India did succeed in giving *some* uniformity to their general administration, it is difficult to admit that it would be merely hopeless to look for a similar result under a government free from religious intolerance, and possessing the advantages of civilization and knowledge." This argument would hold, if Sir John Malcolm had maintained the absolute impracticability of the plan ; but it is no argument against its mischief and impolicy, to allege what the bigotted and barbarous Mussulmans after all only imperfectly performed.

The reviewer considers the fact to be established by the authorities under his notice, that "the natives of India are, in point of moral character, fully equal to judicial employment;" he, therefore, leans to those who recommend their admission into high offices. When the fact is made apparent to us, we shall be ready to join in the above recommendation ; and can now agree with the reviewer in thinking that "their *gradual* introduction into the higher offices ought not to be regarded as entirely impracticable."

On the judicial branch of the administration in India, the only improvement recommended by the reviewer is a revision of the existing laws and regulations. The projected introduction of the punchayet, or court of arbitration, whatever utility it may possess in the manner in which it is now employed, under the authority of the superior courts, is admitted by the reviewer not to be adapted to an improved and improving people like the Hindoos of the present day. The warm terms of commendation bestowed by Sir John Malcolm upon this form of trial are thus adverted to in the review:—

The honest pleasure which our author must have felt, in seeing a province which had been for some years a scene of desolation and disorder, present the appearance of returning tranquillity and prosperity, may have led him to give too high a colouring to the effects of a system of law which is only fitted to the very simplest state of society, and which

which secures expedition by the total absence of professional knowledge and established procedure.

Upon the subjects treated in the last chapter of Sir John Malcolm's work,—the British community in India,—the Anglo-Indians,—propagation of Christianity—and the state of the Press,—the reviewer coincides with that author in urging the expediency of maintaining the existing principles of administration. "Such sentiments," he says, "are, in fact, common to the great majority of those who have carried any practical knowledge of the natives of India and the local administration to the discussion of these important questions." He observes that there are individuals with whom the propagation of their creeds is so primary an object, as to produce in them a neglect of the more homely considerations of practicability and prudence. "To such stirring spirits," he adds, "the colonization of a very old, a very densely peopled, and a very distant country, the conversion of eight millions of bigots, and the establishment of a free press in India, are points of easy attainment, involving no sacrifice but that of the prejudices and conveniences of an arbitrary government. Their voice here and elsewhere has of late been loud."

The reviewer enters somewhat fully into the question respecting the press; he says, justly, that the abolition of the censorship by Lord Hastings, and the substitution of regulations, made no essential alteration in the restrictions on the press. "However it might have suited the interest of individuals," he observes, "to assert that the substitution of these declaratory and prohibitory regulations, for the censorship, had given an increased latitude of discussion to the periodical press—it was obvious that, substantially, the matter remained as before: in short, that the alteration only extended to the permission of printing that without inspection which, practically, under the former system, could not have failed to receive the *imprimatur* of the censor."

In further corroboration of his argument, the reviewer quotes from one of the works at the head of the article,* the following passage, as embodying, in a very few words, the common sense of the whole subject:

A representative government and a free press are naturally co-existing political circumstances; the freedom of the press prevents the representative system from degenerating into a mere form; it is the element without which political vitality could not survive; but, in a government where every authority centers in the executive, the freedom of the press is an antagonist principle, always tending to the dissolution of of the administrative conformation. *Sic volo, sic jubeo*, when once the government have adopted a measure, must be the maxim of all despotisms: discussion and implicit obedience are incompatible; and the only quarter from whence a control, consistent with the duration of an empire, can be exerted over public functionaries in India, is England.

The reviewer adds to this statement, that whatever speculative good may be prognosticated from the establishment of a free press in India,—even the extension of Christianity—it would be open to the grievous risk of extinguishing all in a sudden agony of political convulsion.

The article we have here brought under our reader's notice is ably written: those who attach a degree of demi-official importance to the political opinions expressed in this work, will, we think, perceive in the article pretty convincing proofs that the supreme executive government is not much influenced by the clamour of certain malcontents; and that no essential changes are contemplated in the existing form of government for British India.

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* * A Letter to Sir Charles Forbes, on the Administration of Indian Affairs," by a Civil Servant.

We pass next to an article in the *Monthly Review*,* devoted to a critique on the valuable work of Sir John Malcolm, which was the principal subject of the preceding article. The writer of this article commences with the topic which in the *Quarterly Review* formed the last,—the press in India. It is gratifying to us to find that although this reviewer considers (very erroneously) Sir John Malcolm as the avowed opponent of Mr. Mill, and as “the general apologist of the Company;” and regards him as a writer whose sentiments, “on any branch of Indian administration,” are therefore to be received with caution; yet, upon the question of the press, he coincides entirely with him:

Yielding to no men (says the reviewer) in the zealous determination to uphold the principles of rational freedom, wherever their operation is practicable, we are yet thoroughly convinced of the *absurdity* and *madness* of attempting to apply them, for ages to come, to the state of society in India. Our empire in that country is avowedly a despotism—a beneficent despotism, indeed, it should be the public care to render it. Many generations must pass away before, if ever, a dawn of liberty can be cautiously opened upon the benighted Asiatic mind; and whenever we hear the cant of democracy employed in asserting the rights of a free press in India, we can only attribute the attempt, either to a political fanaticism, which is incapable of sane judgment, or to *more premeditated designs of mischief*. A free press in India would be an utter anomaly in a despotism: the continuance of its existence must ensure the subversion of the power which fostered it.

This reviewer is not disposed to admit that the original acquisition of our extensive power is justifiable in any point of view; he says we had never a right to plant a foot on the soil of India; and the aggressions of the natives, though ever so rash, were warranted upon the broad maxims of self-defence. Having acquired the empire, however, he acknowledges we could not relinquish it without inflicting a new injury on the people; and he adds: “We sincerely believe, moreover, that all India has gained largely by the supremacy of our sceptre; and on the reality of the benefits which it may confer upon the natives must the true glory of our dominion be based.”

In the brief remarks upon the character of the two branches of Indian government, the home and the local, the reviewer considers that the inconveniences in the forms of both are “universally acknowledged;” and that “it is admitted” that the whole system, in its present operation, is utterly unequal to the enormous extension which our power has received since its enactment. These rather gratuitous assertions are followed up by the following remarks, singularly at variance with the sentiments expressed in the article contained in the *Quarterly Review*, as well as those generally entertained by unbiassed persons:

The most glaring and primary imperfections are to be found in the nature of the controlling Indian administration in England. So anomalous a system of government it perhaps never before entered into the head of man to conceive. Mr. Pitt's bill was declared by himself to have been [to be] only a temporary experiment, amidst a choice of inconveniences; and that some great change has become necessary, if only to suit the prodigious aggrandizement of the empire within the last forty years, no well-informed person will be hardy enough to deny. The present constitution of the government is a strange medley of functions, between a Board of Control and a Court of Directors: the members of the former being British statesmen, bringing to their office no peculiar acquaintance with India; and those of the latter not statesmen at all, but individuals chosen by accident, through commercial and monied interest, or private intrigue. Yet the Board of Control are the real political governors of India. and the Court

Court of Directors the dispensers of patronage, and, in theory at least, the nominators to the highest offices of the state.

Let us just observe how the Quarterly Reviewer treats this objection as to the qualifications of these two component parts of the home government of our Indian empire, the anomaly of which he justly regards as palliating the anomalous character of its government. That reviewer considers that the distinction between the Court of Directors and the Board of Control, in respect to detailed knowledge of Indian affairs, is immaterial, and that in the parliamentary responsibility to which the members of the Board of Control are subject for the general conduct of these affairs, the nation has a security that no act of oppression will be committed by the servants of the Company.

There appears, in short, in the passage in the *Monthly Review* now under consideration, a tendency to fall into the vulgar error of applying to our Indian government the same political maxims as are applicable only to ordinary cases.

This article concludes with the following reflections, too vague and indistinct in their application to be of much value:

The whole fabric of our Indian administration must be taken under revision to meet the exigencies of the empire. A system applicable to the season of progressive dominion may be totally inconsistent with an established and stationary order of things. The very tranquillity and apparent security of our power must have a tendency to relax the springs of all our institutions, to convert the duties of the state into a mere sluggish routine, and to promote lethargy and inaction in the civil and military services. Even the relations of the subordinate servants of government with the natives, will need a watchful superintendence to avert consequences of incalculable mischief. If ever, in the pride of power, it be forgotten, by what means our empire has been established, its downfall will be precipitated by our own hands. Unshaken firmness and activity in our government, tempered with a scrupulous regard to the religious prejudices and civil rights of the people of India, can alone command their respect and win their affection. The sincere desire to improve their moral and political condition must be exercised with the utmost caution and prudence in its gradual operation. Such altogether can be the only path of successful duty, and may afford the only hope of perpetuating our empire.

We now proceed to a third article (a review of Sir John Malcolm's work, and of Mr. Lushington's History of the Institutions of Calcutta), published in the *British Critic*.*

The writer commences by deploring the apathy with which the British empire in the East is regarded by its possessors. He observes that "the great body of the nation, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, the mass of their most intelligent and influential constituents, the lights of the law and the church, the ornaments of either university, our eminent merchants, our historical and political students, know very little more of the East-Indies than of Peking or Timbuctoo." That there is ample ground for imputing apathy to the people of England respecting India is true; but the general imputation here is much too large and unlimited. The Quarterly Reviewer will not admit the justice of Sir John Malcolm's very modified reproach, that "Indian affairs do not receive a sufficient degree of attention from Parliament:" the reviewer alleges, in disproof of Sir John's assertion, that "two subjects connected with India have recently engaged the public attention; the one the war with the Burmese, and the other the state of the press in India. On both, the most complete information has, on the motion of different members of the House of Commons, been laid

laid before Parliament and the country : the usual Parliamentary attention has, *therefore*, been given to the matters in question ; and if no ulterior proceeding has taken place ; the presumption is, that none was required.”—Now, what would the reviewer say if another writer had affirmed that, because a multitude of excellent publications had appeared at different times, respecting India, *therefore*, the people of England must be well acquainted with the subject ? This is a plain *petitio principii* : the material fact to be proved is that the information has been read, examined, and understood.

The impression of the writer in the *Critic* is that the unnatural apathy he deplures will speedily disappear, through causes which he specifies.

Entertaining an opinion decidedly hostile to the aggrandizing policy alleged to have been pursued by former governments in India, and particularly the system of Lord Wellesley, the writer, nevertheless, confesses his conviction that a perseverance in the neutral scheme of policy was subsequently impracticable, and that the British empire in India could not have been preserved without measures contrary to that scheme, so pertinaciously enforced from home.

The opinion entertained by the reviewer of the nature of the Anglo-Indian empire, appears from the following passage :—

The conquest of India by Britain is of a very peculiar kind ; it has little or no resemblance to former triumphs in that country : it was not planned or desired by the authorities at home. The express, the repeated, the persevering orders from this country to abstain from aggrandizement, might almost suffice to exonerate the mother country from the blame which attaches to the transaction, and leave her nothing but the honour of having produced the men, and furnished the means by which that mighty empire was won. Yet, still, if she is required to produce the title-deeds to her Indian estate, she has nothing to bring into court but her sword. Justice and equity have little to say on the occasion. She rules in India by the self-same title by which the Spaniards rule in Mexico, or the Saxons in Britain ; and it is only by the use which remains to be made of her power, that she can distinguish herself from the vulgar herd of usurpers and conquerors, and atone, in some measure, for the assumption of an authority of which the origin was decidedly unjust.

With respect to the question as to what should be the future government for India, this reviewer gives no decided opinion, unless it may be inferred from his remark that “ the great argument for continuing the present system is that to improve established institutions is generally wiser and more advantageous than to form new ones ;” and that if this argument were overruled, “ the nation would readily adopt the opinion delivered by Mr. Canning in 1813, that if it were determined to dissolve the Company, there would be no great difficulty in devising a better instrument for governing India.” He adopts, implicitly, the sentiments of Sir John Malcolm in regard to Lord Cornwallis’s measures respecting the revenue, police, and courts of justice ; and his urgent recommendation of cautious proceedings, and of adapting our improvements to the prejudices and habits of the people of India.

The state of Christianity in India claims a large share of the reviewer’s attention, and excites no little warmth in him. Notwithstanding his subscription to the eloquent appeal of Sir John Malcolm, in behalf of abstaining from measures in opposition to the prejudices and rooted habits of the Hindoos, and of giving time “ for the slow and silent operation of the desired improvement, with a constant impression that every attempt to accelerate this end will be attended with the danger of its defeat ;”—he still inveighs against the government of India for the “ systematic neglect of Christianity,” and blames

Mr.

Mr. Burke's outrageous philippic against the Indian government, *solely* because "he never mentions the utter neglect with which Christianity was treated in the East!" Our conclusion is that Mr. Burke esteemed the passiveness of the Company upon this point a merit; and it was not his business to exhibit their virtues, but to exaggerate and caricature their alleged defects.

Neither of the three writers, whose opinions on the subject of Indian administration we have here recorded, has contemplated the transfer of authority from the Company to the Crown, as a *sine quâ non* towards improvement; neither has stigmatized the Company's government as unjust, mischievous, or radically bad. That it is not defective it would be folly or madness to contend; but we may perceive, from the diversity which prevails amongst those who think upon the subject, that it would be difficult to find many who would agree in their views of what is deficient, or in a scheme for improving what all admit to need improvement. If a government were now, for the first time, to be devised for British India, it would probably never enter the head of any politician, theoretical or practical, to propose such a system of rule as that by which India is now governed. But it does not, therefore, follow that the system is objectionable: an argument for a contrary conclusion seems rather to follow. Nothing but experience could demonstrate what was suited to the peculiar circumstances of such a country as India; an experiment, made by accident rather than design, has so far succeeded, that unbiassed persons, convinced of the defects in the form of government so introduced, deprecate a change in that form, and recommend partial remedies, to be applied to evils not inherent but accidental. We have no doubt that many other experiments might have been tried without such a result; that not one of the multitude of constitutions, of every shape, size, and colour, with which the pigeon-holes of the French revolutionists were filled, would have been better adapted for Hindoostan than its present government, many of the objections to which are the result of inexperience, want of information, or, as one of the writers we have just quoted says, "more premeditated designs of mischief."

It is amusing to compare the sentiments contained in the articles we have referred to, with the notable disquisition upon India in the *Westminster Review* of last year (a work to which, since the affair of the Greek loans, we should be inclined to pay less regard than ever), wherein the Indian government was represented as the cause of the misery of its people, to whom, it is audaciously asserted, "we have not communicated scarcely any thing really worth their having!"

Discarding all such gross and palpable misrepresentations, and rejecting the testimony of those who are incited by party feelings and malice to abuse the understandings of the ignorant, we shall find that public writers entertain a tolerably just esteem for the existing form of administration for India, and may thence derive some argument for concluding that the bulk of the nation are little inclined to see the East-India Company divested of its territorial rights for the sake of indulging speculative schemes, which threaten injury to our constitution on one hand, and loss of empire on the other.

THE PROGRESS OF INQUIRY INTO THE LEARNING OF INDIA.

[Concluded from p. 34.]

THE chronology of the Hindus was one of the peculiarities of their system, which first arrested European attention, after it was directed towards them upon literary and philosophical principles; the remote antiquity which they claimed for themselves was readily assented to by those who could credit the extravagant in the annals of China or Hindustan, whilst they refused to listen to the much more reasonable demands upon their belief in the Mosaic record: this delusion, however, could not prevail a moment after the subject ceased to be obscurely visible, and when not only its absurdity, but its artificial character, became distinctly perceptible. To supply the requisite illustration was one of the early subjects of Sir Wm. Jones's labours; and in his *Essay on the Chronology of the Hindus* and its supplement, he has exhibited a correct outline of the system, and endeavoured to reduce it to rational limits.

The matter of the universe in all Indian systems is eternal, but its forms are finite; all existing beings, even the gods, are from time to time destroyed, and the whole returns to a state without shape, and void: these periods of destruction are of more or less frequent occurrence, according to the importance of the object destroyed. The world of man perishes at much briefer intervals than the worlds of the gods; destructions are also partial or complete, and the race of living beings may be swept away by a deluge without the substance of the great globe itself suffering any material disorganization: from these notions of cosmogony have arisen the rudiments of Hindu chronology, as the attempt to adjust the periods of destruction, minor or major, partial or entire, has led to the artificial construction of the stages of the world.

The shortest period in Hindu chronology is an age, or a Yuga: four of these constitute one Maháyuga; seventy-one of these are under the control of a Menu, and the aggregate is thence denominated a Manwantara. There are fourteen Menus, and the total of their reigns constitutes a Calpa, when all the inferior worlds perish with their inhabitants: the gods and sages alone survive. A Calpa is a day of Brahma; his night is of equal duration; three hundred and sixty-five double Calpas make up his year, and he exists a hundred years; after which the annihilation is entire. All this is clearly mythological, and has nothing to do with real chronology, or even astronomical calculations.

The duration of a Mahayuga, or aggregate of four ages, is 4,320,000 years, and it is a question why this should have been chosen. Sir Wm. Jones is disposed to refer its origin to the number of years in which a fixed star seems to move through a degree of a great circle or 25,920; but we do not think his reasons very satisfactory. The most plausible, is that 432, which seems to be the basis of the Indian system, is a sixtieth of the above sum, and sixty is a number familiar to Indian computation: and that the two periods, 4,320,000 and 25,920, have among their common divisors 6, 9, 12, 18, 36, 72, &c., which numbers, with their several multiples, especially in a decuple progression, constitutes some of the most celebrated periods of the Chaldeans, Greeks, Tartars, and even of the Indians. It is now, however, perhaps too late to trace the principles on which this adjustment was made; and it is sufficient to feel satisfied that it emanates from imagination, and not from science. We shall have occasion to revert to the subject, as Sir Wm. Jones only led the way in

the inquiry, and was followed by several eminent writers, whose contributions we shall be called upon to notice.

Besides the mythological chronology, Sir William particularizes that which may be termed mytho-historical, and exhibits the series of the Avatars, or descents of Vishnu, and of the chief monarchs of India of the solar and lunar race.

The Avatars are ten, of which one, Kalki, is yet to come: the orthodox system assigns them all to Vishnu, to whom, as the preserving power, they are most appropriate, as they took place for the protection of mankind. The Saiva Puranas, however, enumerate a number of Avatars of that deity, who appear to have been the teachers of the sect: the incarnation of Buddha is of a questionable character, and seems to have been borrowed from a hostile sect. Sir Wm. Jones concurs with the Chinese authorities as to the date of Buddha, and places him about a thousand years before our era. From this, and from a Hindu verse cited from the *Bhagavadamṛta*, which in his translation makes the birth of Buddha to have taken place in the year 1002 of the Kali age, he argues that that age began only about 2,000 years before the Christian era, not 3,000 as usually asserted. In this, however, he is wrong, as the proper translation should be "after the expiration of the second thousand of the years of Kali, Buddha appeared;" consequently the stanza concurs with the received opinion, and with the Chinese authorities, placing the beginning of the Kali 3,000, and Buddha 1,000 years before the birth of Christ.

Of the fourteen Manwantaras of the present great period, six have passed, and we are now in the middle of the seventh. The presiding Menu is Vaivaswata, the son of Surya, or the Sun: his descendants in the male line constitute the Surya-vans, or solar family, whilst the descendants of his daughter, by Buddha, the son of the moon, form the lunar line. These princes the Hindus affect to trace through the three first ages to the year 2000 of the present; after which their authorities assume the prophetic strain, and describe various families who exercised the sovereign authority in modern and corrupt days, until they suppose the whole frame of civil society to be dissolved.

Sir Wm. Jones has collected the lists of the princes, and endeavoured to adjust the collateral lines with much shrewdness, but no very great success: the fault was not his, but that of his materials. He took his lists from a sort of compendium of the Puranas, compiled by Radhakant; but Hindus of the present day, however learned and acute, entertain too contemptible a notion of history to be capable of investigating its details with accuracy or care; the compilation, in this respect, is therefore, we doubt not, very loosely made: in fact, we question its being compiled at all, and it appears to us to be taken solely from the Vishnu Purana, with a few blunders of no trifling moment.

Whatever may be thought of the chronology of these kings, or of the circumstances recorded of them, we see no reason to question their existence, the order of their succession, or the main events of their reigns. When translated out of the language of the marvellous into that of probability, there is a general consistency in the narrative which shews it not to have been the product of arbitrary imagination, and there is an implied avowal in several of the Puranas, that it was derived, not from such visionary beings as saints and inspired sages, but from professional chroniclers, Sutas and Māgadhas, mere men of flesh and blood. That their records were not preserved with much

care

care may be conceded; and hence anomalies in succession and conflicting dates; but it is not unlikely that much confusion has been made by later authorities, in attempting to new-model the ancient stories: hence would seem to have arisen the perplexities in Buchanan's elaborate tables of the genealogies of the Hindus; they are taken from the *Bhagavat*, *Hari Vansá*, and *Vansá Lata*: the first is the most modern of the Puranas, and the author has made ample additions to legend and tradition, from stores of which we are unapprized. The *Hari Vansá* is an appendage to the *Mahabharata* of very questionable authenticity, and the *Vansá Lata* is—we do not pretend to know what. Here again, therefore, labour and talent have been at work on very suspicious, if not treacherous, ground, and the subject is yet to be investigated, with a due appreciation of the authorities to be followed. Bentley, and even Wilford, seem to have contented themselves with the list furnished by Sir Wm. Jones, and have implicitly copied its mistakes.

The supplement to the chronology of the Hindus contains comments on a passage in an astronomical writer, Varahamirha, on the position of the colures in the days of Parásara, the father of Vyasa, by which it appears that the solstitial points were then in the asterisms Dhanishtha and Aslesha, whilst in the time of the writer they were in Purvavasu and Uttarashárha, and that, consequently, Parásara must have written within twelve centuries before our era. But as Parásara was the grandson of Vasishtha, the preceptor of Ráma, the date of that demi-god is thus brought far below the limits assigned to it by the Hindu chronologers, and the whole computation is necessarily subjected to a like reduction. We have no objection to this general inference; but the import and authenticity of the citation have been made the subject of vehement discussion, to which we must hereafter recur: the manner in which it is brought forward and commented on by Sir Wm. Jones, is a happy illustration of his tact and talents.

The essay on the Indian zodiac affords another instance of his promptitude in seizing upon leading objects, in which he could not have been deeply studied. The immediate object of the essay was to refute the assertion of Montucla, that it was highly probable that the Hindus received both the solar and lunar divisions of their zodiac from the Greeks, through the intervention of the Arabs; the argument contradicting this is the specification of the twelve signs and twenty-seven mansions in the vocabulary of Amara Sinha, which was written, Sir William Jones maintains, before the Christian era. This date, however, has been denied, and it is difficult to prove it, although it does not follow that it is, *therefore*, wrong. However this may be, there can be no question that the work preceded the period at which science flourished amongst the Arabs, and the testimony is perfectly available for the purpose for which it is adduced by Sir William Jones; he might have added to this the testimony of the Arabs themselves, who acknowledge that they borrowed some of their astronomy from the Hindus. The latter, therefore, owe nothing on this score to the Arabs: how far they were possibly indebted to the Greeks will be better discussed hereafter, as the subject so well started by Sir William Jones was subsequently further developed by the maturer researches of Mr. Colebrooke. We may observe however that the antiquity and originality of Indian astronomy are yet far from determined. The conclusions of Bailly and Playfair seem to require some modification with respect to the extremely remote periods at which they supposed the Hindus to have made actual observations, but in other respects they are unassailed by the most competent authorities; and La Place concludes that the Hindu astro-

nomy is prior to that of the Greeks, and De Lambre acknowledges that it is their own.

An essay, not altogether unconnected with the preceding, which occurs in the third volume of the *Researches*, upon the lunar year of the Hindus, is a translation of the calendar with notes of the principal festivals. We look upon this as one of the president's least successful attempts, and feel exceedingly disappointed at the meagre account he has given of the occasions of the religious observances. His comments are very short and unsatisfactory; they are not accompanied by the legends accounting for the festivals, nor enlivened by a detailed description of the ceremonies observed, nor illustrated by what the author could have so well effected, a comparison with the sacred celebrations of antiquity. We presume the essay was prepared in haste, under a feeling which evidently influenced Sir William Jones on different occasions, and has not been without its effect upon his successors, that contributions were scarce and something must be done to keep the attention of the Society alive. This subject may, therefore, be considered as untouched, and we can scarcely conceive one more interesting to literary habits than the comparison we have suggested. Von Hammer prosecuted it partially in his *Analysis of the Researches*, but his oriental materials, confined as they were to this essay, were defective.

The mind of Sir William seems to have been fully alive to the novelty of his studies, and to the necessity of his placing himself in the van in various excursions to throw open a path to succeeding investigation. It is no mean proof of his superiority, that he has been followed by no one throughout his extensive career, and that in some of his undertakings he has found few or no imitators. We have noticed a case in which he stands alone, and in his essay on the musical system of the Hindus he has had but one to follow him.

The introductory remarks, in his description of the music of the Hindus, are written with great elegance and enthusiasm, and evince his love of the art, whilst his comments upon the system display very considerable knowledge of its theory. The musical modes of the Hindus are constructed upon the perception of the two phenomena, upon which all melody depends, the succession of seven harmonic sounds accordingly as each takes the lead, and the different intervals which occur upon two of those tones as compared with those of the other five: the Hindus, in short, possess the regular gamut, and the varieties of arrangement, which we denominate keys. They have also a system of *sol-fa-ing*, contracting the names of the seven notes to their initiatory syllables, and reading them *sa, ri, ga, ma, pa, dha, ni*, which is at any rate more intelligible than our own whimsical extract from a monkish hymn; and they possess various contrivances for the notation of melodies; they profess also to divide the notes more minutely than is found necessary in modern systems, and reckon twenty-two *srutis*, or quarters and thirds of a note, in their octave. The modes enumerated by the authority followed by Sir William Jones amount to nine hundred and sixty, from which he selects twenty-three as the most decidedly marked; but in most systems the number is considered to be thirty-six: each of these has its *ansa*, the tonic or key-note, and the *graha* and *nyasa*, which Sir William Jones proposes to consider as the mediant and dominant. He has given us the scales of the modes, and an air arranged from the notation of the Sanscrit original; a few more illustrations of this nature would no doubt be highly acceptable to such men as Dr. Burney, of whom Sir William Jones justly observes, he gives dignity

nity to the character of a modern musician, by uniting it with that of a scholar and philosopher.

The passion of the Hindus for personification follows them every where, and we find the principal modes, or Rāgas, turned into demi-gods, and subordinate modifications into Rāginis, or the brides of the Rāgas: this, however, is the work of poets not of musicians, and without interfering with science has given rise to some pleasing versification. Another singularity, which is less easily understood, is the conceit that the Rāgas are appropriated to certain hours and seasons, and that to perform them at any other is more monstrous than to sing out of time or tune. With regard to the marvellous effects of music, the Hindus are as credulous as the Greeks. We may add that the only native singers and players, whom Europeans are in the way of hearing in most parts of India, are regarded by their scientific brethren in much the same light as a ballad-singer at the corner of the streets, by the Primo Sopran's of the Italian opera.

An essay of no less elegance than the preceding is, that on the mystical poetry of the Persians and Hindus, and is illustrated by a beautiful translation of a beautiful poem, the *Songs of Jayadeva*. The mysticism of the Persians, their divine love, and their earthly expression of it, are well described in the usual style of our author, who with more genius than labour, throws off at once a slight but characteristic and graceful sketch of the whole, leaving the parts to be filled up by subsequent industry. The history of Sufyism is yet to be developed. It partakes in its leading principles of the tenets of the Vedanta philosophy of the Hindus, but whether it originated from that, or from a spirit of quietism which animates the passages cited by Sir William Jones from Barrow and Necker, and which has evidently diffused itself over a great part of the ancient and modern world, may be regarded as doubtful: its progress in Mohammedan Asia, and the lives of its chief professors, some of whom fell martyrs to the faith, are to be yet investigated; and its technicalities, which border close upon the cabalism of the Jews, are also to be described more in detail than they have yet been in the *Asiatic Researches*: indeed the subject, although full of interest, has scarcely been resumed, and we are indebted to the *Bombay Transactions* for the chief additions to our knowledge on this head.

Notwithstanding, however, we admit the merits of this essay, we wish the accuracy of the comparison between the mystic poetry of the Persians and Hindus had been more fully developed, for we are not at all satisfied that the raptures of the former are known to the latter, or that they ever express a feeling of passionate love for the deity, either absolutely or figuratively: unless where their modern writers imitate the Mohammedan Sufis, as is the case in some of the popular hymns to Krishna, especially those of Mira Bai. But that the emblematical theology, which Pythagoras admired and adopted, prevails amongst the Hindus, requires further proof than the loves of Krishna and Radha, considered by Sir William to typify the reciprocal attraction between the divine goodness and the human soul. That there is a mystical connexion between the two personages may be admitted, but it is one in harmony with the whole system of Indian mythos; and Radha is to Krishna what Lakshmi is to Vishnu, Uma to Siva, and Saraswati to Brahma, part of and one with himself, or his divine energy personified. At the same time it is not impossible that Sufi extatics exercised some influence upon Hindu personifications, when Radha was introduced into the story of Krishna. She is a modern graft, and is not to be found in the earlier histories of that demigod.

Even

Even in the Vishnu Purana she finds no place, and is chiefly indebted for her deification to the Brahma Vaivartta: the popularity of her worship seems to have originated, about four or five centuries ago, with Ballabháchari, in the Upper Provinces, and Chaitanya, in Bengal: we understand she has not yet made her way into the Peninsula. The songs of Jaya Deva might be thought to disprove these assertions, as their author, according to Sir Wm. Jones, is said to have flourished before Calidas. We presume that this must have been told him by some of the pundits of Bengal, who are ever exceedingly ignorant and indifferent about biographical verity; and we do not believe it occurs in any tangible shape; on the contrary, the history of Jaya Deva is familiarly known in Western India; he is one of the saints of the Bhakta Mala, and performed, according to that veracious chronicle, many miracles, amongst others restoring his wife to animation, after her decease. The precise period of his existence is not mentioned; but it was subsequent to the Mohammedan conquest, to the re-establishment of the worship of Jagannat'h, and apparently to the date of Ramanand; so that it could not have been earlier than the fourteenth or fifteenth century. This date will agree well enough with the period at which the worship of Radha and Govinda became popular. It does not detract from the merits of his poems, which are full of passion and tenderness, and exquisitely melodious: the songs lose their lyrical character in Sir Wm. Jones's translation; but the translation is in other respects particularly happy, and would suffer probably by a change of form. In the *Asiatic Miscellany*, indeed, we have the *Gita Govinda* translated into verse of various metres, in imitation of the original. The author does not appear; we rather suspect it to have been Sir William himself, who may have published it experimentally, and was not satisfied with the result: it is in fact much less elegant and musical than his prose.

Sir Wm. Jones's Essay on the Indian Game of Chess is very far from satisfactory, and for a very good reason—he was unable to find any account of the game in the classical books of the Hindus. The game which he describes is, however, much the same, except that it is broken up into four parties, instead of two, with eight pieces each, and these are arranged round the four sides of the board; the moves are of the same character generally, but are regulated by the cast of the dice. In spite, therefore, of the positive testimony of Firdausi, and the still more irresistible evidence of the original Indian name, Chaturanga, or the four divisions, whence Shatranj, Aredxez, Scacchi, Echeca, Chess, are derived, it is very doubtful if the Hindus ever possessed the game as it is now played: it depends upon the value of the terms translated by Sir William Jones, king, elephant, horse, and boat, and upon the weight of the Bhavishya Purana, how far they had any approximation to it, and the Chaturanga, after all, looks very like the modern chouper; a sort of tric-trac, or backgammon, which appears to have been known to all antiquity, to the Greeks as well as the Hindus, contrary again to the positive assertion of the Persian poet, that nerd, or backgammon, was invented by the minister of Nushervan. That there was some affinity between the Greek and Hindu game may be inferred not only from the use of dice, but the name, Passas, which corresponds as nearly as possible with Pasah. The subject, however, is still open to investigation, and no talent need be ashamed to stoop to it after the example set by the learning of Hyde, and the taste of Jones.

The rest of Sir William Jones's papers are: translations of two inscriptions; notes on the translation of others; conversation with an Abyssinian as to the source of the Nile; an account of the second classical book of the Chinese;

Chinese; note on the origin of the Afghans, and on Major Wilford's Essay on Egypt; a description of his visit to the island of Hinzuán or Johanna; and his anniversary discourses. These last will require some animadversion; of the others it is sufficient to observe, that they contribute to the objects of the society, and do credit to the zeal, industry, and talent of its illustrious founder. Before proceeding, however, to the Discourses, we may take a short view of what Sir William Jones has effected for Indian science.

The use of arsenic in elephantiasis, by the natives of India, was first brought by him to the public knowledge, and the information was not promulgated in vain: a late medical writer of high authority observes, that the most active and salutary medicine for every form of leprosy, in Europe as well as in Asia, is arsenic, and that it has been often found to succeed where every other medicine has been abandoned in despair: the knowledge of what had been written on the nature of leprosy, both by ancient and modern authors, displayed by Sir William in his introductory note, is a striking proof of his industry, and of the facility with which he adapted himself to any subject that excited his attention, however foreign to his ordinary studies.

Natural history found also a votary in the President of the Society, and his account of the slow-paced lemur would have been worthy of Buffon. His description of the pangolin is equally interesting: his account of the *baya* professes to be a translation; but we suspect it owes much of its merit to the translator. The barrenness of the *Asiatic Researches* in zoology is quite surprising, particularly after the example set by the President, which proved so well that the description of natural products might be highly valuable without being strictly technical. We have a few papers by a subsequent president, Mr. Colebrooke, and one or two by other hands, but the sum total is not to be named with the result of Mr. Horsfield's labours, in Java, or of Messrs. Diard and Du Vaucel in these very regions. There is the dawn of some activity in this department in the volume now published (the 15th); and the great oran outan of Sumatra is an animal of singular zoological interest; the account is well drawn up, and the illustrations are successful. One impediment in the way of investigations of this nature has been the want of adequate engravings; accurate draftsmen were procurable, but little success attended the transfer of their delineations to copper. The lithographic art being now established here, this difficulty is removed, and the drawings in future will be at least faithfully represented; we hope this may tempt our naturalists to redeem the credit of their country.

The favourite science of Sir Wm. Jones, however, was botany, and, in Bengal, he had ample incitement to indulge his taste. He seems to have directed his attention to it at an early period, as in the second volume of the *Researches*, which was published in 1790, we find him suggesting the design of a treatise on the plants of India, and exhibiting proofs, that he had engaged in the study of them. His next investigation was the spikenard, which he identified with the *valeriana jatámansi*, chiefly because it is the *sumbul-al-hind* of the Arabs, which is the *nard* of the Greeks. The evidence is certainly strong, and though it is very difficult to conceive how the Greeks and Arabs could ever have thought the *jatámansi* fragrant, yet a Hindu gave similar testimony, and producing a parcel of the plant, stated that when fresh it is exquisitely sweet, and added much to the scent of rich essences. Dr. Roxburgh seems to have been convinced by Sir Wm. Jones's reasoning, and concurs in his identification. But the present able superintendent of the botanical garden evidently entertains a different notion, and states that the

valeriana

valeriana jatámansi is little inferior in fragrance to others of the genus *valerian*, which smell abominably ill !* We must confess, although the subject is argued with Sir Wm. Jones's usual learning and dexterity, we do not think he has made out the case. There is, indeed, a point of no small importance to be yet cleared up in the outset of this inquiry, and it is by no means clear what the ancients intended by *nard*. The last of Sir Wm. Jones's labours was in this department, and botany has the melancholy honour of crowning his contributions to the labours of the Society. His catalogue of select Indian plants is an elegant illustration of the activity of his mind, and forms both a tasteful and learned introduction to the completion of that design, which it has been reserved for the present day to execute. Botany has been cultivated with more success than any other science in India; and the initiatory labours of Sir Wm. Jones have been followed by those of Colebrooke, Roxburgh, Carey, and Wallich, both in the *Researches*, and beyond their pale, until at length the accumulated fruit of forty years is about to be presented to the acceptance of the public in the volumes of a *Flora Indica*.

* Med, and Phil. Trans. Calcutta Med. Society.

THE VICIS OF TIME.

TIME is a flatt'rer : on the young
 He all his crafty skill employs,
 And tells them, with deceitful tongue,
 Of promised gifts, of future joys.

But when they reach th' appointed hour
 When Time his pledges should fulfil,
 When wealth should drop in plenteous shower—
 Comes beggary, or some other ill.

Time is a tell-tale—probing first
 With kind solicitude our breast,
 Learning our weaknesses—the worst—
 To him, as to a friend, confest ;

Revealing then to us, to all,
 The proofs of every sly offence,
 And leaving us, like fools, to fall
 Victims of silly confidence.

Time is a thief : he steals our wealth,
 Our joys, nay tears our hopes away ;
 He robs us of our youth, our health,
 With felon-laugh at their decay.

To Time I'll be a dupe no more,
 The flatt'ring, babbling, thievish elf ;
 I'll watch his tricks, I'll check his score,
 And cheat him, if I can, myself.

O.

LORD LAKE'S ATTACK OF BHURTPORE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : Some observations having appeared in the *St. James's Chronicle** of the 17th-19th of October last, in the shape of a letter from India, relating to the recent capture of Bhurtpore, which seemed to me to be gratuitously intended, or at least calculated, to vilify the character, or impugn the conduct, of the late General Lord Lake, in reference to the attack of Bhurtpore in 1805, I was impelled, by a sense of justice and duty (in failure of more able pens), to endeavour to shew the fallacious grounds of such injurious calumny, by addressing a letter to the editor of the same paper, under date the 17th of November last; but disappointed by no notice having been taken of that letter (although its receipt has been avowed), and the document being reported mislaid, and not attended to, owing to the multiplicity of other subjects, I earnestly refer myself, sir, to your good offices, in the hope, that the attempted vindication may be favoured with a place in the impartial, and less perishable columns of the *Asiatic Journal*; to which end I proceed to repeat the substance of the statement alluded to, and at the same time transmit, for your more ready reference, the extract to which it is intended as a reply.†

I most heartily concur in all the praise so justly due to the fine army which achieved the conquest of Bhurtpore; but surely, sir, neither the illustrious commander, nor the gallant troops which he commanded, could require or wish to see their heroic and successful valour parasitically emblazoned by invidious comparison, at the expense of their no less gallant, though not equally successful, brethren, who, under circumstances of far different and inadequate equipment, and having to contend with difficulties not to be remedied or surmounted at the time, failed to accomplish the actual capture of the place.

That attempt, which was ordered by the Supreme Government, was as necessary for our national honour, which had been treacherously and wantonly assailed during the hard-fought action with the foreign enemy, under the walls of Deeg, in November 1804, as it was unavoidable and indispensable for bringing the war with Holkar and his confederates to an issue, when they had leagued themselves with the chief of Bhurtpore, and allied their forces under the walls of his capital, whence they were succoured and supplied. And now that attempt, or rather the exertions made in its support, are stigmatized in the letter alluded to, as having been as "*heartless as they were headless!*" In the genuine spirit of a British commander, Lord Lake persevered in his exertions against Bhurtpore as long as he possessed the means of doing so with any possible hope of success. Had he done less, he would have failed in his duty to his country, and to the government he served: the issue was in the hand of Providence. And here, be it observed, that all the main objects (short

* The article appeared first (we believe) in the *Times* daily paper, from whence it was copied into other journals.—Ed.

† The passages of the article to which the strictures of our correspondent particularly relate, are the following:—"Thus has Bhurtpore, so long the boast and pride of Hindoostan, ceased to tower, and at last lies humbled in her gore; avenging the many gallant fellows who suffered in Lord Lake's attacks, which were as *heartless as they were headless.*"—"This army is under marching orders against the Rajah of Alwar, who refuses to give up his minister that attempted to assassinate Ameer Bux, whom the Government have patronized. He was one of the adventurers to whom Lord Lake gave away, they say, a jaghire close to Alwar, for want of any other to accept of it. He (Lord Lake) it seems, had to dispose of many in the same way. This Ameer Bux having never ceased to intrigue and intermeddle with the Alwar government ever since, had at last three of his fingers cut off in a tussle with some fellows in the dark."—"As for this same Ameer Bux, who is here, he looks a scoundrel."

(short of the actual fall of the place) which called for the attempt, were actually achieved: the Rajah, wearied out by the arduous struggle, sued for peace, was happy to return to the relations of amity with the Company's government, to pay a sum of money, not less than twenty lacs of rupees, towards the expenses of the war, and was further compelled to abandon his confederacy with our foreign enemies, who would otherwise have continued to overrun our provinces, and protracted hostilities at their pleasure, with a ruinous expense to our Government of war establishments, injury to our subjects, loss of revenue, and loss of reputation too. It would, therefore, seem difficult to conceive any becoming motive for such gratuitous and unfounded calumny.

The imputation exhibits in a forcible manner a fresh instance of what we have all, perhaps, had occasion to deprecate or deplore, *viz.* the propensity of mankind to judge and decide upon the merits or execution of measures by their result: as if mortals could always command success, and that that alone were the only criterion of capacity, fitness, or merit. As well might the assault of Allygurh, an enterprize of great daring, have been at the time it occurred, or be now, stigmatized with the epithets of rashness and folly, or heartless and headless; or the prompt attack of the enemy's powerful army at the battle of Assye, without waiting for the junction of the co-operating division, under Colonel Stevenson, had the heroic exertions on those occasions not succeeded.

Those brilliant exploits were of incalculable benefit at the opening of the war, and may truly be said to have insured its prompt and prosperous issue. Imperative considerations at the time demanded and justified the heroic resolutions to hazard the enterprize in both instances. In the former, the attempt was no less imperiously demanded than its propriety was eventually demonstrated to all India. The protracted operations of a siege, at the very outset of the campaign, would have had a baleful influence on all the plans and objects of it, and, moreover, in the short space of seven or eight days, a *fine* and well-appointed army, with eighty or ninety pieces of field-ordnance (afterwards defeated on the plains of Dehly, on the 11th of September 1803), would have arrived to the succour of Allygurh, and even if not competent to raise the siege by force of arms, it could have effectually done so, by crippling the operations, cutting off our supplies, and the communication with our provinces. The success of that brilliant exploit, led by the gallant Colonel Monson, and H.M.'s 76th Foot, left the British army at liberty to pursue its career of victory, by advancing to meet the enemy's army on the plains of Dehly; by the occupation of that capital, the restoration of its aged monarch, the fall of Agra, and the battle of Laswarrie, which all followed in rapid succession, within the short space of *two months*, and the consequent termination of the war with Dowlut Rao Scindiah, in Hindostan.

Or, looking nearer home, the same fallacious criterion might have attached the like odium to the great captain of the age, for his assault of Badajos, in 1812, but for the successful enterprize of General Picton's division, which, having established itself in the castle or citadel, decided the fate of the place, when all the perseverance and heroic gallantry of the assailants could not overcome the obstacles and determined obstinacy of the defenders of the breach, and where the loss sustained considerably exceeded all the casualties of the three months' siege of Bhurtpore in 1805,* during which the besieging army had not only to encounter the usual difficulties of a siege, but to contend

* Badajos: 1,035 killed, 3,787 wounded; total 4,822.—Bhurtpore; killed and wounded, 3,200.

tend with a circumvallating numerous force of horse, &c. under Holkar and his allies, constantly harassing their operations, intercepting their supplies, and always on the alert, at every assault, to molest the camp, and occupy the attention of every individual capable of getting under arms, to resist attack on one side, whilst the fortress was assailed on the other.*

Not satisfied with those endeavours to support and favour the besieged, the foreign enemy carried into execution, pending the siege, a further measure for distracting the attention and dividing the force of the besiegers, by the irruption of a powerful body of horse, under Ameer Khan, into the fruitful province of Rohilkund, where, from connexion of tribe and kindred, that chieftain relied on an insurrection in his favour. A less ardent spirit, and a less zealous army, might have yielded to such an accumulation of difficulties and dangers, and have gratified the hopes of their combined enemies by raising the siege; but that heroic commander, and his faithful soldiers, "animated by his example, and cherished by his applause," had not so learned their duty: making perseverance their parole, and providence their countersign, the siege was prosecuted with renewed energy, whilst the British and native cavalry (whose deeds on the plains of Asia will survive the envy of succeeding generations) pursued the invading force across the Jumna and Ganges, and without allowing the enemy time to plunder or repose, drove them through the fine province of Rohilkund, speedily compelling them to retrace their steps, and again to seek a resting-place under the walls of Bhurtpore.

Far be it from me to make any invidious comparisons, my only wish is to render the due meed of applause to all. I am filled with enthusiastic admiration of the magnanimous commander and his gallant comrades, by whom the salvation of Europe was achieved; and my only object and motive is to rescue from cruel reproach and ungenerous calumny the memory of another illustrious and heroic commander, and the meritorious army, whose gallantry, fidelity, and zeal, in a more distant, but not less arduous warfare, during the contest in question (the Mahratta war of 1803, 4, 5), excited the admiration and gratitude of all India, and called forth the recorded emphatic approbation and thanks of the constituted authorities in that country, and in Great Britain.

On this part of the subject I will only add, I have the happiness to know, that sentiments very different from those which it has been my painful duty to notice, have been expressed by an officer high in rank, and higher still in estimation, as one of the brightest ornaments of his Majesty's service, who participated in the capture of Bhurtpore, and who, when writing on the subject, to friends in this country, rendered a tribute of ample justice to the merits of the gallant exertions which failed of complete success in 1805; mainly ascribing that result to the causes stated in the foregoing observations.

I will

* So great was the disparity of numbers on these occasions, that it was found necessary to throw our cavalry into the defensive position of a hollow square, with the gallopers (six-pounder field-pieces attached to each regiment) at the angles; so as to present a front to the surrounding host of horse, which thus kept them at arm's-length; for the men in the service of the native powers, who generally provide their own horses, are not over-fond of risking their property and livelihood when there is no other booty in view than round and grape. Throughout that war, so greatly did the enemy's horse outnumber ours, that to those gallopers, and to the necessity which was enforced, of relying upon discipline and united effort, by not allowing our men to be drawn into individual or desultory warfare with the enemy, in which, and in the management of their horses, they had many advantages, aided by their vast superiority of numbers, it is no disparagement to say, the salvation of our cavalry may be materially ascribed; and so forcibly was this impressed on the ardent mind of Holkar, that when he soon afterwards fell into a state of insanity, he was frequently heard to rave about gallopers and horse-artillery, vowing he would never again have any other description of ordnance.

I will only trespass further, sir, on your time and valuable pages, by a few words more on the concluding part of the letter alluded to, wherein, as if to vilify, or indicate contumely, in regard to whatever Lord Lake had to do with, in the quarter in question, the writer traduces the character of the chieftain named Ahmud Bukhsh Khan (the person, no doubt, alluded to by the name of Ameer Bux), concluding his remarks by the ungracious, and, as I apprehend, very unmerited epithet, "as for this same Ameer Bux, who is here, he looks a scoundrel."

If, sir, you will do me the favour to embody with, or add as a note to, this letter, the correct and highly honourable description of Ahmud Bukhsh Khan, which is to be found in pages 227-8 of your interesting Journal for August last,* it will abundantly supersede the necessity for my entering into further explanation, than merely to add, that the said Nawaub is a gallant soldier, of very gentlemanly manners, esteemed and respected by all the distinguished public functionaries who have for so many years presided over the affairs of the Honourable Company in that quarter;† and that he was confirmed in the possession of a jaghier, or small independent territory, as were other chieftains, through the agency of Lord Lake, under the orders of the Supreme Government, on the behalf of the Honourable Company, in testimony of the sense entertained of their fidelity and adherence to the cause and interests of the Government of British India, under circumstances of greater reverse to our arms than ever before occurred in that quarter; and in which possessions, I am most happy to observe, the Government of the present day has afforded to them a salutary and honourable countenance and support against their intriguing and envious neighbours.

I am, sir, &c.

January 10th, 1827.

GANGETICUS.

* The character given of Ahmud Bukhsh Khan in the passage referred to above (which it would be inconvenient to repeat here), as well as his services therein recorded, fully bear out our correspondent in the praise bestowed upon this chief; his conduct towards the Alwar Raja displayed traits of generosity worthy of the brightest examples of antiquity.—*Ed.*

† In particular, the late A. Seton, Esq., and Sir David Ochterlony; names which only require to be mentioned to excite the most ardent admiration, respect, and esteem.

S O N N E T.

THE SUTTEE.*

HER last fond wishes breathed,—a farewell smile
Is lingering on the calm unclouded brow
Of yon deluded victim. Firmly now
She mounts with lofty mien the funeral pile,
Where lies her earthly Lord. The Brahmin's guile
Hath wrought its will;—fraternal hands bestow
The kindling brand;—the crackling embers glow,
And flakes of hideous smoke the skies defile.
The worthless throng their willing aid supply,
And pour the kindling oil. The stunning sound
Of dissonant drums,—the crowd's exulting cry,—
The falling martyr's pleading voice have drowned;
While fiercely-burning rafters fall around,
And shroud her form from Horror's straining eye!

D. L. RICHARDSON.

* From a new edition of "Sonnets and other Poems," in the press.

LEGEND OF THE HINDOO TEMPLE AT TRITCHENDOOR.

THE following history of the pagoda at Tritchendoor, or Teruchendoor, from the *Pooranam*, or tradition of the brahmins, notwithstanding its extravagance, is curious, and worthy of record:—

Casibabrema Reshee, the eldest of the fourteen sons of Bruma, the creator, having married two women, named Thithee and Athithee, the former became the mother of the gods, and the latter the mother of the Asurauls.*

Athithee had three sons, who proved far superior to the giants in strength and valour; the first was named by his father Surapurpana; the second Singamoga Suren, because he was born with 1,000 faces of a lion, and with 2,000 hands; and the third Gajomoga Sooren, because he was born with the face of an elephant. These monsters having, by intense devotion and unexampled penances, obtained from the Almighty whatever gifts they prayed for, in such a degree, that neither the gods nor mortals could destroy them, that their authority and government was to extend over 1008 *undoms*, each consisting of fourteen *logums* or worlds (*viz.* seven upper and as many lower worlds), and that all the creation, gods, giants, men, and animals, was to be subject to their will and pleasure.

Having obtained these extraordinary gifts, they returned to their father, and prostrating themselves before him, acquainted him with the extent of power they had acquired from the Supreme Being. He was sorry, because they would affect the Deverguls. The monsters desired their father not to concern himself about the Deverguls, whom they declared they would not suffer to remain in peace, but persecute them with the utmost severity, from the implacable hatred which existed between them since the creation.

They then marched from their father's capital, with a force consisting of innumerable armed carriages, elephants, cavalry, and infantry, extending from the north to the southernmost parts of the sea-shore; and on arriving at this part of the southern country, encountered the gods,† defeated them all, and reduced them to promise submissively to remain in subordination to their authority, and pay an annual tribute to them.

The Asurauls having thus defeated the gods, and reinstated them in their respective kingdoms as tributaries, they, by virtue of the powers granted to them by the Almighty, created a kingdom, and caused it to rise from the centre of the ocean, to the extent of 80,000 *yojanahs*‡ in circumference, and denominated it Veeramayendrapoorypatnam, the walls of which and the palace, &c. within were entirely of gold. The eldest brother and the next to him (with a lion's face) remained in this fort, and assigned a separate fort for their third brother (with an elephant's face), which was created for him, and denominated Crowengegurypurwadam.

These Asurauls having thus established themselves in the midst of the ocean, and rendered the gods in general subservient to their will and pleasure, ruled so very arbitrarily that even the Tremoorty (or Bruma, Vistnoo, and Seven) were not exempt from their trouble and oppression; many of the Deverguls, no longer able to endure the persecution of the Asurauls, abandoned

* Terrible monsters, or evil demons, or rather a species of giants.

† Deventhren, king of gods; Agree, king of fire; Emathermarajah, of death and hell; Nereethee, of giants; Varunen, of clouds and rain; Volwoo, of wind; Goberen, of riches; and Easanen, king of the north-east part of the world.

‡ The extent of each *yojanah* is reckoned ten Malabar miles.

doned their dominions and places of abode, and fled towards the northern part of Mahamairupurvadam (an immense mountain of gold, said to be in the middle of this world of earth), where they devoted themselves to strict penance, praying the Almighty to relieve them from the Asurauls. Many other gods were made prisoners, and suffered the most ignominious treatment from them.

The gods in exile having invoked the Almighty by fervent prayers and the most rigid abstinence, he honoured them with his gracious appearance, and promised to adopt effectual measures to destroy the Asurauls.

Forty *Saderyougoms** elapsed, and no measure was adopted by Permaisuren (the Almighty) for the performance of his promise. The Deverguls, during these ages, experienced the greatest indignity from the Asurauls. They therefore renewed their invocation with redoubled energy, and having, by the practice of certain mortifications and by strict abstinence, drawn the attention of Easuren† towards their sufferings, he appeared before them again. The Deverguls murmured at his indifference towards them, reminded him of his former promise, and pressed for its accomplishment. Easuren thereupon commanded the Gods of Fire and Wind to transport from Kylasom the *σπίγμα σωματος αὐτοῦ*, and that of Parvathee, to the Gunga of Casee (Benares), and to throw it into that holy river, from which he told them would rise Soobramonier, a god with six faces, who would in due time destroy the Asurauls and preserve the Deverguls. The two gods obeyed the order; the *σπίγμα* was removed by the waves to a spot on the shore which abounded with long grass,‡ from the midst of which arose Soobramonier.

Whilst this god, in his infant state, with six heads, twelve hands, and eighteen eyes, was playing in the grass, Vistnoo, the preserver, observed it, and immediately commanded the six stars named Kartigay to take care of the babe and give it milk. As these female stars could not conveniently suckle the babe at once, they prayed to Vistnoo to separate him (since six babes appeared to be united in one substance) in order that each of them might be able to give milk as commanded. No sooner did their prayers reach Kylasom, than each of them found a babe in their arms, which they affectionately nourished with care. Permaisuren and Parvathee, having heard of the birth of Soobramonier, with six faces, twelve arms, and eighteen eyes, immediately left Kylasom, and proceeded, mounted on bulls, to the Gunga, accompanied by the lesser gods and reshees. The moment Parvathee saw the babes, and learnt the cause of their separation, she re-united them, and applied him, in the manner it was born, to her breast and gave it milk. She took it with her to Kylasom, and assigned a part of it in which he might play. As the child grew up and improved, being without playfellows, she cast her eyes at the ornaments on her ancles (which were adorned with the nine precious stones), and instantly nine gods sprung out of them; they were called Nava Veerauls,§ who became the playmates of Soobramonier, to whom they were extremely attached, and they proved his faithful companions. These Nava Veerauls having once wished to have a force under their command, they perspired, and from the sweat of each issued one hundred thousand petty gods. The eldest, Veerabawoo, was considered as the general, and his eight brothers

* Each *Saderyougom* comprizes the four ages of the world, according to the Hindoo chronology.

† Another name of the Almighty.

‡ Called *Torpay*, in *Tamul*.

§ Nine heroes; their names are as follow:—Veera Bawgoo, Veera Kaiseri, Veera Mayendren, Veera Parenthren, Veera Martenden, Veera Raichathen, Veera Thakeen, Veera Theeren, and Veera Sooren.

brothers as inferior to him in rank, to the command of this nine lacs of petty gods, and Soobramonier was regarded as their king.

The Deverguls having a third time invoked Permaisuren, the supreme creator, to notice their sufferings, and no longer to defer the promised extirpation of the Asurauls, received an assurance that Soobramonier should be immediately deputed for that purpose.

Permaisuren then called for Viswakurmah, the carpenter of Dewalogum, and commanded him to bring a ruddum, entirely of massive gold, and set with all manner of precious stones, so as to shine with the splendour of many millions of suns, and also to provide sufficient carriages, elephants, horses, and infantry. These were soon ready, since Bruma, the creator (or rather the immediate agent of the creation) was present to create whatever was commanded by the Almighty.

Soobramonier was then called by Easuren, who delivered into his hands a lance or javelin, called *suttee*, which had the power of destroying all it was thrown at, and from which issued, as it flew, all kinds of weapons equal to the number of objects; taught him how to make use of *ustra** and *shustra*,† and ordered Bruma, Vistnoo, Deventhren, the Ashtatikkoo Paulaur, or god of the eight regions of the world, thirty millions of Deverguls, 108 Boothaganunguls (porters who watch the gates in Kylasom), and 108 Senanayaguls (chosen gods for warfare, who generally reside in Kylasom), to accompany Soobramonier with their respective forces in the expedition against the Asurauls. The Nava Veerauls, with their nine lacs of petty gods, were also ordered to accompany Soobramonier, who marched immediately from Kylasom with his celestial host, consisting of 330,000,000, and ordered a part of the advancing party to attack Gajomoga Sooren at Crowengegurry-purwadam. During the battle, Veerabawoo, the general, and some other Deverguls, with some of their force, were craftily drawn into the purwadam, and made prisoners by the monster. The moment Soobramonier heard of this, he sent the lance against him, which flew and split his breast, and after having broke his purwadam to pieces, ascended the upper regions, bathed and purified itself in the *Agasa Gunga*,‡ and returned immediately to the holy presence of Soobramonier.

Soobramonier was highly delighted at the exploit of the lance, and the imprisoned Deverguls having thereby been released, he desired Deventhren to take possession of the said Crowengegurry-purwadam; and having marched from thence with his army, arrived at Tritchendoor, and finding the mountain, by name Gunthamathana-purwadam, to be very high, on the sea-shore, and near to the capital of the Asurauls, he was so much pleased with the advantageous situation of this spot that he encamped here, and gave it the name of *Srijentheporam*.§

Soobramonier then consulted with Bruma, Vistnoo, the other gods, and reshees, relative to the measures to be adopted; and it being determined in council that a messenger should be sent to Soorapurpana, advising him of the object of this expedition, Veerabawoo was fixed upon, and deputed accordingly to carry the message, which was, "to demand from Soorapurpana whether he

* *Ustra*, in Sanscrit, signifies arrow. Soobramonier was taught to rehearse a prayer whenever he had occasion to dart an arrow, which had the virtue of causing as many arrows as may be necessary to issue from it, as it flew, and destroy the enemy.

† *Shustra* signifies all manner of fighting weapons.

‡ A river in the ætherial regions.

§ So denominated in Sanscrit for Tritchendoor.

he would release the three millions of Deverguls he had enslaved, and solemnly promise to desist from ever persecuting them in future, in which case he would be suffered to remain in the undisturbed possession and enjoyment of his kingdom; otherwise to assure him of Soobramonier's determination to exterminate his whole race."

Veerabawoo ascended this mountain, and from its summit leaped with such inexpressible force and fury, that the weight of his prodigious stature sunk the mountain to such a degree, that the root of it is thought to have reached the Padaulom.

Veerabawoo flew in the Augasom (ætherial region), and having reached the pagoda at the west gate of the Asurauls' fort, he went up to the top of it, and from thence took a view of the amazing extent of the kingdom, and its charming prospects. The palaces, and other magnificent buildings, were entirely of massive gold, and enriched with different precious stones. From thence, having discovered the place where the Deverguls were imprisoned, he contrived to make himself known to them, informed them of Soobramonier's arrival here on an expedition against the monsters, and of his determination to destroy the whole race, and therefore that they might soon expect their enlargement.

The messenger then transformed himself into the shape of a little child, and having entered the palace of Soorapurpana, went up, unsuspected, to the Kolloo Mundalom,* and there saw him seated on his throne, of undescribable richness and splendour. Many beautiful damsels were on both sides, fanning him with the chamaroms. Many of the captive gods were obliged to serve him with betel, and to hold the padikom (or spitting-pot). Many giant-heralds were reciting panegyrics in praise of his person, authority, the gifts he was endowed with, and his wondrous exploits; and many of the heavenly beauties were dancing before him.

The messenger, Veerabawoo, was so struck with the majestic objects he saw, and of the happiness enjoyed by the tyrant Soorapurpana, that he was somewhat ashamed at the idea of speaking to him from below. He then thought of Soobramonier, and having silently wished for a throne superior in height and splendour to that of the tyrant, a throne of incomparable splendour, and higher than the tyrant's, instantaneously appeared near it, with Veerabawoo seated thereon.

Soorapurpana was astonished at the sudden appearance, and demanded of Veerabawoo who he was, from whence he came, and whether he possessed the power of rendering himself visible and invisible, or whether he was a player come to exhibit his plays before him, and to receive some gratuity? Veerabawoo answered, "I am neither the one nor the other; I am the messenger of Soobramonier, the son of Seven, and a commander of the celestial armies."

Soorapurpana having desired to know the cause and nature of the errand, Veerabawoo communicated it to him. Whereupon Soorapurpana laughed; but being quickly after enraged at his presumption, called for Vagerabaugoo Sooren (his youngest son), and some of his troops, to punish him for daring to deliver the message. No sooner did Vagerabaugoo Sooren make the attempt, than the messenger took hold of them all by their legs, and dashed their heads on the ground. As this massacre was committed by Veerabawoo in the hall

of

* Hall of audience, garnished with whatever may be conceived most pompous, rich, and magnificent.

of audience, and in presence of Soorapurpana, seated on his throne of state, and as he now expected to be attacked by a great number of the tyrant's force, considering the hall too small to combat with them, he disappeared, and flew through the air towards the south gate, where he encountered Yalley-mogah-Sooren (a valiant giant with the face of *Yalley*, a fabulous animal, who had charge of the south gate), and having destroyed him, returned from thence to Srijentheeporum, and acquainted Soobramonier of the result of his embassy.

Soobramonier, exasperated at the disrespectful behaviour of the tyrant, immediately prepared to cross the sea. He mounted his ruddum of unutterable splendour, accompanied by Bruma, Vistnoo, and innumerable other lesser divinities, and, with the whole of his formidable army, marched through the sea, which was so filled with dust, that it grew almost dry; and having arrived within thirty yogums of the Asurauls' capital, he halted there, commanded the water to divide, and caused an extensive city to rise. He gave it the name of Hemakoodaporapatnam, and encamped there.*

Naraden Reshee,† one of the holy prophets of Kylasom, having flown through the air to the capital of the Asurauls, informed Soorapurpana of Soobramonier's approach with the determination to fight him, and to destroy him and his whole race.

The tyrant, far from being terrified at the intelligence, laughed contemptuously at the determination of Soobramonier, firmly convinced that there were none in the 1,008 *undoms* within his jurisdiction, or in the whole universe, able to cope with him, since the mighty gifts granted to him by Easuren could not be taken from him. Elated with this notion, he told Naraden that he would immediately detach one of his officers with a small force, to punish Soobramonier for his presumption: Naraden flew back to camp, and apprized Soobramonier of his intention. The Swamy Soobramonier ordered one of the Boothaganoms, with a small force, to meet the enemy. A battle took place, and the whole of them were killed; the commander of the enemy's detachment, named Doondonum, having alone escaped slaughter, they challenged each other, and having lost their weapons during the encounter, after wrestling for several hours, Doondonum was lifted up by the Boothaganom and thrown aloft in the air. The moment he fell he arose again, and laying hold of his adversary, threw him also in the air; thus the two combatants tossed up each other several times with great force; the Boothaganom then became enraged, and grasping an iron pestle which was laying by, gave Doondonum a blow on his head, and killed him.

Soorapurpana, hearing of the defeat of his detachment, sent his son, Banoogapen, with a large force, consisting of armed carriages, elephants, horses, and infantry; previous to which he taught him the use of the *ustra jebom*, and assuring him of victory over Soobramonier, despatched him with his blessing.

Naraden

* This place is now called Cather Caumom, in Candy.

† This prophet is a distinguished son of Bruma, whose actions are the subject of a pooranam, and bears a strong resemblance to Mercury. He is said to be a very wise legislator, great in arts and in arms, an eloquent messenger of the gods, and to favoured mortals, and a musician of exquisite skill. He was, however, famous for his officiousness in intermeddling in all affairs between the Deverguls, Reshees, &c., thereby fomenting contentions, setting them at variance with each other, and exciting quarrels, confusion, and disorder amongst them; but the mighty gifts acquired by him from the Almighty were such as to keep them in awe of him, and he was, consequently, much respected. He could never be entrusted with secrets, nor could he refrain from divulging what he knew, because his belly would swell till it burst.

Naraden Reshee reported to Soobramonier the march of Banoogapen. In consequence of this intimation, Soobramonier sent for Verabawgoo (the messenger at first), gave him the necessary *verudoos* (banners or trophies) to display about his person, with a ruddum of indescribable beauty and brightness, and put a force under his command much stronger than that of the expected Banoogapen. He also communicated to him the use of the *ustra jebom*, and having rendered him in every respect superior to his foe, sent him from camp, attended with music.

Verabawgoo advanced, and his van meeting that of Banoogapen, a skirmish took place, in which that of the enemy was obliged to retreat. Both armies soon after engaged for a whole day; Veerabawgoo's was obliged to fall back and join their respective commanders (the Ettoo Verauls), who thereupon advanced at the head of their forces, and engaged that of the enemy; the whole of whose troops were slain by the Ettoo Verauls. Banoogapen attacked them singly by himself, and eventually darted the *ustrom* against them, which disabled the Ettoo Verauls, and induced them to call on Veerabawgoo for help. Veerabawgoo then opposed Banoogapen, and both darted, from their ruddums, numerous arrows at each other, from every one of which, as it flew, issued thousands, in showers. The body of Banoogapen being covered with wounds, and he becoming much fatigued, swooned for a moment, when Veerabawgoo aimed at his charioteer and killed him. He then cut off the flag fixed on the top of his chariot, then the horses, and lastly the chariot also. Banoogapen, on recovering, saw that he was nearly overcome; he, nevertheless, took courage, and aiming at the horses of his opponent's chariot, killed one of them. Veerabawgoo then drew from his armed chariot a weapon called *vagerayoudom*, and drawing close up to Banoogapen, gave him a final blow, which severed his head from his body.

Veerabawgoo having thus slain Banoogapen, his whole army returned in triumph with the Nava Veerauls, and communicated his success to Soobramonier.

The moment Soorapurpana heard of the victory of Veerabawgoo over his son Banoogapen, he, in great rage, ordered his ministers to prepare a greater force, under the command of two of his brave generals. His third son, Agnimogum (face of fire), hearing of the defeat of his brother Banoogapen, and of their father's sorrow and rage, pressed forward, and offered to take the command of the army. He observed to his father, that Banoogapen had not sufficient experience; but that he might depend on his prowess, and be assured of his destroying the presumptuous Devergula, and causing Soobramonier to retreat.

Soorapurpana was highly pleased with his son Agnimogum, and commending him, he detached him accordingly, at the head of the army, accompanied by the two sons of Banoogapen, to give them an opportunity of revenge.

Naraden Reshee communicated to Soobramonier the news of the march of Agnimogum, and that he was advancing expeditiously to destroy his whole host.*

[To be concluded next month.]

* We have not intermeddled with the spelling of proper names in the MS. copy of this article, with which we are obligingly favoured by Sir Alexander Johnston.]

THE EAST-INDIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Referring to a Debate at the East-India House respecting the military and medical services in India, one cannot but be forcibly struck with the deficiency of information as to the details of the latter: to this deficiency alone can be attributed the present state of the medical service, as to its numbers, and as to the want of adequate remuneration of medical officers, who have not received a proportionate share of consideration with the officers of the civil, military, and clerical establishments.

Having nothing to expect from any changes in the service, or its increased remuneration, I shall not be suspected of interested motives, in pointing out the incorrect statements of the Chairman, re-echoed by Mr. Wigram, upon that occasion. In so doing no personal disrespect is intended; the sole object being a statement of facts, which, it is hoped, may lead to more mature consideration of so important a subject.

It is stated that "the native troops have the advantage of a large medical staff, while *the King's troops rely altogether on the surgeons attached to them*;" and that "the Company's troops have the advantage of native dressers, which is by no means inconsiderable."

The following are the facts of the case:—a battalion in *the King's service* has a surgeon and two European assistants; generally a European serjeant in hospital,—almost always, a newly arrived assistant of the Company's service,—one or two dressers or pupils, also from the Company's service; and on *all* occasions of epidemic or endemic disease, or in *any* case of deficiency, Company's assistants are attached to King's regiments (without any advantage to themselves). I am not aware of any advantage from the Company's staff, in which the King's regimental service does not partake, *as to assistance*; on the contrary, during my period of service, European troops have ever been considered as objects of the first anxiety.

A Company's battalion has one European medical officer *only*; often two battalions are under one medical officer (at the very time that Company's assistants are lent to the King's service): it is true, surgeons' *names* are attached to and bandied from one regiment to another, but the members of the regiment know not even their persons. The latest army-list from Madras will shew that not a surgeon is on duty with the corps to which his name is attached; the appointment to the Nizam's service—the residencies,—garrisons,—and some zillahs, occupy the surgeons, with the exception of half-a-dozen regiments of cavalry. The two native dressers attached to a battalion are very inadequate to the proportion of aid in a European regiment; in the native regiment the single European medical officer (in times such as those of the late few years) often works till he falls a sacrifice to his exertions for others, and *the want of additional assistance*. The medical officer commences his professional duties after long and forced marches, when his brother officers retire to repose.

It is, then, clear that *the regimental medical service of the Company is not on a par with that of his Majesty's service*; and it is equally clear, that the loss of human lives must be the consequence of the mistaken economy, of not sending out two medical officers for each regiment. It should be clearly ascertained, what numbers are necessary to provide for all the duties of staff, garrisons, residencies, zillahs, subsidiary forces, &c.;

and to leave to every regiment two assistants—*always present for duty except in case of sickness*—this ultimately would prove economical.

On the subject of remuneration of the Company's medical servants, I do not suppose it can be contended that they are less useful than the other services; their duties are constant and arduous, not dependant on war or peace. The acquirement of a proper knowledge of their duties, requires an expenditure of money and devotion of time at least equal to the other services; indeed considerably exceeding them, except the chaplain. The exposure of life, in the treatment of disease, is greater than in the other services; *yet the medical officer cannot receive from the service more than half the retiring advantages of the military officer, however long he may devote himself to the service.* It cannot be contended, in reply to this, that some ten or twenty persons have retired from each presidency with competence, because accident has thrown these few in the way of advantages not open to the service generally; nor will the consideration, that the early allowances of the surgeon are greater, and the period of service shorter, than those of the military officer, affect the question. The thing to be considered is, *the positive and ultimate reward afforded after arduous duties, and exile from family and friends, and the comparative advantages arising out of the respective services.*

The facts are simple: *the civilian* has emoluments which support the high station he holds, enable him with common attention to save a tolerable independence, and to pay monthly such a sum as secures him £1,000 a-year for life.

The *military officer*, beginning in early life, supports himself (while the medical officer is at great expense); gradually gets into good receipts, and retires on the pay of his rank, after twenty-two years, but may remain to secure to himself £1,000 or £1,200 a-year retiring pension. The *medical officer* may devote his life, and *never can retire on more than half the sum, or £500.*

The *chaplain*, who, in general circumstances, as to education, expense, and late commencement of his career, is the only one in the situation of the medical officer, has advantages in furlough and on retirement, superior to the latter. Why?—His pay from the outset is much higher—more than double!

The *surgeon* commences with some advantage over the military man, but has none in the long-run; his promotion is slow; his chance of any advantageous situation very uncertain. He is compelled, on attaining a superior rank, to serve in it two years before he can get the pension of that rank; and no duration of service will give him more than half the sum granted to the military officer. He cannot get more than £500 per annum.

Is it possible that all this can be known, and not redressed? I believe not; it is inconsistent with the general liberality observed by the Directors; but it wants an active representative in the Court. The medical body are not numerous; and they do not attain riches so as to be enabled to offer themselves as Directors, or an advocate might be found.

Cheltenham,
Jan. 8th, 1827.

A RETIRED SURGEON.

ROUTE ACROSS THE YOUNAH MOUNTAINS.

THE following journal contains the details of the proceedings of the detachment under Lieut. Trant, which crossed the Youmah mountains by the Tongho pass, to which reference is made in our last number.* It appears in the *Government Gazette* of Calcutta.

" 23d March. We left Padong-Mew at half-past five A. M. ; passed the village of Namysunah, it consists of about seventy houses and 200 inhabitants ; and the small village of Majeetoo-Youah, consisting of about thirty houses and 100 inhabitants. Passed the deserted village of Kougha-Youah, at a short distance from the above village ; crossed a large nullah, about 150 yards in breadth, called Dingah Showah, at this time nearly dry, which takes its rise from the interior, and runs into the Irrawaddy, by the Koopoo nullah. Arrived and halted at the village of Moonghee, situated on the left bank of the Koopoo : the village has about 100 huts, but few inhabitants, who were very friendly, and supplied us with fowls, eggs, &c. The road throughout this day's march was good, and fit for carriages of any description : water very plentiful.

" 24th March. Marched at half-past five A. M. ; low hills on the right and left a short distance from the road, covered with thick forest jungle ; passed the small deserted village of Chaporee ; crossed the Koopoo nullah : on the hills to the right a few pagodas and keoums were scattered ; after crossing the Koopoo we lost all traces of the road. The remainder of this day's march was on the bank and through the bed of the above nullah, which we crossed fifteen times : there was no water procurable from it, merely a few stagnant pools, and the camp was supplied by digging. Halted on the right bank of the Koopoo ; the road very bad and difficult, owing to the bed of the river being full of large fragments of rocks, consequently unfit for the passage of carriages : laden bullocks might with difficulty pass.

" 25th March. Marched at the usual hour ; the road, or path-way, if it can be so called, much the same as yesterday : we crossed over three ranges of low hills, the ascents and descents extremely steep. The first part of the march lay through the bed of yesterday's nullah, which we crossed twenty-two times, ascending almost imperceptibly : the Koopoo runs off to the southward : halted on the left bank of a small clear running hill-stream. The road to-day was bad, and unfit for carriages or laden cattle of any description : the country throughout the march dry and parched, the hills covered with low jungle.

" 26th March. Marched at the usual hour ; the march to-day extremely harassing ; passed over two ranges of high hills, in some places very steep, so much so that we were obliged to use our hands as well as feet ; crossed two dry nullahs, and halted on the right bank of the Matoun Showey nullah, a clear running stream ; the hills still covered with thick jungle ; road quite impassable for laden cattle of any description.

" 27th March. Started at the usual hour ; left the Matoun Showey nullah on our left, and passed over two ranges of low hills ; observed the marks of wild elephants and buffaloes ; crossed three dry nullahs, and halted on the left bank of yesterday's nullah : the road to-day much the same as yesterday, but with plenty of water in the nullah.

" 28th

* See p. 61.

" 28th March. Marched at five A. M. ; left the Matoun Showey nullah on our left; passed over three ranges of low hills, and again met with the above nullah. The remaining part of this day's march was in the bed and along the banks of it, which we crossed thirty-one times: halted on the right bank of the nullah, at the foot of the great Youmah hills, which separate the provinces of Arracan and Ava. The march to-day was attended with considerable toil, the rocks on the bed of the nullah being very sharp and pointed: a number of our Birmah coolies here deserted, which put us to very great inconvenience for the carriage of our provisions.

" 29th March. Marched at day-break: the first part of our march lay through the bed of yesterday's nullah, which we crossed fifteen times; the nullah branches off to the right and left. We now perceived the great Youmah hills, and began to ascend by a tongue of land branching from them; the path was most abrupt and difficult of ascent; numerous elephant tracks were here perceptible. The perpendicular state of the road was such that we had considerable difficulties to encounter, using our hands, and holding on by bamboos or other jungle, to enable us to make good our way. At two P. M. halted to allow the coolies and stragglers to come up: started again at three o'clock; the whole face of the hills was covered with the thick male bamboo, which we were necessitated to force through: our progress was very slow and harassing.

" The road to-day impassable for cattle of any description. The scenery around us had a most pleasing effect: the hills covered with a bright vegetation, and the clouds rolling beneath us, at once presented a sight novel and grand. To-day our ascent by barometer was about 4,000 feet: the track difficult, and we often lost our road, which was discoverable only by notches in the bamboos, which, if once missed, caused us to retrace our steps till again discovered. Our march to-day commenced at sunrise, and ended at sunset: we attempted at various stages of our march to procure water, but were unable to obtain any.

" 30th March. Started as usual; the morning hazy, the clouds rolling beneath us like the agitated ocean, which continued during the whole of this day's march; the ascent still steep and difficult, and at eleven A. M. distant from the last encampment, the barometer stood at 25.64; thermometer attached 75°, and detached 80°: this appears to be the highest part of the Youmah range where we crossed. The general feature of the country on the hills, the same as yesterday: our march was again from sunrise to sunset, and yet we advanced little more than ten miles. Wild elephants were seen by the camp. We now were descending toward the plains of Arracan, when the face of the country began to change its aspect; the thick bamboo jungle gave place to lofty magnificent trees, covered with rich foliage, and presenting to the beholder a scene of fertility highly pleasing. We were again disappointed in procuring water, and obliged to send people into the valley below, who, by digging wells, procured a small supply, very brackish, and not of sufficient quality for the use of our camp.

" 31st March. Started at half-past five; the march to-day was one of great toil and difficulty, not a drop of water being procurable, and the people falling on the road from fatigue and thirst: although some water had been procured the day before, it was of so bad a quality, and so scantily supplied, that the people began to despair of gaining this necessary staff of life, and it required much persuasion to keep their spirits from giving way to despair: the

the Burmese here behaved most nobly; notwithstanding the fatigue of the march, and being obliged, when we halted, to send into the valley for water, they retraced their steps, carrying with them bamboos, filled with this necessary article, for the sepoys and followers who had dropped on the road: some of our people came into camp as late as ten o'clock at night. The general appearance of the country was the same as yesterday; we descended very rapidly towards the plains.

" 1st April. Marched at the usual hour, still descending towards the plains, and meeting with numerous tracks of wild elephants; the guides frequently lost their way; we passed over eight ranges of low hills, covered with thick jungle. At two p. m. halted on the right bank of the Yankooah nullah, which our people approached with delight; this stream is transparently clear, and was hailed with joy after so many days of anxious solicitude. Nature here has scattered a scenery highly picturesque, which we were the more disposed to admire as we had been so many days closed up in forest jungle. We now looked forward to the prospect of soon seeing the end of our journey: we here rested for the remainder of the day; the road from the hills to the plain was the same as yesterday, offering insurmountable obstacles to the advance of laden cattle or carriages.

" 2d April. The first part of our march lay along and through the bed of yesterday's nullah, which we crossed fourteen times; the nullah was full of large masses of broken rocks, deposited during the rains from the mountain torrents; left the Yankooah nullah, and passed over a low range of hills, and entered a beautiful country interspersed with hillocks; at two p. m. halted at the small village of Tongho, where, for the first time since leaving the Burmese country, we beheld inhabitants; it consists of about twenty huts, and is situated on the left bank of a large salt-water river, which the natives called the Tongho river; the road to-day was good, and might be made passable for carriages of any description; we stopped here three days to procure boats for our party to enable us to proceed to Ramree. The distance from Padong-Mew to Tongho is little more than eighty miles."

SONNET.

FAME.

WHAT's reputation? Can a garland hung
 Upon the warrior's bier recall his breath;
 Or posthumous applauses warm the tongue
 Steeped in the freezing pool of horrid death?
 In vain would music's sweetest notes be sung,
 Fraught with inspiring eulogy, among
 The tenants of the mouldering cells beneath.—
 But yet, though Fame nor rescues from the grave,
 Nor wards the blows that fill it; let fair Fame
 Due honour, gratitude, affection have;
 She's Virtue's firm ally:—who gain a name?—
 The great, the wise, the virtuous, and the brave.
 To think, at the last hour, that we may save
 Something from death, gives joy heaven does not blame.

N:

EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHICS.

M. CHAMPOLLION has published, at Florence, a "Letter to the Duke de Blacas d'Aulps on the new Hieroglyphical System of Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth," of which some account was given in an article inserted in our last volume, p. 153. The reply of M. Champollion is so interesting, in many respects, that we shall give a translation of it at length.*

"The two works published by Mr. Seyffarth, on Egyptian writing, and especially his *Rudimenta Hieroglyphices*, came to my knowledge some months back; an attentive examination of them soon convinced me that Mr. Seyffarth, or Mr. Spohn, whose doctrines that young scholar has adopted, extended and propagated, suffering himself to be carried away by illusions which the study of the original relics could alone dissipate, had conceived a system altogether arbitrary for the interpretation of the Egyptian texts; a system which, like that of Kircher, rested upon no series of certain facts, but was founded upon assertions or views quite peculiar. I wished to leave to the learned, who, by their previous studies, are the proper judges in this case, the office of weighing the real value of this new method, and of deciding whether this novel system is superior, in clearness, certainty, and proof, to that which I have proposed; I have, therefore, refrained hitherto from publishing my opinion of the subject. I did hope, moreover, that men of erudition, as well as those who attend occasionally to this branch of archæology, would speedily perceive what could be expected from the system of Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, when they learned that, after these two scholars had published the *reading* and the *translation* of an Egyptian manuscript in the cabinet at Paris, the Greek text of *this very manuscript*, discovered in London by Dr. Young, did not confirm, in *one single point*, the version of these two German scholars: a circumstance which plainly demonstrates the fallacy of the fundamental principles of their method. But this fact, which is susceptible of easy proof, since the Egyptian text and the Greek text of this manuscript are both published, does not appear to have produced all the effect which might have been expected. Many persons, who indeed are not deeply acquainted either with Mr. Seyffarth's system or with mine, but who nevertheless know that all the bilingual inscriptions (that is, all the Egyptian inscriptions accompanied by their Greek translation, and brought from Egypt during the last four years) clearly confirm my system, which was made public before their discovery; and expressly contradict the system of Mr. Seyffarth, which is applicable to them in no respect; many of these persons, I say, still affect, notwithstanding, to hesitate, in a state of pretended philosophical doubt, between the two systems. Others, more conveniently, though more fatally for science, giving themselves no pains to examine on which side truth is to be found, loosely declare that we know nothing positively yet respecting the graphic system of the Egyptians.

"In this state of things, sir, you desire to learn of me what are the principal points in which my system differs from that promulgated by Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, and to know my opinion upon the grounds of the latter. Anxious to diffuse light upon an archæological discussion, of the importance of which your Excellency is fully aware, a discussion which it is desirable to see speedily terminated, interested solely in the progress of science, I will endeavour to reduce the question to its real merits, by explaining, briefly and comparatively, the bases of both systems.

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* We take it from the *Bulletin Universel*, an. 1826, No. 11.

"The work, published under the title of *Précis du Système Hiéroglyphique*, comprehends the whole of my doctrine respecting the Egyptian graphic system. It contains, I believe, no assertion not demonstrated and supported by the quotation of a very great number of facts taken from the original monuments, and which every person may verify.

"The *Rudimenta Hieroglyphices* of Mr. Seyffarth consist, on the contrary, of thirty-seven paragraphs, containing a brief exposition of the fundamental bases of his system; the author has not deemed it requisite to cite the ancient authorities or monumental facts, from whence he deduces his principles.

"I have, therefore, proceeded by a deduction from material facts, and the learned German has constructed his system *a priori*; a method which no kind of solid study can admit. Having pursued two modes of investigation in our researches so different, it is natural that our respective results should possess nothing in common.

"The first fruit of my researches was to discover, in the hieroglyphical inscriptions (taking, for the starting point of my operations, the bilingual monument of Rosetta) the simultaneous use of three species of characters:—1st, *figurative characters*, or such as represent the forms of the objects they express; 2dly, *symbolical characters*; 3dly, *phonetic characters*, or those which represented sound.

"The ancient Greek authors, and particularly Clement of Alexandria (*Strom.*, lib. v. sec. 4), who of all others has given us the most circumstantial details respecting the system of Egyptian writing, informs us, in fact, that hieroglyphical writing consisted of three sorts.—

"First, by means of *letters*, that is, by *the expression of words*—*ἡ τὴν φωνὴν ἀκούοντες*—these are the phonetic characters of my system.

"Secondly, by the imitation of the object to be expressed—*κατὰ μίμησιν*—these are the *figurative* characters of my system.

"Thirdly, tropically, by *symbols and enigmas*—*τροπικὰς καὶ τινος ἀποκρυφίας*—these are the *symbolical* characters of my system.

"My first general results, obtained only from the comparative examination of monuments, are thus perfectly in harmony with what classical antiquity has unanimously transmitted to us upon this subject.

"The system of Mr. Seyffarth is, on the contrary, in direct opposition, in respect to this fundamental point, with monuments as well as with authors.

"First, the learned German does not admit, in fact, *figurative* characters in the hieroglyphical texts (*Rudim. Hierogl.* sec. 35, note 107); but in rejecting without cause the assertion of the ancients on this head, how happens it that he did not discover the actual existence of these characters upon those monuments which he has been able to study? The copy in his possession of the hieroglyphical inscription of Rosetta (an inscription upon which he tells us he has founded his system) must have been very incorrect, since he has not perceived any *figurative* characters there: *wheat* (line 4), *temple* (lines 4, 9, 11, &c.), *child* (line 5), *priest* and *priestesses* (lines 5, 12, twice, and 13) *image* (line 6), *images* (line 7), *statue* (twice in line 8), *chapel* (three times in line 8, twice in line 9), *aspick* (line 9), *tetragon* (line 9), *phylactery* (line 9), *man* (line 13), and *stele* (line 14); these image-characters occur in those parts of the hieroglyphical text corresponding to those in the Greek text where such objects are distinctly mentioned. I observe, in addition to these decisive facts, that there are no manuscripts, that there is no single one amongst the thousands of Egyptian *bas-reliefs* existing in Europe or elsewhere, in the

hieroglyphical

hieroglyphical legends, of which it would not be easy to point out *figurative* characters in abundance : this kind of character does therefore exist in hieroglyphic writing, although not remarked by Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth.

“ Secondly, these learned persons recognize as little the existence of the *symbolical*, *enigmatical*, or *tropical* characters, in the hieroglyphical texts. I acknowledge that, upon this point, I cannot help feeling the utmost astonishment at this contradiction, in a manner so formal and without any species of proof, of a fact which all classical antiquity concurs in attesting, and which is even confirmed by the most superficial study of the Egyptian relics : Diodorus Siculus, Plutarch, Clemens Alexandrinus, Eusebius, Porphyry, Jamblichus, Ammianus Marcellinus, and a multitude of other authors, not only speak of the *symbolical* characters of Egyptian writing, but even cite a great number of them, the explanation of which they give, and which we find upon the original monuments with a value evidently analogous. Moreover, we possess, in the work of Horapollon, the very translation of a book written by an ancient Egyptian, for the specific purpose of explaining a very long series of *symbolical* characters belonging to Egyptian hieroglyphical writing. Can we hesitate a single moment ? On the one hand, we have classic authors and monuments affirming and demonstrating the existence of *symbolical* signs in the sacred language of the Egyptians ; on the other, Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, who pretend to deny systematically the existence of this order of characters, without producing the least proof in support of such an assertion. I am astonished that Mr. Seyffarth should not have perceived in the Rosetta inscription, the words *gold, silver, goods, good, power, name, Egypt, panegyric, god, life, living, day, month, year, writing, &c. &c.* in the Greek text, rendered in the corresponding passages of the hieroglyphical text by isolated characters, very evidently *symbolical*.

“ Thirdly, according to these scholars, hieroglyphic writing is composed only of *character letters*, that is, of signs, which, taken individually, represent a sound ; every hieroglyphic is *phonetic*, according to Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, who recognize only a writing altogether alphabetical in that of ancient Egypt. This opinion is opposed at once (as it has been shewn) to monuments and to authors, who agree in describing three sorts of characters in Egyptian hieroglyphic writing, one figurative, another symbolic, and the third phonetic.

“ I flatter myself that I was the first to demonstrate the existence of a certain number of *phonetic* characters in the Egyptian hieroglyphic system ; but I took good care not to generalize my discovery too far ; I have confined its application within those limits which the monuments themselves assign. My alphabet, published more than four years ago, has received, and still receives daily, new confirmations, either by means of bilingual inscriptions discovered in Egypt, or by the felicitous applications which have been made of it to the great monuments of Egypt by Mr. H. Salt, his Britannic Majesty’s Consul-general at Cairo, who, previous to these experiments, which he has had the noble candour to make public, had absolutely declared against my system. The success of my researches is entirely owing to the rule which I prescribed to myself in studies so pregnant with illusions as these, namely, to proceed only upon *material facts* ; to establish upon them my convictions, and then to explain them clearly for the conviction of others. Thus, for example, my alphabet is founded upon the comparison of the proper names *Ptolemy* and *Cleopatra*, written in hieroglyphics ; proper names which are doubtless those of these two personages, as was previously demonstrated by the three texts of the Rosetta inscription, and the Greek inscription engraved upon the base of the

the Egyptian obelisk at Philæ. By means of hieroglyphic letters, of which these two names give me the certain value, I was enabled easily to discover upon monuments the hieroglyphical names of all the Greek kings and queens of Egypt, as well as the various legends of fourteen Roman emperors; it was by means of these names, which were corrected, one by another, that I completed with absolute certainty my hieroglyphical alphabet. It contains more than 120 characters really distinct in form. My alphabet, in short, rests upon a solid basis, since it is possible to demonstrate unexceptionally (as I have done) the value of each of its constituent elements.

"Although Mr. Seyffarth's system admits only signs purely *alphabetical*, in Egyptian writing, we seek in vain to find in his works on what *data*, on what demonstrative fact, he offers to our faith (and the expression is not far-fetched) an immense table, comprehending a popular alphabet, composed, according to his account, of 6,000 characters! This number will indeed appear very moderate if we consider that Mr. Spohn attempted to demonstrate, by an algebraic formula, the possibility that the sum of the Egyptian alphabetical letters, hieroglyphic as well as hieratic, amounted to 675,000! Happily, in a case of this sort, an algebraic formula is not sufficient to establish, in point of fact, an assertion contrary to good sense. At present, we have only to do with the 6,000 alphabetical characters of Mr. Seyffarth.

"I shall repeat on this occasion what I have said elsewhere: the very considerable number of original Egyptian monuments which I have studied, in the course of fifteen years, in the museums or collections of France and Italy, have furnished me with little more than 800 or 900 hieroglyphic characters really distinct in form. It will consequently be asked how it could happen that Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, who knew nothing of the collections either of France or Italy, and probably very few of those to be found in Germany, could have exaggerated to such an extent the number of the signs of Egyptian writing. It is also difficult to conceive how Mr. Seyffarth can present us at the close of his work with such an enormous series of pretended Egyptian alphabetical characters. It is possible that this colossal table has prejudiced many persons in favour of the new system: I confess that it is a matchless effort of patience, but it displays neither exactitude nor fidelity. I do not hesitate to assert, 1st, that three parts, at least, of the signs engraved and *explained* in this table never really existed on any original Egyptian monument; and 2dly, that these original monuments exhibit, ordinarily, a very great number of signs which are vainly sought in the immense *alphabet* of Mr. Seyffarth.

"But all this may be easily explained: the two learned Germans have had the misfortune to labour, in decyphering Egyptian writings, not upon *original* texts inscribed upon obelisks, mummies, bas-reliefs, papyri, &c., but upon *designs* and *engravings* of inscriptions executed in Europe by artists who, in general, do not express truly what is found upon the originals they profess to copy, but only what, with their inexperienced eyes, they think they see. Hence this extraordinary number of pretended hieroglyphic signs, which are, in fact, only errors or unintentional creations of modern designers and engravers. But in addition to this, Mr. Seyffarth, venerating the characters reproduced by these engravers, even to the smallest touch, has discovered occasionally a *new* sign, or the *decomposition* of signs, either by *marks* of a change of value, which he has named *diacritical lines*, or by simple ornaments—for this scholar has discovered *ornamented* letters, even in the demotic writing, the number of signs in which is multiplied almost tenfold by the aid of these fanciful variations or distinctions.

"It appears, therefore, evident to me that a system established upon such ruinous bases can conduct only to conclusions contrary to truth, and if not injurious, at least useless to science. The unfortunate experiment which has been made, by the authors themselves, in the application of the system to the Egyptian manuscript of Paris, of which they were ignorant that a Greek translation was in existence, affords the exact means of judging of the confidence due to all the other translations attempted by the medium of this same method.

"The system of Messrs. Spohn and Seyffarth, which, as may have been already seen, is formally opposed to historical authority, and which is (if I may so express it) alien to the monuments of Egypt, since it explains a very considerable number of signs which those monuments do not exhibit, is, besides, in contradiction to the natural course of things, in all times and places. Is it, in fact, credible, that a people should agree to use an *alphabetical* system composed of 6,000 letters? Can we conceive it possible that a child must have been obliged to class in his memory more than 200 arbitrary signs before it was able to represent a *single one* of the twenty-five sounds or articulations of his spoken language?

"Unfortunately, Mr. Seyffarth carries improbability still further; since, not content with the enormous alphabet of 6,000 characters, he is obliged, in order to reconcile what he calls his transcriptions from the Egyptian texts, to suppose still that each sign, amongst these thousands of characters, has not a fixed value, but is capable of expressing *two, four, and even six* different letters. What an endless and inextricable labyrinth! The reading of a written text, according to this method, must be a continual divination. A system built upon such suppositions as these is condemned in the outset, by the fact of the absolute impossibility of its existence.

"Let us, however, consent to believe possible what cannot be; let us admit with the author the fundamental principles of his system, and see what its application to the Egyptian texts will produce. If the system of Mr. Seyffarth be well founded, the transcription of an hieroglyphical text, by means of the new alphabet, ought necessarily to produce (since, according to him, it is entirely alphabetical) words, phrases, and periods belonging to the Egyptian language, and disposed in conformity to its grammatical rules.

"It has been demonstrated that the greater part of the words in the ancient Egyptian tongue are preserved in the language called Coptic, which is ancient Egyptian written with Greek letters, and interspersed with a number of Greek words, introduced by the mutual intercourse of the two people, but subject to the rules of Egyptian grammar. The reading of the Egyptian texts, after the method of the learned German, should therefore produce words and phrases, if not absolutely identical with, at least approximating very closely to, the Coptic language.

"But this never happens. If those scholars who are well acquainted with the Coptic tongue will examine the transcriptions of Mr. Seyffarth, they will perceive, from reading the first line, that there is neither Egyptian syntax nor Egyptian forms of grammar, nor Egyptian words, unless they are complaisant enough to consider, for example, the words *ho, noo, oui, galon, nocococ, oucha, thebich, &c.* which Mr. Seyffarth thinks he can read in the Egyptian texts, as identical with the genuine Coptic words *ahi* (life), *nouté* (god), *ouâh* (to add), *schil* (sacrifice), *qischeoui* (altars), *oueb* (priest), *ouotéb* (libation), which the learned German cites to justify his translation. We shall see, by
and

and bye, that it is only by means of arbitrary suppositions and changes of value in the characters, that Mr. Seyffarth is able painfully to produce such words as the foregoing, which belong to no known tongue, but of which he nevertheless gives us the meaning.

"Those persons who are acquainted with Coptic, and have studied my plan systematically, will remark, on the contrary, that, in my different works, the application of my alphabet, formed of signs the value of which is at once fixed and established by palpable facts, being made to those parts of the hieroglyphical texts where characters of sound are discovered, the result invariably gives words, perfectly identical with those in Coptic, which the general sense of the inscription requires in this place. It is thus that, in my *Précis* of the graphic system of the Egyptians, I have established, in the hieroglyphical texts, the existence of most of the monosyllables or dissyllables, which in Coptic express the grammatical modifications, as well as that of a multitude of terms, such as *nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, prepositions, and conjunctions*, which are found in the Coptic. I have, moreover, read upon monuments the names of most of the Egyptian gods, just as the ancient Greeks have transmitted them to us; proper names always written, hieroglyphically, in a fixed and invariable manner; so that I have never been forced, like Mr. Seyffarth, to suppose that the name of Osiris, for example, is found in one and the same text, of seven small columns, written in five different modes, namely, *Osarax, Osr, Osár, Otzar*, and lastly, *Osáirax*.

"Such are the radical differences which distinguish the system of M. Seyffarth from that which I had previously proposed. My work is sustained upon material facts; that of the learned German rests only upon a series of suppositions. The results which have also been already obtained from numerous applications of my system, have enriched history with several centuries of genuine facts; at the same time that they daily illustrate more and more the religious system of ancient Egypt; an immense conception, which includes the original source of a large portion of the religious creeds and philosophical systems adopted by the ancient nations of the west.

"I am encouraged to hope, that from this rapid exposition of facts, the learned will be enabled to pronounce upon the comparative claims of Mr. Seyffarth's system and mine. They will have to choose between a system opposed to classical authorities, contradicted by monuments, and which all the bilingual inscriptions demonstrate to be ill-founded, or altogether vain; and a method in perfect accordance with ancient authors, founded upon original monuments, and which has been confirmed, 1st, by the hieroglyphical and Greek inscriptions on four Egyptian mummies now in London, Paris, and Turin; 2dly, by several bilingual papyri in the collections of Paris, Turin, and London; 3dly, by several bilingual obelisks in the Salt collection; lastly, by the dedicatory Greek and hieroglyphical inscriptions on several temples in Egypt, copied upon the spot by Mr. Wilkinson, for the communication of which I am indebted to the friendship of Sir Wm. Gell."

THE INDEPENDENCE OF GREECE.

It appears from the reports in the public journals that the three leading powers of Europe—England, France, and Russia—have at length interposed effectually on behalf of the unfortunate Greeks, by jointly representing to the court of Constantinople the expediency of recognizing the independence of the Greek provinces; and declaring their determination, in the event of the Grand Signor's refusal, of sending consuls to Greece, and treating that country upon the footing of an independent state.

Whether the three powers have been touched with compassion at the shameful treatment which the credulous, trusting Grecians have undergone at the hands of the pseudo-philanthropists of England, or whether they think it time to put a stop to a species of civil war, which, from the weakness of both parties, threatens to be interminable, we have no *data* to determine: the latter is the most probable of the two motives.

It is not difficult to foresee, in this recognition of Grecian independence, the germ of the future fall of the Turkish government: a cumbrous, ill-compacted system, which has been preserved from ruin for many years solely by the jealousy of the states of Christendom. The Grecian provinces constituted some of the finest portions of the Ottoman empire; the tribute extorted, in various shapes, from the unhappy race subjected to Turkish tyranny in those countries, enriched the coffers of the imperial treasury; the naval power of Turkey depended almost entirely for the supply of seamen upon its Greek subjects: in short, the court of Constantinople was indebted for the sinews of its political strength, in a great measure, to the inhabitants of Greece, whom it might, by prudent and conciliatory measures, have rendered still more subservient to its power, but whose rancorous hatred, on the contrary, it provoked by misgovernment and persecution.

It is not merely the loss of a territory productive of revenue, and abounding in political resources, which forms the entire sum of injury to be sustained by the Turkish government through the emancipation of the Greeks, but the contest which preceded it has revealed the absolute weakness of that government, to a degree far exceeding the expectations of its most sanguine enemies. The Greeks have been exposed to difficulties and disasters which could never have been anticipated, and which no people struggling for political existence ever before incurred. They have not only been exposed to the attacks of open enemies, but have suffered perhaps more serious and permanent injuries through trusting to false friends and incompetent advisers. They have been treated like the vile bodies upon which practical philosophers essay their experiments. Yet, notwithstanding the unforeseen impediments which obstructed the efforts of the Greeks, their former masters have been unable to reduce them to the yoke. Such palpable impotence clearly shews the injustice of forcing the Greeks to return to their allegiance, which the Turkish government is incompetent to require, since it has sufficiently proved itself unable to fulfil the reciprocal duty of protecting them against a powerful foe.

Marked by such strong discriminating features as the two people are, it is surprising that an earlier attempt was not made, on the part of the Greeks, to emancipate themselves from slavery; in which they would always have found themselves encouraged by the sympathies of their fellow Christians in the West, and might perhaps have met with more real philanthropic aid than at the present period. They would have been unfortunate beyond all precedent had they

they fall into the hands of a party of *friends* in England, at any antecedent time, who would have treated them as our modern Philhellenics have done.

It is surprising, too, that at the period when modern travellers in Greece, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, revealed to Europe the condition of that classical country, the birth-place of the elegant arts, and the only scene where the models of pure architecture could still be studied, a holy fervour had not arisen in behalf of the descendants of those to whom we are indebted for these precious relics, and against the barbarians who were either labouring to destroy them, or who guarded the access to them with scrupulous jealousy. When Deshayes, the French traveller (the first modern who has given us any account of Greece), visited Athens, between the years 1621 and 1630, the monuments of that celebrated city were in comparatively good condition. The finest, indeed, existed in all its glory. He describes the Parthenon as then entire, and unimpaired by the ravages of time, as if but recently erected. This temple existed entire even in 1687. What time had left untouched for centuries, the perverse industry and fury of man in a few years have almost destroyed. "Destructions succeed each other with such rapidity in Greece," says M. de Chateaubriand, "that frequently one traveller perceives not the slightest vestige of the monuments which another has admired only a few months before him."*

The author we have just quoted gives an eloquent picture of what Greece was for some centuries before her late struggle (which has not yet been attended with much improvement in the aspect of the country), which it is impossible to read without wondering at the apathy of the people who could submit to it, whilst living amidst objects which excited so strong a recollection of the ancient glory of their country:—

You would suppose that Greece herself intended, by the mourning which she wears, to announce the wretchedness of her children. The country in general is uncultivated, bare, monotonous, wild, and the ground of a yellow hue, the colour of withered herbage. There are no rivers that deserve the appellation; but small streams and torrents that are dry in summer. No farm-houses, or scarcely any, are to be seen in the country; you observe no husbandmen, you meet no carts, no teams of oxen. Nothing can be more melancholy than never to be able to discover the marks of modern wheels, where you still perceive in the rock the traces of ancient ones. A few peasants in tunics, with red caps on their heads like the galley slaves at Marseilles, dolefully wish you as they pass *Kali spera*, good morning. Before them they drive asses, or small horses with rough coats, which are sufficient to carry their scanty rustic equipage, or the produce of their vineyard. Bound this desolate region with a sea almost as solitary; place on the declivity of a rock, a dilapidated watch-tower, a forsaken convent; let a minaret rise from the midst of the desert to announce the empire of slavery; let a herd of goats, or a number of sheep, browse upon a cape among columns in ruins; let the turban of a Turk put the herdsmen to flight, and render the road still more lonely; and you will have an accurate idea of the picture which Greece now presents.

The physical capacities of the country and the people may, in a few years, if afforded free and uninterrupted scope, repair the misfortunes of centuries. Greece may, in future times, fill as respectable a rank amongst the nations of Christendom as England did before her naval and commercial superiority began to give her pre-eminence.

In the meantime, a very different fate awaits the state from which the Greek provinces are to be detached. Turkey is marked with all the signs of decay, and

* Travels in Greece, &c., Part I.

and has exhibited, within a very recent period, symptoms of internal disorganization, which indicate that the process, begun by debility, will be accelerated by other causes.

It is a curious subject of speculation to consider the probable effects upon the great political system of a disjunction of this once mighty empire. The several parts of it must eventually go to augment the territories of its neighbours, saving such portions as the Greeks themselves may be able to secure in the general struggle. The adjustment of the various claims, for which there exists no competent tribunal, will probably be productive of wars, in which England, though no otherwise interested than to see fair play, will most likely be involved. The consequences of this change in the various relations of the European powers may reach even to the East, and British India may feel the effects of a struggle which she has liberally subscribed to assist.

After all, however, the Greeks, if relieved by the powerful interposition, which, according to report, is to be made in their favour, may become a prey to intestine broils and civil wars, which will protract, if not prevent, her complete regeneration. There is wanting in Greece some master mind, in whom the people can confide, possessed of talent and energy sufficient to control the bad, and to direct the energies of his countrymen to proper objects. If instead of a Washington or a Bolivar, he should prove a Bonaparte, the Greeks would be gainers by being secured from the horrors of long continued anarchy, which is equally destructive to political freedom with the subject bondage they have heretofore endured.

Some disposition has been manifested by the Greeks to adopt the very objectionable policy of placing themselves under the authority of a prince chosen from the family of some European monarch, as an expedient to interest the prejudices of the legitimates in their favour. Let us hope, however, that they will not have recourse to any foreign domination whatsoever: whether a foreign prince be recognized as king or protector, the governing power would be nearly the same; it is a scheme which would be inconsistent with their rapid growth as a free people, and deteriorate the elements of their political character.

Whilst upon this topic, we cannot help expressing our surprise that no further steps have been taken in the matter of the Greek loans. The individuals whose characters are implicated in the transactions find it, perhaps, politic to let the subject sleep; though it would redound more to their credit, if they are really innocent, to keep public attention on the alert, until justice be done them. But what are the bond-holders and the *real philhellenics* about? Their objects cannot be forwarded by affairs remaining *in statu quo*. No visible progress is made in equipping the steam-vessels, the delay in which all parties agree in condemning; and even Mr. Hume has not announced the result of the reference, which he publicly proposed to make, of his conduct to arbitration.

TITLES OF THE RAJAH OF RAMNAD.

(Translated from one of the Title-Deeds in the possession of the Durmasenom Brahmins, engraved on copper-plate.)

GRACED with the constant presence of *Maha Letchme*,(a) and the most honourable ruler of the earth; sovereign of Devanagarum (i. e. Ramnadaporam), mighty monarch and protector of *Shaito Moolah* (b) (his own kingdom); destroyer of the enemies' forces; performer of his promises; punisher of evil doers; usurper of all countries seen by him; retainer of his conquests; establisher of *Paundiens*' (c) kingdom; securer and promoter of *Sholens*' (d) kingdom; possessor of power to conquer the *Tondamundalom* ;(e) superior to the kings on earth; royal hunter of elephants in the provinces of Ealum, Congoo, and Jaffna; an ornament to, and supereminent above, the just and upright kings on earth; preserver of his royal dignities; brilliant as the meridian sun; descendant of the sun; clothed with ornamented robes replete with pearls; chastiser of calumny; destroyer of traitors and ingrates; superior to those that prove rebellious and wicked; humbler of the disobedient; fierce like a young lion; a lion at the head of his army of valiant heroes; a lion to his foes and against oppressive kings; furious like a mad lion; a sanctuary to all who confide in him; guardian of virtuous women; subduer of the feudal government; watcher of Tondy Port; rider of spirited horses; entitled to the banners bearing the marks of the famous Hanooman, (f) Garuda, (g) and Singum; (h) equal to Curna (i) in liberality, to Durmah Rajah (k) in patience and compassion, to Beema (l) in valour and warfare, and the greatest warrior on earth; to Arjoonen (m) in the dexterity of darting arrows, to Nagoola (n) in horsemanship, to Agustier (o) in gifts of wit and wisdom, to Sattia Arichundra (p) for speaking truth; possessed with the art of pleasing the fair sex; delighted with the constant charms of music, songs, and poetry; admired by the most beautiful

(a) *Maha Letchme* (or the great Letchme) is the goddess of beauty, riches, grain, courage, valour, joy, eloquence, matrimony, and every other felicity. She is one of the wives of Vistnoo.

(b) *Shaito Moolah* signifies the southern country, extending from Manameh Kody (a sea-port about one league beyond Cottaputnam) to Cape Comorin.

(c) *Paundien*—The ancient kings of Madura so called.

(d) *Sholen*—The ancient kings of Tanjore so called.

(e) *Tonda Mundalom*, the country in the north extending from Congeveram to Tripetty.

(f) *Hanooman*, a famous monkey, who was of essential service to the god Rama, when he encountered the great and magical giant *Ravanen*, sovereign of Yall Lunga, or all Ceylon.

(g) *Garuda*, king of kites, a swift-winged bird, on which Vistnoo, in his benevolent expeditions, is wafted through the air.

(h) *Singum*, the name in Tamil for lion.

(i) *Curna*, a prince fostered by King Teredyothren (who is affirmed to have flourished in the last century of the third age of the world), and famous for his boundless generosity.

(k) *Durma Rajah*, a king renowned for his benevolence and virtues. He is also affirmed to have reigned prosperously in the third age.

(l) *Beema*, one of the five brothers of Durmah Rajah, next to him, and famous for having been a most valiant and warlike person, and for his remarkable battles.

(m) *Arjoonen*, the third brother of Durmah Rajah, and the favourite and pupil of the god Kristneeh; his principal weapon in war was the *gaundoom*, or bow; and famous for the victories gained by him by this single weapon.

(n) *Nagoola*, the fourth brother of Durmah Rajah; he was endued with the gift of rendering every old, impotent, or spiritless horse touched by him, vigorous and spirited, and therefore famous for having rode the most spirited and untractable horses.

(o) *Agustier*, a mighty moonsee, or reasee, and the principal of the seven famous and respectable *seahems*. He is famous for having invented the Tamil, and the several arts and sciences in that language. He is believed to have obtained immortality and other great gifts, and to exist until this day in the hills about Courtallom.

(p) *Sattia Arichundra*, a king descended from the sun, and supposed to have flourished in the Tredayougum, the second age of the world. He was the king of Ayotee, and famous for having ever spoken and adhered to truth.

beautiful women; successful in all his enterprizes; equal to Rama (q) in conquering and subduing tyrants, or wicked princes; regular supporter of those dependent on him; triumpher over his enemies; destroyer of the wicked; frustrater of their projects; upholder of the innocent; remarkably bold and spirited; unshaken in fortitude; equal to King Somen (r) in acts of charity; a zealous votary of Siven; patron of the Brahmins; sovereign of Shembee Vullanaud; favourite of the great Letchme; a king whose legs are adorned with bells and other marks representing the heads of his enemies, thereby denoting his valour; and finally, remarkable for his zeal and fidelity in managing the affairs of Ramanada Swamy.

(q) *Rama*—this was the name taken by Vistnoo in his sixth incarnation, when he was born into the world as a prince to destroy the giant Ravanen, because he caused himself to be worshipped as a divinity.

(r) *Somen* was a king renowned for the numerous *chuttrams*, which he caused to be built throughout his kingdom, and the liberal donations made by him for giving rich food daily to innumerable people.

MANG-HAOU-JEN, THE CHINESE POET.

MANG-HAOU-JEN was a native of Seang-chow, in Hoo-p'ih. In his youth he was liberal and virtuous; he lived in retirement till the age of forty, when he mixed amongst the poets at court. The minister Chang-kow-ling was a poet; also Wang-wei, another minister, who invited the bard to his house, where the Emperor Yuen-tsung (A.D. 745) paid a visit, whilst Mang-haou-jen was present, who, it is related, crept under the bed to hide himself from the Emperor. His host, however, discovered him, and his Majesty desired him to come forth, and recite some of his poetry, which he did, and received an invitation to the imperial palace. On the appointed day, he met a merry party, where he played and drank, and neglected to keep his appointment, which vexed the Emperor, who declared he would have nothing to do with the rude poet. The latter, however, never repented it. He seems to have experienced the fate of Western poets; he died extremely poor, leaving his family in great distress. His name, however, was esteemed; a splendid tomb was built over his remains, and his friend, Wang-wei, had a likeness of the poet painted, which he hung up in a pavillion called by his name.

It is reported of Mang-haou-jen, that he was in the habit of mounting an ass in the midst of snow-storms, and going in quest of pear-blossoms; observing, "my poetical meditations are most active in the midst of wind and snow, and on the back of an ass!"

The poetry of Mang-haou-jen, like most Chinese poetry, consists of short pieces, referring to some particular incident. The following lines, written "On passing the Night in the Hill-Chamber of the Priest Nēž, waiting for Ting-kung, who did not arrive," will serve as a specimen:—

The evening sun has passed yon western hills
And shadows fill the vallies. The pale moon,
Pine-shaded, sheds a softer, cooler light,
Whilst bubbling streams and breezes court the ear.
See from the hills the wood-cutters return;
The darkening mist drives feathered tribes to roost.
The hour is come when bashful brides retire:
But I must wait, with solitary harp,
And solace me amidst this ivy bower.

THE HARVEY ISLANDS.

THE following particulars of the Harvey Islands, a small cluster in the vicinity of the Society Islands, in the South Pacific Ocean, are extracted from a journal of some missionaries who visited them in the latter part of the year 1825.*

MANAIA.

This island, which Captain Cook improperly called Mangeea, is included within a barrier of coral rock, from twenty to seventy feet in height, in which there are some openings, from whence there are paths to the interior. The cultivated portion of the island consists of six large vallies, containing plantations of taro, plantains, te-root, cocoa-nuts, and bread-fruit, but the latter is by no means plentiful. Great scarcity is sometimes felt in the dry season, when many of the natives die through actual want. Two causes mainly contribute to this evil; first, the great idleness of the people; secondly, their propensity to theft, and even wanton mischief, owing to which plantations of young bread-fruit, and other trees, are sometimes plucked up. Robbery of this kind is so very prevalent that all the cocoa-nut trees have dried leaves fastened about half-way up the stem, in order that by their rustling noise they may give notice of the acts of depredators.

The number of inhabitants in Manaia amounts to between 1,000 and 1,500. Some of them have embraced Christianity, but the king and principal part of the people continue idolaters.

Manaia was partitioned between five chiefs (or kings, as the missionaries term them) whose names were Numanatini, Teao, Paparani, Teuruorongo, and Kaiau; but the first, having vanquished the other four in war, now rules supreme. The island is divided into six districts, each governed by chiefs, possessed of great authority.

The natives have five principal deities, named Oro, Tane, Teahio, Toahiti, and Mоторо; to the first they offer (though rarely) human sacrifices. They have also *maraea*, and there are certain sorts of cloth which are esteemed sacred amongst them, and which cannot be worn by every person. Men and women are not allowed to eat together in Manaia.

They have a strange method of disposing of their dead. On one of the highest hills is a very deep hole, or pit, probably connected with the sea, into which they promiscuously throw the bodies of their dead (paying no regard to rank, age, or sex), without any other covering than a piece of cloth, fastened round with a cord. They bring them from all parts of the island to this receptacle, and it is the only one that has been used for ages. The stench arising from it is dreadful.

Infanticide is unknown here, so that from this cause and the few diseases in the island, through the slight intercourse of the natives with Europeans, the population increases. The missionaries and the captain of the vessel were the first white men who had set foot upon the island.

The language of this island approaches nearer to that of New Zealand than to the Tahitian; the *ng* and *k* being very prevalent, and the *h* and *f* entirely omitted. The natives display great ingenuity in the fabrication of their cloth, canoes, stone-axes, and ear-ornaments; their heads are profusely covered with figured cloth, red beads, and sinnet of beautiful workmanship. Indeed, there

* The journal is published in the Transactions of the Missionary Society, or Quarterly Chronicle, January 1827.

there are no islanders in these seas that equal the Manaïans in the manufacture of their sinnet.

RAROTONGA.

The number of inhabitants on this island is from 6,000 to 7,000. Three chiefs, named Makea, Tinomana, and Pa, formerly governed it, between whom were frequent and bloody wars; but the sovereign power is now by universal consent vested in Makea, who has become a convert to Christianity, and has given evidence of his sincerity by discarding all his wives (eight in number) except one, by his constant attendance at school, and his attention to religious instruction, as well as by his ready acquiescence in every plan proposed for the spiritual and temporal benefit of his people. He is a fine handsome man, and has eight sons and four daughters.

The progress of Christianity has been more rapid in this island than in the Society Islands; this has been the fruit of the labours of two Tahitian teachers, during the last two years, previous to which, the island of Rarotonga was scarcely known to exist.

The natives, when idolaters, worshipped four principal deities, namely, Taaroa, Butea, Toahiti, and Mоторо; the two last correspond in name to the deities of Manaia. No human sacrifices were offered to these deities. There were *arreois* amongst them, but they never murdered their children, except females at the birth. In their wars, the heads of the slain were cut off and piled in heaps in the *maraes*, and the bodies formed a repast for the conquerors. Before the converts acquired their present superiority, they had a battle with the idolaters, who annoyed them perpetually, and threatened destruction to them and their religion. The idolaters were routed in the conflict, leaving their gods in the possession of their antagonists. The latter treated such of their idolatrous countrymen as they took prisoners with kindness, and released them; but they returned in a body, and declared that having *lost their heads* (alluding to being seized by the head, which is a mark of captivity), they were lost; adding that their gods had deceived them, and they wished to be enrolled amongst the Christians. The captured images of the deities, fourteen in number, and measuring about twenty feet in length and six in diameter, were lying prostrate in the missionaries' settlement, like Dagon of old before the ark.

The settlement of the missionary teachers is situated at the entrance of a beautiful valley, three miles in extent. It contains several hundred houses, of which 180 are plastered. The king's house, which measures thirty-six feet by twenty-four, is plastered, and tastefully fitted up with painted cloth and ornamental shells. It contains eight rooms, with boarded floors. Adjoining is another plastered house, 138 feet by 20, in which the king eats, and where his servants and dependants reside. The house in which the two Tahitian teachers reside is ninety feet by thirty, mostly floored, and containing various apartments, furnished with bedsteads, sofas, arm-chairs, and tables, all of native manufacture, under the instruction of the teachers.

The whole island is one cultivated garden; the sides of the hills, in short every place where food will grow, is filled with taro, plantains, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, and the *te-root*. Cocoa-nut trees are very scarce, and Makea is anxious for a supply; and also bread-fruit trees, which the natives care little about. The population generally are addicted to agriculture; men, women and children being constantly employed in the plantations.

The king and principal chiefs can read well, and learning is making rapid progress amongst the people generally. Plurality of wives is entirely abolished.

AITU-

AITUTAKE.

The settlement on this island is upwards of two miles in length, consisting of numerous white cottages, shaded by large *aito* trees, which produce a picturesque effect. A coral pier has been built for the more convenient landing of boats, at the extremity of which is a flag-staff, upon which a flag is hoisted when a vessel appears in sight. The pier is 600 feet long, and eighteen feet broad.

The number of plastered houses here is 144, many of which are furnished with bedsteads and sofas. The houses of the principal chiefs are substantial buildings, but not so well finished as those at Rarotonga. The women make bonnets, and the men wear well-made hats. Numbers of the natives can read, and they are diligent in learning, though much of savage manners remains.

A scarcity of provisions prevailed here, as well as at Manaia and Rarotonga. This island has very little water, and in the dry season (from June to November) the few springs are dried up, and they are obliged to dig holes, which supply them with water of a dark colour and bad smell, which is owing partly to the rats, who, as soon as a fresh hole is dug, flock in numbers to quench their thirst, when some of them are drowned and putrify in the water.

MAUTII.

This island is completely surrounded by a coral reef, without a single entrance in any part for the smallest boat to land. The reef is formed into ridges, from ten to twenty feet high, below which are lower ones, with deep holes between. The only mode of access to the interior of the island is by leaping out of the boat upon the reef, where there is least surf and where the sea is shallowest, wading and walking over the ridges of coral rock, which is difficult as well as dangerous, for two miles, the distance which the reef extends inland all round the island.

The settlement is about four miles in the interior; the number of inhabitants does not exceed 200; their appearance is neat and decent; the women well attired, and few of the people without hats or bonnets. The island was visited, in August 1825, by Lord Byron, in the *Blonde* frigate, who testified his approbation at the progress made by the natives in civilization.

MITIARO.

This little island is barren and unfruitful; the inhabitants, who are about 100 in number, find it difficult to subsist, and look thin and miserable from want of food: they wish to remove to the Society Islands. They are attentive to instruction, and diligent in learning.

ATUI.

The island of Atui is uneven; the hills are of moderate height, and level at the top; the vallies are deep and spacious. On the summit of one of the hills, in the centre of the island, stand the houses of the chief and teachers, from whence the prospect is delightful. The bulk of the people have forsaken the teachers, returned their books, and relapsed into idolatry; though the chiefs and a few others still attend instruction. The women appear to be in a degraded and debased condition; they are compelled to till the ground, dress the food, and do all the servile work; the men, when not employed in fishing, live an idle life. The vallies are filled with cocoa-nut trees; but the bread-fruit tree is scarce; and the *aute*, or Chinese mulberry tree, has been consumed by the hogs. Theft is severely punished at Atui.

CHINESE NAMES.*

SURNAMES did not exist in England till the era of William the Conqueror ; in China they prevailed at least two thousand years before. The *Pih-kea-sing*, or hundred family names or surnames, is the title of a small tract which contains most of the Chinese surnames. It is one of the first books committed to memory by children when learning the sounds of the characters. There is an edition called *Pih-kea-sing-kaou-leü*, or an inquiry into the hundred family names, which contains a brief historical account of the origin of each family. The first name which occurs in it is that of Chaou, who being promoted by King Müh-wang to the government of the town Chaou (B. C. 930), his descendants took the name of the town as their family distinction. This name was placed first in compliment to the Sung dynasty, whose surname was Chaou, and at the commencement of which dynasty (corresponding to the era of William the Conqueror) this little tract was compiled by an aged scholar.

If it be a mark of the savage state (as Pliny observes of the savages of Mount Atlas) to be *anonymi*, and if the state of civilization is to be estimated in proportion to the number of names existing amongst a people, the Chinese are the most civilized nation on earth. The Romans had *three* names: a *prænomen*, *nomen*, and *cognomen*; the Chinese have generally *four*, and sometimes *six* names. The following are the different names used in China:

1. *Sing*, the family name; the name of the clan, or surname; the *nomen* of the Romans.

2. *Ming*, the name, equivalent to the Roman *prænomen*, or Christian name of the people of modern Europe: of these the Chinese have *three*, viz.

3. *Joo-ming*, the *breast* or *milk-name*, the name given to a child soon after it sucks the breast of its mother,

4. *Shoo-ming*, or *book-name*, the name given to a boy when he goes to school.

5. *Kwan-ming*, or *official name* (the last of the three), a name given in to government by literary graduates, members of mercantile companies (Hong merchants), or other persons who have concerns with government.

6. *Tsze*, the character or name which men take when they marry.

7. *Haou*, titles taken by men of fifty, or fathers of married children.

The *joo-ming* is given to the infant in the following manner:—A month being completed after the birth of the child, it is brought out by the mother, and after its head is shaved, and it is dressed in clean clothes, the mother worships the goddess Kwan-yin, and the father pronounces its name before the friends who are invited to be present: this ceremony is called *Mwan-yuē*, and the entertainment which accompanies it, *Shih-ke-tsew*. The *Shoo-ming* is given by the master when a boy first enters at school. The master pronounces the name kneeling before a paper, on which is written the name of one of the sages of antiquity, and supplicates his blessing on the scholar. The master is then seated on a throne, or stands (commonly) by its side, while the scholar worships him, by kneeling, rising, and again kneeling, putting his forehead to the ground each time. This ceremony is called *K'hae-heo*; a large party is invited to an entertainment on the occasion, who make presents to the young scholar. The *tsze* is given by a father to his son, upon

* Compiled chiefly from Dr. Morrison's Chinese Dictionary, in *vocabus SING, MING, and KWAN*.

upon the marriage of the latter; on this occasion also friends are invited; the ancestors of the family are invoked and worshipped, the occurrence is announced to them and their blessing implored. On this event the father adds two characters to his own name, which make the *hao*.

The etymology of Chinese surnames is, in many instances, borrowed from the names of places; some names are deduced from incidents in the lives of the founder of the family, and some from the character of the person. The surname *Chau*, before-mentioned, affords an example of the first. The surname *Le*, which signifies a *pear*, is derived from the circumstance of the first of the family having dwelt beneath a pear tree, when endeavouring to avoid the malice of King Chow, B. C. 1112. The surname *Ma*, which is the character for a horse, is taken from a title of distinction given to the founder of the family, in allusion to the martial qualities of the war-horse.

By the laws of China, under the clause *tung sing wei hwan*, or "persons of the same surname marrying," it is enacted that in all cases where persons of the same *surname* intermarry, each individual shall be punished with sixty blows, and the parties shall be separated: the female shall be returned to her kindred, and the property and presents confiscated to the state!

The Chinese do not like that the *ming*, or prænomen, should be mentioned or written without some qualified epithet of respect attached to it. Hence the *ming* name is called *hwuy*, meaning that which is to be mentioned with reverence, or avoided altogether: on this account the prænomen of an emperor is not inserted even in the dictionaries of the language entire, but with some line or lines omitted in order to make it appear different from his name. From this instance of superstitious etiquette, which proscribes the common use or *profanation* of an imperial name, some characters have become permanently altered in the mode of writing them.

The names imposed by Chinese parents and friends, as well as those which the parties themselves assume, are always intended to be *keih-tseang*, or *fortunate*. It does not appear, however, that they practise *onomantia*, or the fortelling of a man's fortune from the elements of his name: although their soothsayers predict the events of a person's life from considering the hour of his birth, inspecting his hands, face, and the structure of his bones: with reference to the latter mode, the Chinese say *kwei-küh*, "noble bones;" and *tsien-küh*, "ignoble bones." There is an abusive mode of speech amongst them, derived from the same circumstance: "your whole body is composed of mean bones."

It is not esteemed rude to ask a person's name. There are several modes of doing this: the following pompous phraseology is merely civil:—"Tsing wän tsun sing ta ming, I beg to ask your honourable surname and great name;" or "Ts'hing wän kaou sing ta ming, I beg to inquire your eminent surname and great name." This is the language of all ranks, from the highest to the poorest and most obscure. The answer is: "My mean surname is —:" or it may be said without ceremony: "Sing Chang, ming King:" "surname Chang, name King." Of a third person it may be asked, "Ho sing," "what surname?" or in a direct address from a superior to an inferior, or amongst equals in unceremonious speech, it may be asked, "surname what? name who?" i. e. what is your name and surname? or "what is your surname?" They ask the same question without prefixing any pronoun, thus: "Kaou sing ta ming"—i. e. lofty surname and great name?

In

In writing, there are single surnames and reiterated surnames, or such as consist of a single character, or of two characters : the latter are called double surnames.

The Chinese express the whole of their surnames by the words *Pih sing*, or "the hundred sing," which is a general term for the people, as appears from the following passage in a Chinese writer : "*Pih sing ke nuy min shoo yay*;" i. e. "*Pih sing* denotes the common people within the royal domain." The sense of the term is also observed in the following passage from the *Shoo-king*, referring to the virtuous example of the ancient King Yaou (B. C. 2230): "He was able, by the influence of his great and illustrious virtues, to unite all his numerous kindred within the nine degrees of consanguinity; these being all united in mutual harmony, he tranquillized and promoted the lustre of the people's (*pih sing*) virtues; and his own people (*pih sing*) being rendered illustrious by their virtues, he joined in the bands of amity all nations. Oh how great then the change to goodness, and how peaceful the state of the black-haired people!"

The disconsolate condition of a person deprived of the aid of his own kindred is thus described by an ancient poet in the *She-king* :

Ev'n the forsaken, solitary Too *
Hath leaves to form a cool umbrageous bower ;
But I must wander desolate, forlorn :
'Tis not that other beings there are none
Of human form ; but none are of my kin.—
Ah ! heedless and unfeeling passers by,
Will none of you attach yourselves to me ?—
Alas ! how is it, when a man's bereft
Of kin, and most needs aid, that all desert him ?

To the curious in Chinese philology, it is worth remarking, that the word *sing* is compounded of the radical *neu*, a woman, and the adjunct *to be born* ; the propriety of the signification of the term is not very obvious from its elements without the aid of a commentator.

We may add to the foregoing, that, besides the varied use of the name (properly so called), respect to the individual addressed is denoted in China by different modes of allocution, according to the relations of the respective parties to each other. The use of epithets of respect to a person is called *ching-hoo*. The character *t'hae* is always included in such addresses: *t'hae ting* is an epithet applied to three of the highest officers of state; it is also used in epistolary writing as a mark of respect to the person written to. *T'hae kea* is an address equivalent to "eminent sir;" *laou t'hae*, "venerable sir;" *heung t'hae*, "exalted brother." *T'hae foo*, "your honoured name," is an expression used on the address of letters, before writing the name.

The history of *titles* opens a wide field: the *Shê-kwan-poo*, or book of authority on this subject, commences at the period of B.C. 3250 !

* "The too tree is thrice introduced in the *She-king*, and is always a metaphor of a solitary, destitute, forsaken, and comfortless state."—*Commentary on the She-king*.

THE CASE OF CAPTAIN McNAGHTEN.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : In the early part of this month I forwarded the enclosed rejoinder to Mr. Buckingham, in consequence of his remarks on my original "Reply" to his numerous and foul slanders. I have had it returned to-day in consequence of a note from myself to the printer of the *Oriental Herald*, desiring to know whether it was to be published or not, and I take the liberty of sending it to you, together with the printer's letter, with a request that you will, if you can, give it a place in your ensuing number, seeing that Mr. Buckingham, characteristically, denies me that justice, and means to assign a reason for his refusal, of which I can scarcely rely upon the candour. Having, in his most disingenuous remarks on my pamphlet, given out that he "generously" resolved not to confute it, because it contained an expression of my resolution to end the controversy, I sent him the enclosed in order to remove that bar to his efforts of self-justification, by challenging him to do his utmost in proving me the character he had dared to pourtray me. He keeps my manuscript, without the least notice, till near the end of the month, and then only returns it in consequence of a conditional request to that effect from me, when he thinks it probable I shall not be able to give it to the public before the appearance of his ensuing number, which, it seems, is to contain some remarks of his own upon the subject. An utter stranger to you, I can only appeal to your sense of justice in this case; and if you think the circumstances I am placed in, by my adversary's conduct, are sufficient inducements to you to let me address this portion of the case, through your pages, to the public, the insertion of this letter, along with the accompanying one, will explain to your readers the true cause of your doing me the solicited favour.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

R. A. McNAGHTEN.

18, *Thavies' Inn, Holborn,*
Jan. 23d, 1827.

To the Editor of the Oriental Herald.

SIR :—Having already disclaimed all intention of continuing a controversy with a man, whom I conceive incapable of conducting his own part of it in an honest and a manly way; I should not again address you on the subject, were it not for the use you have made of my avowed determination to notice you no farther. In your remarks on my "Reply" to your various misrepresentations, you inform your readers that they might think it "ungenerous in you to press upon an adversary, who has declared his intended withdrawal from the field;" and leave them thence to infer that your not refuting me is the effect of your generosity and not of your inability. To unloose that muzzle is the object of this rejoinder. I now tell you plainly that you are not able to prove the charges of sycophancy which you formerly brought against me, and for which I branded you with a wilful dereliction from your veracity; and, since I have once more taken up the pen, I shall prove that in addition to your former ambidexterity, you have, in your late notice of my pamphlet, had recourse once more to your favourite system of garbling and evasion; and that, too, in the very breath in which you take credit to yourself for that strict impartiality, for which, in the principal part of your Calcutta career, I allowed you to be entitled to commendation.

You commence your notice of me, by some remarks foreign to the purpose, on the manner in which I have put forth my Reply; and in these you deviate, as is now your custom, from the real fact—not in terms to be sure, but in the more unworthy

mode of insinuation. You say the pamphlet was left at your office for the purpose, as you conjectured, of having its contents noticed as those of every published work might legally be; but that when your printer applied for another copy, I informed him the work was not *published*. This, having nothing whatever to do with the merits of the case between us, I should pass over in silence, did it not evince that shuffling disposition which I believe your best friends are sorry to see characterizing your editorial conduct. In the first place, I think you can hardly expect to be believed by any one, when you say that you conjectured my pamphlet was sent to you, merely to be noticed like any other published work; or that you did not feel confident that it was sent solely to give you a fair opportunity of disproving, if you could, the charges it contained against you—an object widely different from that with which an author sends his book to a reviewer. Again, as to my disavowal of publication; I received from your printer a note, not addressed to me by name, but to the “Author of a Reply,” &c., requesting a second copy of the pamphlet, which I had published (he using that phrase), and which I immediately sent him. But as I had no great reason to trust in the fair dealing of a man from whom I had experienced nothing but injustice, I concluded that you contemplated an action at law against me; a proceeding on your part which I considered the more likely, as I knew you could not disprove my charges by a fair argument. I, therefore, in my reply to your printer, merely corrected his own expression, by saying that my pamphlet had not been *published*. I dare say you knew this at the time you wrote; but, if you did not, the *ignorantia facti* does not excuse the insinuation you have made of an underhand practice on my part; because you ought to make proper inquiries before you venture upon improper surmises.

Next, you seem to dwell on the fact of its having been printed by the printers of the *Asiatic Journal*, &c., and in this your *inuendo* is equally obvious. But you knew that I originally addressed my letter to a Whig newspaper, and you knew *why* I did so: two portions of knowledge, let me say, which should have made you pause before you covertly accused me of endeavouring to enlist party prejudice in my favour. I have another fact, however, which will convince the public how egregiously you are mistaken; and that is my having, when I found I should be obliged to get it out in its present form, taken it to Mr. Ridgway in order to get it printed, because I understood that he, too, was on your side of the political question. He declined the undertaking, in consequence, as he said, of being a personal friend (or acquaintance, I forget which) of your's, and in some literary way, I think, connected with you; and it was his suggestion which brought me at last to the actual employers, of whose connexion with the East-India Company I, at that time, really did not know any thing. As to your other introductory insinuations, I shall only say that if that can be called a “hole and corner pamphlet,” which was written by me in refutation of your slanders, and immediately transmitted to yourself, and not only to yourself, but to your principal friends and supporters, and to not one acquaintance of my own in the kingdom; if that can be called “a hole and corner pamphlet,” I submit to the charge; but I must leave the public, and not you, to pronounce the verdict. I made it as public as I could make it (after having failed to get it inserted in the papers), for I sent a copy to as many gentlemen connected with the East-India Company as the number I had printed enabled me to do, and in doing this I included your firmest friends among the proprietors; and, finally, I sent a copy of it to each of at least a dozen editors of papers, on both sides indiscriminately; and that is so much for your charge of “hole-and-cornering.”

I have, perhaps, given you grounds to pronounce me inconsistent in noticing you as my pamphlet does, after I gained a knowledge of the contempt in which the public held you; but your readiness to take advantage of that weak part is a proof, at all events, that you were on the look-out for the puerile parts of my Reply, and that had there been others, you would not have failed to have pushed the weapons of your argument into them. Your having caught at that peg on which to hang an observation, rather derogates from your previous assumption of generosity in sparing a withdrawn opponent;—a generosity, by the way, rather incompatible with the malignant feeling which

which caused you to attack a far distant, and a then, comparatively, helpless one. You commence your reply to me (your irrelevant preamble having concluded) by assuring me "that not a single line of the supposed slanders" ever came from your pen, and that therefore my accusations of hatred, falsehood, &c. are, at least, not applicable to you; and you go on to explain that your intelligence from India is not compiled by yourself, but has been the work of various individuals, not one of whom bore malice towards me. Now, Sir, in the number of the *Herald* (for November 1825), to which my pamphlet more immediately refers, the account of my public alleged conduct is given in editorial language—in such style as an editor uses when laying the substance of his information before the world; and while, therefore, to you alone I have a right to look as the propagator of the scandal, it appears to me no better than evasion on your part to now cast the odium upon the shoulders of an assistant. You are responsible for what appears in your pages, and you are supposed to have a perusal of their contents before they are given to the public; so that your present method of shirking that responsibility which properly attaches to you, will, I trust, show your readers and your compilers, how little you are to be trusted in comparison to, and how greatly you are changed from, that Hector, who formerly braved and vilified that body, whom he eventually, and almost abjectly, petitioned for pecuniary support; and never dreamt of shaking off the personal responsibility of his editorial situation, until he found that he had so far committed himself, that neither fair nor sophistical reasoning could serve to extricate him.

I distinctly accused you, Sir, of having held me forth as a mean tool of the Local Government in Bengal; and I challenged your proofs. In return, you tell me that your intelligence is gathered from the public papers, and from private authority that may be relied upon. Why, then, do you not produce them? Who are your infallible private authorities? Where are the public papers that accuse me of subservience? You have the paper I conducted, I presume, before you, and you know, I also presume, who compiled your summary of intelligence from the East, for the above-mentioned month of November; in which it is stated that the Government gave me an appointment to prevent the necessity of my doing duty with my regiment, and to enable me to edit a journal, for the imputed purpose of assisting me in the payment of a legal penalty. I have proved, even to your satisfaction, that I had the appointment of Judge Advocate before Lord Hastings, and consequently before you, left India, and that, therefore, the present Government had nothing to do with it; and that it was in no degree connected with my editorial duties, which had been entered upon several months before my removal permanently to the Presidency division of the Army; and unless you and your most worthy compilers and correspondents can prove among you, that the *Bengal Harkaru* was a government, or any other than an independent, paper, under my management, your joint superstructure must fall to the ground; and you may settle between yourselves the proportions of misrepresentation which each of you supplied to erect it.

You can also tell me, probably, what possible connexion that Supreme Court proceeding had with my public conduct; and how your former professions of friendship for me allowed you to put forth its mention so coarsely and brutally, in your already referred to number? That event occurred before you quitted India, and so little change did it appear to make in your sentiments towards me, that, even after your *Herald* was established, I received from you a printed letter, addressed to me and signed with your own hand, intreating my assistance in increasing the circulation of the work—of a work for which you and your tribe were, very likely, at that time concocting the slanders which, at no distant period, it gave to the world against me! No, Sir, that case had no connexion with either your intelligence from the East, or your manifold charges of sycophancy against me; but you thought the unfeeling and reiterated mention of it would pain me, and you therefore raked it up, and laid it in aggravating terms before your readers. You were right in your supposition, diabolical as it was; you did succeed in wounding me; and I should be sorry if I were so mentally callous as not to be deeply pained by the allusion; but as an argumentative fact

it was foreign to your subject ; and as one that had palliatives which the hand of friendship might have applied, it was surely an approach to demonism, for a professed friend to array it in the garb of aggravation, and then to present it to the public scrutiny. It may be some triumph to you to know that you have pierced me in a tender part ; but it will doubtless be a greater source of exultation to you to learn that the same manful stroke has entered a weaker and a softer breast than mine, and given yet greater anguish than I can feel for myself alone, to one whose amiableness of disposition would not suffer her to use the power of retaliation against you, if that power were ever so amply possessed. Enjoy your triumph in this respect ; or if you blush to wear the honour of the achievement yourself, find out, and place it on, the correspondent who helped you, or the compiler who was so expert as to enter the fact in your pages, and to pass it to the public, unseen by you till too late for your humanity to erase it !

You may bring our controversy to a very speedy conclusion, Sir, if you will keep closely to the main points of it. Prove my political sycophancy, which you have asserted : prove that I was either directly or indirectly rewarded for it by the Government : prove that I was desired by the Commander-in-chief to underrate the number of men who were put to death at Barrackpore. This last charge, in particular, you tell us in your number for last July (page 134), that you "learned from good authority : " produce your authority, or the public must disbelieve you. In the face of it I give them my solemn word of honour, that I never had the least communication, direct or indirect, with the Commander-in-chief, or any other authority, on the subject ; and I think it is for you now to either establish your charge or to withdraw it. In the same page, you say you *know* I put forth, as editor, the information I obtained in my official capacity. I challenge you to prove this ; for I most unequivocally deny it. My editorial account of the mutiny was written *before* I entered upon my official duty in any way. What it contains I derived almost entirely from personal observation, which fifty other officers had the same opportunity of using as I had ; but not a particle of it was gleaned from my official documents, or situation ; and the contrary of this I defy you to substantiate. It is positively untrue in you to assert that I *applauded the massacre* of the Barrackpore troops ; nor have you any right to put your own favourite, but absurd expressions, into my mouth. I spoke of the mutiny, and the means taken to suppress it, as a military man. I condemned the mutiny ; I approved of the means adopted to put it down ; and this you dare to pronounce "applauding a massacre."

In conclusion, I am persuaded that no person can read your observations on my pamphlet, and say that you have *answered* it. You have evaded the accusations of which I dared you to the proof ; and your enumeration of charges in page 86 of your last number does not contain a repetition of those of a political nature, nor any refutation of the charge I brought against you of having (you, or your compiler) wilfully garbled my dispute with Mr. Greenlaw, although you had both sides of the question equally before you. If you publish this, as I hope you will, and choose to remark upon it, pray adhere to the points on which I have called for your proofs. They are the principal topics, and if you establish them, I promise you to yield all the minor ones. Or I will tell you what I shall, if you please, consent to. This controversy may be made interminable by the present monthly mode of argument, and it must soon become tiresome to your readers ; I shall therefore consent to your selecting three of your own personal and political friends, before whom I shall meet you, and there discuss the charges I have brought against you, in your public capacity. Let them decide upon the case, and the affair be ended by their decision being published in the first number of the *Herald* which shall subsequently appear.

Of the *forgiveness* of the terms I applied to you in my pamphlet, and which forgiveness your last paragraph contains, I require none, and I accept none. Those terms I am not disposed to retract, and I therefore leave them to you and your correspondents, to be shared or applied as your own knowledge of your respective titles to them may dictate. Some of them may be thought too coarse, by those who do not feel as I felt when I perused, at that distance, your *slanders*—but none of them are too severe ; and
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though I might have taxed you with falsehood in terms of greater circumlocution than I have used, I preferred the more direct course with a person of your description, whose evasive disposition I could not help seeing, though I grieved to see it.

I am, &c.

18, *Thavies' Inn, Holborn,*
January 7th, 1827.

R. A. McNAGHTEN, Captain, Bengal Army.

P.S. I have not had a great deal of spare time for this communication, and I find I have omitted to notice two points in your recent summary of charges against me, viz. that my editorial writings were more calculated to cause bloodshed than those of my contemporaries; and that I was cashiered by a court-martial. It is in your manner of stating circumstances, Sir, that I perceive in the greatest degree your surprising disingenuousness; and a few illustrative remarks will enable your readers to comprehend my meaning in this particular. In almost all controversial writings, but especially in all editorial disputes, a person of your disposition may find, among the writings of either party, certain phrases and paragraphs which, separated from the context, and considered without reference to what elicited them, may bear the appearance of being provocatives to hostility: but I appeal to any candid person, whether that is the criterion by which to judge of disputative writings, or of the character of a disputant. In my "Reply" to your statements, for example, a score of expressions will be met with of the tendency you mention; but would any one who knew them to be retorts for previous unprovoked calumnies; who knew that I wrote in self-defence, and that, so far from having sought, I for a long time avoided the encounter; would, I say, any one under such circumstances look upon me as an inciter of personal quarrels; as he would naturally and properly do had my language been gratuitous, and I the causeless aggressor? This is precisely my editorial case. I call upon you to produce the articles to which you allude, and if they do bear the character you have given them, and I cannot prove them to be of a retaliatory description, I must submit to the reproach of being that, which all who know me know to be quite foreign to my natural disposition. I send you, herewith, very correct copies of the Court-Martial proceedings to which you have also alluded in a most unfair manner, and in the notes to which you will find occasional observations on your own behaviour. Read them, and judge from a combination of dates and evidence, whether I was the aggressor on any one of the occasions there discussed; as well as whether your November, or any other *Herald*, gives the public a fair account of the transaction. This brings me to your mode of announcing that I was cashiered. When a fact like that is simply stated, an unpartial reader is sure to attribute such a punishment to disgraceful conduct; and I have no doubt in the world that your mode of introducing it was intended to produce this effect, particularly as you add that I was removed from my staff-situation for "indecorum;" an actual untruth, as the term *indecorum* is in common parlance accepted. You knew that I was cashiered for nothing more than sending a challenge to a man who had most unprovokedly insulted me; that instead of meeting me, that man sent my challenge to the Commander-in-chief, who is, I may say, compelled to order a court-martial for the trial of all such offenders, so brought before him; that a court-martial has no option, no discretion, in respect to its award, on the charge being established; and that, therefore, the sentence was cashiering, which the Commander-in-chief remitted, almost as a matter of course, because there is no instance in our military annals (or if there be any, they are merely enough to form exceptions which prove the general rule) of the specified penalty being inflicted in the case of a challenge, unless accompanied by some derogatory circumstances. I have thus shown the uncandidness of your mode of stating a fact; and I have only further to tell you, that by adopting and adhering to a manful line of argument, you will place yourself, even in defeat, more highly in the public estimation than you need ever hope to do by the unworthy methods I have proved you to prefer.

Review of Books.

Memoirs of Zehir-ed-din Muhammed Baber, Emperor of Hindustan, written by himself, in the Jaghatâi Tûrki, and translated, partly by the late JOHN LEYDEN, Esq., M.D., partly by WILLIAM ERSKINE, Esq., with Notes, and a Geographical Introduction. London, 1826. 4to. pp. 432.

A MORE acceptable work than this has not, perhaps, for many years, been presented to the literary world. As the genuine production of a celebrated Tartar conqueror, giving an account of his operations, of the countries he visited (especially of Hindustan, in the sixteenth century), of his associates and connexions, with traits of character, anecdotes, and court incidents,—it is rare and curious; in other respects, and more particularly from the light it diffuses upon the history and geography of portions of Asia extremely ill known, its value is almost inappreciable.

Our notice of this work may, with propriety, be restricted to a review of the preliminary matter contained in Mr. Erskine's preface and introduction, which consists of masterly dissertations upon the Memoirs, upon the author of them, the copies in which they are extant, the language in which they were written, and, lastly, the geography of the countries and the history of the nations to which the events in the Memoirs have reference. A more enlarged notice of a work like this, which contains the varied events of a history from A.D. 1494 till 1530 (the year in which Baber died), would demand more space, and, we are obliged to add, more time, than we have at our disposal.

Mr. Erskine, in his dedicatory epistle to the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone (which is a model for succeeding writers), pays a very liberal tribute to the character of the late Dr. Leyden, with whom the translation originated. "The number and variety of the literary undertakings of that extraordinary man," he observes, "many of which he had conducted far towards a conclusion, would have excited surprise had they been executed by a recluse scholar, who had no public duties to perform, and whose time was devoted to literature alone. The facility with which he mastered an uncommon number of languages, ancient and modern, European and Oriental, the extent and ingenuity of his antiquarian inquiries into the literary history of his own country, and even the beauty of his poetical genius, are surpassed by the sagacious and philosophical spirit which he evinced, in the latter period of his life, in his different memoirs regarding the languages of the East, and particularly those of Hindustan, Bengal, the Dekhan, and Northern India." These, and other warm encomia upon Dr. Leyden, are as just as they are creditable to Mr. Erskine, who disclaims all praise but that of enabling the public to profit by his friend's labours. Mr. Erskine, however, who can (as oriental scholars know) well afford to divest himself of claims to praise justly due to him, has had a larger and a much more toilsome share in the work than the original labourer.

The Emperor Baber was a Toorki or Tartar prince, and the language in which his Memoirs were written is that which was spoken by the tribes from whom he descended, who inhabited the desert to the north and east of the Caspian. He was born on the very edge of this desert, in the year 1482; but the changes of fortune, in the course of his eventful life, carried him, sometimes as a fugitive, sometimes as a conqueror, into various provinces of Asia.

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A very erroneous notion has prevailed, it would appear, that the Jaghatai Toorki or Tartar tongue was anciently unwritten, and Sir Wm. Jones doubts whether any Tartarian king of Timur's age could write at all. Mr. Erskine dissipates every doubt, however, as to the genuineness of these Memoirs; he describes the Toorki in which the original is written, as remarkable for clearness, simplicity, and force; the style, far less adorned than that of the modern Persian, and as free from metaphor and hyperbole as that of a good English or French historian. He adds: "on the whole, the Toorki bears much more resemblance to the good sense of Europe than to the rhetorical parade of Asia: the style of all Toorki productions that I have ever happened to meet with, is remarkable for its downright and picturesque naïveté of expression." He considers that the Memoirs are as perfect as when Baber wrote them, though they exhibit *hiatus*, one of which extends to a period of twelve years.

We cannot furnish our readers with a better idea of these Memoirs than by quoting the following passage from Mr. Erskine's preface:

Baber does not inform us, nor do we learn from any other quarter, at what period of his life he began to compose his Memoirs. Some considerations might lead us to suppose that he wrote them after his last invasion of India. That they must have been corrected after that period is certain, since in the first part of them he frequently refers to that event, and mentions some of his Begs as holding appointments in Hindustân. Perhaps, too, the idea of writing his Memoirs was more likely to have occurred to him after his success in India, than at any previous time, as he had then overcome all his difficulties, was raised to eminence and distinction, and had become not only an object of wonder and attention to others, but perhaps stood higher in his own estimation. His Memoirs may be divided into three parts, the first extending from his accession to the throne of Ferghâna, to the time when he was finally driven by Sheibâni Khan from his paternal kingdom, a period of about twelve years; the second reaching from his expulsion from Ferghâna to his last invasion of Hindustân, a period of about twenty-two years; and the third containing his transactions in Hindustân, a period of little more than five. The whole of the first part, and the three first years of the second, are evidently written chiefly from recollection; and the style and manner in which they are composed appear to me far to excel that of the rest of the work; not only from the clearer connexion given to the various parts of the story, and the space given to incidents in proportion to their importance, but from the superior unity and rapidity of the narrative. This is, perhaps, in other respects also, the most agreeable portion of the Memoirs. During a great part of the period to which they relate he was unfortunate, and often a wanderer; but always lively, active, and bold; and the reader follows him in his various adventures with that delight which inevitably springs from the minute and animated recital of the hazardous exploits of a youthful warrior. The narrative, when renewed in the year 925 of the Hejira, after an interval of twelve years, partakes too much of the tedium of a journal, in which important and unimportant events find an equal space, and seems to be, in a great measure, the copy of one kept at the time. The same remark applies perhaps even more strongly to the greater part of the concluding portion of the work. In the earlier portions of the Memoirs we have a continuous narrative of details, such as a lively memory might furnish at the distance of many years. In the latter parts, trifling incidents are often recorded, which, if not committed to writing at the time, would soon have met the oblivion they merited. We are informed of minute particulars, which can interest even the writer only by recalling particular events or peculiar trains of association—how often he eat a *masjûn*, or electuary—how often he got drunk, and what nameless men were his boon companions. These incidents, however curious as illustrative of manners or character, are repeated even to satiety. Yet these parts also contain the valuable accounts of Kâbul and of Hindustân; he gives an occasional view of his aims and motives, of the management of some of his expeditions, and particularly of his conduct during the
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alarming mutiny of his troops; while the concluding portion of his memoirs, where the form of a journal is resumed, appears to be hardly more than materials for his private use, intended to assist him in recalling to his memory such incidents as might have enabled him to furnish a connected view of the transactions of that period. Still, however, all the three parts of his memoirs, though the two last are evidently unfinished, present a very curious and valuable picture of the life and manners of a Tartar prince, and convey an excellent idea of Baber's policy, and of his wars in Mâweralnaher, Afghânishtân, and India, as well as of his manners, genius, and habits of thinking; and perhaps no work ever composed introduces us so completely to the court and council, the public and private life, of an Eastern Sultan.

The Memoirs appear to have been held in great estimation, and even veneration, at the Courts of Delhi and Agra, after the death of the writer of them. Baber himself seems to have been satisfied with his labours; towards the close of his life, he sent a copy of his work from Hindustan to a friend in Cabul. From some marginal notes in copies of two translations of the Memoirs into Persian, as well as on the Toorki original, all of which Mr. Erskine collated, it appears that the Emperor Humaïoon, even after he had ascended the throne, and not long before his death, had transcribed them with his own hand. They were translated from the original Toorki into Persian by the celebrated Mirza Abdul Raheem, in the reign of Akber.

The history of the present English translation is as follows:—It was begun at Calcutta by Dr. Leyden, from the original Toorki; he was assisted by a Persian Toork of Ganj. Mr. Erskine sent him from Bombay a portion of a transcript of the Persian translation of Mirza Abdul Raheem. On the death of Dr. Leyden, Mr. Erskine offered to assist in completing the translation, having in his service the same person who aided Dr. Leyden; but before his letter reached Calcutta, Dr. Leyden's papers had been sent to England. He was then induced, by the persuasion of friends, to translate the Persian copy, and had completed the work, when he received from London a copy of Dr. Leyden's translation, which differed from his own in many important particulars. Mr. Erskine then blended the two, adopting Dr. Leyden's (as being immediately from the original), except where obviously wrong, and had completed his labour, when the original Toorki copy which belonged to Dr. Leyden, and had been lost, was recovered. Mr. Erskine had now to begin once more; he at length completed his translation, with the aid of several Persian copies, in the state in which it now appears.

Mr. Erskine observes: "The translation is close and literal, to a degree which many will think faulty, and which few works written in an Eastern language would admit of; but such closeness is not without its use, as the style of a people generally exhibits, in some degree, the dress of their mind, and often leads to more just conclusions regarding their habits of thinking, than can easily be attained in any other way."

We must here terminate our review, regretting that we are able to do so little justice to a work which reflects such high credit upon all whose names are associated with it.*

It would be unjust, however, to omit commending the excellent map, and able memoir which accompanies it, by Mr. Charles Waddington, of the Bombay Engineers.

* We were favoured last month, from a highly respectable quarter, with a valuable notice of this interesting work, which was withdrawn, owing to its non-appearance in our last number. Whilst we express our deep regret at the disappointment occasioned by its omission, we must remark that it was sent at so late a period, that its insertion could have been affected only by cancelling some of the pages already printed; and there was actually no time for this course had we been disposed to adopt it. We trust, therefore, that no unreasonableness will be felt towards us for not accomplishing what was impossible.—Ed.

Mánava-Dherma-Sástra, or *The Institutes of Menu*. Edited by GRAVES CHAMNEY HAUGHTON, M.A., F.R.S., &c. &c. &c., Professor of Hindu Literature in the East-India College. London, 1825. 2 vols. 4to.

THE eager cultivation of Oriental Literature on the Continent we consider as a fact that marks the intellectual energy of the age. To the common observer it would at once suggest itself that the intimate connexion of this country with India and China must have turned the balance of activity and encouragement in favour of England; far different, however, is the fact. To whatever cause we may refer it, the study of Oriental literature has met with no encouragement, except from the East-India Company; although in the whole field of research perhaps there is not a single object that involves considerations of a higher curiosity. To Oriental remains alone, and particularly such as are contained in Sanscrit, are we to look for elucidations of the birth and development of all that has given grace, dignity, and utility to the human mind.

Had it not been for the necessity of preparing elementary and other works for the East-India Company's institutions in England, Oriental literature could scarcely be said to meet with any countenance. It is due to the munificent spirit of this body to say, that it has most liberally supported every effort in Oriental literature that promised any practical advantage.

On the Continent, especially in France and Germany, many able scholars, stimulated by favour and rewards from their sovereigns, have directed their attention to this pursuit, and if the difficulties they have had to encounter in its prosecution and the results of their exertions are considered, we think they are eminently entitled to the approbation they have received. If however we include, as we think we may justly do, the efforts made by our countrymen in the East, we shall find that the British name is associated with some of the most useful and splendid works, both as they regard research and practical utility, that have appeared in Oriental literature. These, it must however be stated, are gratuitous and independent of any patronage they received in England, and are solely referable to the ardent curiosity of our countrymen, and the very necessities of our Eastern connexions.

The capital of this country can now boast of a chartered institution for Oriental research. The support and fame of this Society may be said greatly to depend on one distinguished individual; and but for its able Director, Mr. H. T. Colebrooke, the Royal Asiatic Society might never have had an existence.

Our object at present is to lay before our readers the literary notice or critique of M. Burnouf, on the work the title of which we have placed at the head of this article. This gentleman was appointed by the Asiatic Society of Paris, at the latter end of 1825, to make a *Rapport verbal* upon this singular relic of antiquity, which had been edited in this country solely to supply the wants of the East-India Company's College.

We noticed the work at the time of its publication in August 1825, and then expressed our hope of being able ere long to enter upon its merits. We now, however, most willingly substitute the remarks of M. Burnouf, who to considerable merit as an impartial critic, unites the tone and temper of a gentleman.

On one or two occasions, where we think M. Burnouf in error, either as to his opinions or to facts, we have subjoined a few short notes, and we might have extended them further if it had been our object to expose every venial

inaccuracy. Some of these it was very natural for M. Burnouf to fall into; since it would be difficult, if not impossible, for European scholars, who have not visited the East, to seize the complete spirit of Hindu literature from the only guides they have at present, namely, the works published by our countrymen: we should, therefore, while we applaud their zeal, view their inaccuracies with indulgence.

On those points where Mr. Haughton and M. Burnouf are at variance, we lean to the former, because he has had the advantage of being formed in the College of Fort William, an institution replete with every aid to be derived from learned Professors and *Pandits*. Besides, we consider that, as this gentleman is intimately acquainted with some of the principal Hindu dialects, he must have a larger body of facts to guide him than can possibly fall to the lot of M. Burnouf. But the matters objected to by M. Burnouf are, as he acknowledges, of very little importance.

Every reader will be struck, while perusing M. Burnouf's article, with the studied reference to the works of the Continental literati. The names of Frank, Bopp, Schlegel, and Chézy have obtained a well-merited celebrity in Oriental literature; but whenever their canons are borrowed from the labours of Englishmen, we should hope that the just rule, *suum cuique*, would not be overlooked. The republic of letters cannot be easily made to forget those extraordinary works for which it is indebted to our illustrious countrymen, Wilkins, Sir W. Jones, Colebrooke, Wilson, and others.

The following is a translation of the *Rapport verbal* of M. Burnouf:—

“Mr. Haughton's edition of the *Institutes of Menu* is comprized in two volumes; the first contains the Sanscrit text, followed by one hundred and twenty-five pages of notes on the various readings adopted by the editor. Sir Wm. Jones's translation is given in the second volume, together with observations, to the extent of seventeen pages, on the alterations which Mr. Haughton thought proper to be made. The Sanscrit text is printed with Wilkins' types, which are in general extremely clear and legible; and the book has been carried through the press with such perfection, that it is one of the finest which have as yet appeared in Europe.(1) The editor states in the Preface, that his only object in publishing this celebrated work, was to place it in the hands of the students of the East-India College; much difficulty having been experienced previously in procuring copies for their use. We congratulate Mr. Haughton that, while fulfilling an object purely national, he should have established a just right to the gratitude of all those who take an interest in Indian literature on the Continent.

“It must be observed, however, that the editor's plan precluded him from investigating many highly interesting questions connected with this important work. Accordingly we are not to expect that his labours should throw any new light upon the date of the compilation of the *Mānava-Dharma*, on its philosophical system, on the degree of harmony of its different parts, or the authenticity of such and such passages, etc.

“In fact, Mr. Haughton's intention was not to publish a dissertation on the laws of Menu; but that which was of far more value, the text itself. He has confined himself to reprinting the preface of Sir Wm. Jones, which, notwithstanding the talents of its author, does not perhaps reply satisfactorily to all
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(1) This work was printed at the press of Messrs. Cox and Baylis, and does them great credit.

the questions which the subject may suggest. For instance, the philosophical opinions which arise out of Menu are not adverted to by Jones; this ought not to surprise us, for at the time he wrote there existed only very vague notions on this subject. At present, thanks to the zeal and talents of Mr. Colebrooke, we can form a very exact idea of the philosophical system of the *Vēdas*, and of that of the two celebrated Indian schools—the *Sāṅk'hya* and the *Nyāya*. Now in comparing the laws of Menu with these different systems, it is impossible to avoid remarking the analogies between them and the *Vēdas*. These books are quoted at every instant; Menu endeavours unceasingly to reproduce their meaning; and numerous passages prove that the Indian legislator, or the compiler who takes the authority of his name, has borrowed even their very expressions.

“The mythological system, of which a glimpse may be obtained through the medium of this ancient code, exhibits striking features of resemblance to that of the *Vēdas*; the gods, or divine personages, are the same; they are not numerous, chiefly natural and astronomical, and subordinate to Brahma, or more properly the self-existent being. We do not find in it the legends developed in the *Purānas*, which the mythological genius of the Hindus would not have rejected from a work of this sort, had they existed at the time of its compilation. On the other hand, the passage on the creation, with which the first chapter begins, bears, in Mr. Colebrooke's opinion, the stamp of the ideas of Capila, the supposed founder of the *Sāṅk'hya* philosophy. But it must be acknowledged, that the Hindu commentators are of a different opinion, and explain this difficult passage by quotations from two of the philosophical systems derived from the *Vēdas*, entitled *Mīmāṃsa* and *Vēdānta*. However, another passage, the fiftieth couplet of the twelfth chapter, evidently appears to correspond with the opinions of Capila. We there meet *Mahat* and *Avyacta*, the two fundamental principles in the doctrine of this philosopher, which are thus explained by Cullūca Bhatta, the commentator:

तत्तद्वयं सांख्यप्रसिद्धं. Besides, it is possible that this and many other passages are explained by every commentator according to the principles of his own philosophical creed; thus affording no uncommon example of an ancient text receiving very different, and frequently opposite explanations. But whatever may be the doctrine contained in the *Mānava-Dharma*, it is worthy of remark that no particular school is named therein. If these schools existed when Menu was compiled, it seems to be a natural conclusion that they had not yet separated from the *Vēdas*, which may be considered strictly as their common starting point, and were not yet known by their present denominations, otherwise how is it to be accounted for that the slightest allusion is not made to them in such an extensive composition? In like manner, several persons have been struck at not seeing the names of *Crishna* or *Budd'hā*, although in the many passages where Menu requires faith in the *Vēdas*, and condemns those who attack them, it would have been natural to point out the celebrated reformer who, in the tenth century before the Christian era, had dared to deny their authority.

“It seems to us that the investigation of these questions, combined with that of the manner in which the book was composed, and the degree of harmony in its parts, might lead to very important conclusions; more especially should the publication of some other Sanscrit text give rise to new approximations, calculated to fix its date with precision. Still, an exact acquaintance with the text of Menu is a necessary prelude to all inquiries of

this sort, and we may say that, up to the present moment, Mr. Haughton has done the most towards the solution of these interesting questions, by the publication of his beautiful work.

“ The object of the editor, in publishing the Sanscrit text of the *Mánava-Dherma-Sástra*, was two-fold : first, to render it as distinct as possible without violating the imperative rules of Sanscrit grammar ; secondly, to alter but rarely the readings of the Calcutta edition, which has the advantage of being supported by the commentary of Cullúca Bhatta. We shall briefly examine the means employed by the editor to attain his end. For perspicuity, little is done in Sanscrit manuscripts. The use of some marks, such as *Anuswára*, and the apostrophe *Ardhácára*, alone marks the divisions in a line, all the words of which are joined together. Even then, these signs, being often placed at random, are more hurtful than serviceable. The way to afford clearness, would be to separate the words whenever the genius of the language opposed no obstacle to their disjunction. This plan has been adopted by Bopp and Schlegel, the editors of the Sanscrit works printed in Europe. Mr. Haughton, on the contrary, has followed that of the Calcutta editors, in order, no doubt, to imitate original works, even to their external appearance.

“ But either I deceive myself, or the exact representation of manuscripts ought not to be the object of a printed book. It is easily understood that in the passage अहमेवासमेवाग्रे ‘I was, yes, I was in the beginning,’

एव आसं एव अग्रे cannot be separated ; for, by an invariable rule, two similar vowels must coalesce. But we do not see what rule should prevent the division of the words in the following verse :

प्रतिपूज्य यथा न्यायमिदं वचनमब्रुवन्

“ By so doing no rule of grammar is broken, and, on the one hand, the advantage is gained of accustoming the beginner to the true separation of words, and on the other, the learner is not left in doubt with regard to the signification attributed to certain passages, where the union of the words might produce embarrassment. A distinguished scholar, M. G. Humboldt, agrees with the editors before-mentioned, that the dividing of the words might be carried very far ; but I can do no more, here, than cite his opinion without unfolding his system, which he has not yet publicly explained. It is clear, then, that were the point to be decided by authorities, we might adduce some of great respectability in favour of our opinion.

“ The same necessity for perspicuity induces us to submit another observation to Mr. Haughton, relative to the use of the nasals. It is known that the *Dévanágari* alphabet possesses a nasal, distinct in sound and form, for each of the five classes of letters which enter into its composition. Thus there is the nasal for the gutturals, another for the palatials, &c. Whenever it happens that the nasal of one class falls upon the guttural of another, it is changed into the nasal proper to that class. For example, ताम् ददशी *illam vidit*,

becomes तान्ददशी . But this rule is not invariably followed, even by the manuscripts : the Calcutta editors, alone, have applied it rigorously ; and, further, Mr. Bopp himself, in his grammar, where he has most carefully treated all that regards euphony, has shewn that it might be the occasion of serious

serious errors; and thus it could not be ascertained whether तान्ददशी was for तान् ददशी *illos vidit*, or ताम् ददशी *illam vidit*.(2) Now, the use of *anuswāra* limited to the known power of this sign, puts an end to all these uncertainties; it is placed wherever the nasal labial ought to be; but Mr. Haughton not even employing it at the close of a verse, and writing धर्मम् and not धर्मं ought, in consistency,(3) to subject that nasal, in its collision with other letters, to the requisite euphonic changes.

“As to the apostrophe, the editor has not followed the manuscripts and the Calcutta texts; which place it very arbitrarily. This sign is intended to represent an *a* suppressed; it should not therefore be employed when another vowel meeting *a* (short) coalesces with it. Mr. Haughton has made it a point to rectify the errors of the Calcutta edition on this point of grammar. Now, the rule which he established for himself is this: whenever the vowels *á*, *é*, *o*, are followed by a word beginning with *a* (short), the apostrophe is to be put instead of the *a* (short). Consequently Mr. Haughton writes, chapter ix,

verse 81, बन्ध्याऽष्टमेऽधिवेद्याब्दे “A barren wife may be superseded by another in the eighth year.” The Calcutta and Serampore editions have already given occasion to Mr. Bopp to make the same observation, that in

बन्ध्याऽष्टमे the *a* is not suppressed but contracted,(4) by virtue of the rule which determines that two similar letters meeting together, shall unite and form only one. According to this principle it would be necessary to write बन्ध्याष्टमेऽधिवेद्याब्दे.

In another passage, chapter ii, verse 101, Mr. Haughton puts an apostrophe which is useless, and the presence of which may cast some obscurity on the text.(5) He reads पूर्वां संध्यां जपंस्तिष्ठेत् सावित्रीमाः कीर्दशनात्, while we should read सावित्रीमाः कीर्दशनात् agreeable to the Calcutta edition.

“We

(2) M. Burnouf, when he quoted M. Bopp for this remark, could not have recollected that every such phrase has an antecedent defining its nature; we cannot conceive, therefore, that it could ever lead to a doubt.

(3) We cannot find that Mr. Haughton has in any part of his work proposed such an absolute rule for himself, and we may, therefore, suppose that he preferred affording specimens of admissible varieties which violate no rule of grammar.

(4) The *ardhacāra*, or apostrophe, is not a letter, but a sign employed to prevent misconception; and we think it would be a sacrifice of common sense for a verbal subtlety to make a distinction between what Messrs. Bopp and Burnouf term the contraction and the suppression of a short *a*. All that can be truly affirmed is, that this letter disappears as often as it is preceded by *á*, *é*, or *o*, and the apostrophe is then employed to point out the circumstance to the reader.

(5) आऽ is here employed *disjunctively*, as an adverb, and not as a preposition; we conceive that Mr. Haughton would have been inconsistent had he left out the apostrophe, as recommended by M. Burnouf.

" We will now examine the means employed by Mr. Haughton to establish the text with critical accuracy. Eight manuscripts were at his disposal, of which some had a commentary, and besides these the Calcutta edition. Mr. Haughton's plan has been to notice the chief passages exhibiting interesting variations, and to subject the various readings to a critical investigation. The editor has been almost constantly guided by the very just idea that the difficulty of explaining certain forms should not authorize their rejection, because they might be elucidated by a Sanscrit more ancient than that with which we are at present acquainted. He has rarely swerved from this principle, and when he has done so, he is careful to state the fact in the notes, in order that the reader may chuse between the various readings there given. We will not enter into an examination of the disquisitions, which were called for by the several readings of many passages of the manuscripts. The care displayed in their composition will excite regret in the reader, not to see more of them; if the passages discussed by Mr. Haughton are those alone which present any difference, it is astonishing that the text of Menu should have come down to our time, with so little alteration from the copyists; for among the manuscripts consulted by Mr. Haughton, there are some which have been brought from parts of India very remote from each other. There are, however, a few passages in which it is possible to entertain an opinion a little different from that of the editor. We shall, though with diffidence, take the liberty of pointing out some of them.

" Chapter iii, verse 30. Menu says that the marriage named *Prājapatya* takes place when a father gives his daughter in pronouncing these words:— ' May both of you perform together your civil and religious duties.' Such is Sir William Jones's translation. Here is the text:

सहोभौ चरतां धर्ममिति वाचानुभाष्य च

" Mr. Haughton informs us that he adopts the reading of the manuscripts सहोभौ instead of सहनौ as it is given in the Calcutta edition, a correction already made by M. Chézy in his Course; but it appears to us that it would be requisite likewise to read चरतं instead of चरतां putting the verbs in the second person, instead of the third. In fact it is more natural (6) that the father should direct his discourse to the two, husband and wife, as Sir W. Jones understood it, doubtless after the commentary of Cullūca, whose words are express: सह युवां धर्मं कुरुतं. At the same time, one may perceive that the emendation we propose, is not opposed to the rules of prosody; for, by whatever system the first *pāda* of the verse is scanned, whether according to that of M. Chézy or that of M. Schlegel, the sixth syllable is long.

" Chapter

(6) Such matters must be judged by the particular turn of mind and phraseology of the people by whom they are employed, and not by general rules. The Hindus delight in the indirect mode of address, and instead of employing the second person of the imperative, and saying "do it," they generally use the third, "let it be done." This mode pervades all the Hindu dialects, and is derived from the Sanscrit. Of this fact M. Burnouf will have unequivocal proofs in Menu, book i, v. 4; ii, v. 193; iii, v. 251. Cullūca is certainly express as to the *intention*, but not as to the *form of words* of the legislator.

“ Chapter-iii, verse 68. Mr. Haughton prefers to read चुह्नि “ hearth,” after the Calcutta edition ; although in the *Amera Cosha*, and in Wilson’s Dictionary, the reading is चुस्नि . The editor grounds himself on this, that in the popular dialects, the word is pronounced *chulhá*, whence it must be inferred that the aspiration existed in the primitive word, and that it has been merely displaced.

This observation of Mr. Haughton’s is strengthened by the continual recurrence, in the Pāli and Prākṛit languages, of aspirated letters, which change into *ha*, and follow the consonant which they had preceded in Sanscrit. Thus तूष्णीं becomes in Pāli, *tūnhi*, अस्माकां makes *amhākam* प्रश्न *panha*. Yet it would not be difficult to find, in the dialects derived from the Sanscrit, aspirates which did not exist in the mother tongue; thus the Pāli word *urulhava*, seems to be the Sanscrit उरुल्व *largam vulvam habens*.

“ Chapter iv, verse 185, छाया स्वं दासवर्गश्च दुहिता कृपणं परं that is to say in speaking of the father of a family : ‘ his assemblage of servants (are) as his own shadow ; his daughter as the highest object of tenderness.’ In order to render the text more conformable to this meaning, Mr. Haughton reads, after some manuscripts स्वा making it refer to छाया. There seems to be no necessity for altering the reading in the Calcutta edition, supported as it is by the commentary which clearly shews (7) that स्वः ought to relate to दासवर्गः ; in fact, he explains these two words by the compound स्वदासवर्गः . We may add that, generally, it would appear the pronoun स्व should precede the noun to which it relates, and what proves it is, that several of Mr. Haughton’s manuscripts which read स्वा place this word before छाया ; other examples may be seen in chapter i, verse 30, 55, 63, 94, 100 ; ii, 20, 124, 205 ; x, 81, 101.

“ Chapter v, verse 27. This couplet contains one of those words, the etymology of which Mr. Haughton thinks it difficult to explain ; it is the compound प्रभवाययं . The context requires that it should mean *beginning and end* ; this first word is found in प्रभव , but the second is not met with in any vocabulary ; and in the impossibility of explaining it, the editor

(7) We are inclined to prefer the reading adopted by Mr. Haughton, because it alone seems to fulfil the intention of the legislator, is supported by some of the manuscripts, and is not incompatible with the interpretation of Cullūca Bhatta.

editor ingeniously conjectures that we should read अत्ययं, but with that moderation of which he has given numerous examples in the course of his labours, he has allowed अप्ययं to continue in the text, and with the more reason because this word is repeated in the commentary, where विनाश destruction, end, is given as its synonym.(8)

“ Moreover, it appears to us that it may be considered as compounded of the preposition अपि and of the root इ or अय, like the words पर्यय प्रत्यय अत्यय of the prepositions परि प्रति and अति with one or other of these roots. It is true that Wilson gives but few words formed with *api*; but they all have the signification of upon, above, beyond: the idea of motion joined to that preposition might form a compound signifying end, or limit.

“ We will not carry these short observations further; their trifling importance will serve, at all events, to prove the extreme care with which Mr. Haughton's work is executed. Without doubt a long and minute examination might enable us to discover some slight defects in this great work. The translation would give rise to many remarks: but the editor is not responsible on this head; and with regard to that portion of the work which is exclusively his own, it will be esteemed by impartial judges, as one of the finest monuments which have been raised to the knowledge of Indian antiquities.

“ The modest editor, believing that he had not yet done enough for a work to which he had wholly devoted himself, intended that these volumes should be followed by a third, which would include the valuable commentary of Cullúca Bhatta. His strength has not corresponded to his zeal, and orientalists will learn with deep regret, that his health, seriously affected, has not permitted him to put the last hand to a task, which others would deem to have been already most successfully completed.”

(8) M. Burnouf is right in his conjecture that the word which Mr. Haughton has preserved in the text, is the true reading; it is to be met with in the comments on the *Védas*.

Narrative of the Burmese War, detailing the Operations of Major General Sir Archibald Campbell's Army, from its landing at Rangoon, in May 1824, to the Conclusion of a Treaty of Peace at Yandaboo, in February 1826. By MAJOR SNODGRASS, Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, and Assistant Political Agent in Ava. London, 1826. 8vo. pp. 319.

THIS narrative, though confined chiefly to the operations of the British army in the late war with Ava, contains likewise slight sketches of its geography, and of the character and manners of the Burmans, giving an interest to the work which general readers seldom find in dry military details. Major Snodgrass informs us, in his preface, that his original intention was to prepare an

an account of the imperfectly known country traversed by the army, and that he had collected some materials for that purpose; but his active duties had so much interfered with the office of collecting facts and data for such an extensive plan, that he contracted the work to its present form, a journal—which he presents to the public “without pretensions of any kind beyond that of accuracy in the details it may contain.”

The narrative commences with the embarkation of the troops from India, and the concentration of the fleet at the Andaman islands, a short description of which is given. The taking of Rangoon is then detailed, and a brief (rather too brief) account of the town is subjoined. The difficulties, foreseen and unforeseen, with which the army had now to contend, present a very formidable picture in the narrative. Besides the natural defences of the country, and the unwholesomeness of that part of it in which the British troops had landed, they found that the Court of Ava had been for months preparing for a war with the Government of India, and had assembled a strong force, the commanders of which pursued at first the cautious system of constructing their stockades in the least accessible parts of the jungles of Henzawaddy, or province of Rangoon, a delta formed by the mouths of the Irrawaddy.

Before the arrival of the British forces in Pegu was known to the King of Ava, and when the possibility of that event was hinted to him, he replied, scornfully, “as to Rangoon, I will take such measures as will prevent the English from even disturbing the women of the town in cooking their rice.” The threat was not altogether empty; for the British army was speedily surrounded with a force by land and water, collected from all parts of the empire, which promised to overwhelm them by numbers alone.

The various encounters, which inspired the British sepoys with confidence, and taught the Burmese commanders to place a juster value on their own troops, are familiar to our readers; the particulars are detailed with more precision and minuteness by Major Snodgrass, and are accompanied by occasional remarks upon the character, habits, and qualities of the two armies, and other circumstances, which, however worthy of record, could not be afforded a place in the public despatches.

Major Snodgrass observes, after relating the operations at Kemmendine :—

Much has been said of the ignorance in which the King of Ava was kept, regarding the causes and progress of the war; that the communications that had passed between the two countries, both previous to and after its commencement, had been carefully kept from his knowledge; and that his ministers and chiefs, in the full confidence of terminating the contest favourably, continued to keep him in ignorance of the disasters and defeats his troops had sustained in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, deceiving him with constant assurances of victories, and the speedy expulsion of the invaders from his kingdom. Nothing, however, proved more incorrect than these conjectures; as abundant opportunities afterwards occurred of ascertaining from many sources, that hostilities were not only sanctioned by his Majesty, but that his resolution of attacking our south-east frontier had been publicly announced long previous to the invasion of his own territories; and there is every reason to believe that the country at large applauded the resolution, and looked forward with confidence to the honour and riches that awaited them, in a war with their wealthy neighbours.

The emergencies of his Burman Majesty, who had superseded and disgraced various commanders opposed unsuccessfully to the British, obliged him to recal the celebrated Maha Bandoola, with his veterans, from Ramoo, where this chief had stockaded his force, evidently with a view of passing our Chittagong frontier on the return of the cold season. This active and enter-

prizing commander, in obedience to his instructions, conducted his troops to the Irrawaddy, through the provinces and across the mountains of Arracan, a distance, by the shortest route, of more than 200 miles, at a season of the year when none but Burmans could have kept the field for a week, much less have attempted to pass insalubrious jungles, pestilential marshes, rivers, arms of the sea and mountain torrents, which opposed their progress at every step.

By a Burmese, however (observes Major S.), obstacles of this description are little regarded : half amphibious in his nature, he takes the water without fear or reluctance ; he is, besides, always provided with a chopper, and expert in the construction of rafts where necessary : seldom encumbered with commissariat or equipage of any kind, and carrying a fortnight's rice in a bag slung across his shoulders, he is at all times ready to move at the first summons of his chiefs, who, when unembarrassed by the presence of an enemy, divide into parties for the greater celerity of movement and provisioning of the men, each pursuing his own route to the place of general rendezvous appointed by the chief commander.

The backwardness of the Siamese to take an active part in our favour, notwithstanding the ancient grudge they must entertain towards the Burmese, Major Snodgrass ascribes to the right motive, namely, a thorough persuasion, even to the last, that we should fail in conquering Ava, or in bringing its government to sue for terms. In the event of our failure, Siam would have been exposed to the powerful resentment of its exasperated neighbour, had the former been actively instrumental in aiding the British. The Siamese, however, assembled an army on its borders, and in order to co-operate with them, if well disposed, or to watch their motions if any doubt of their sincerity appeared, the town of Martaban, on the borders of Siam, was attacked and occupied by a British detachment.

The province of Martaban was the only one in Pegu where a strong and marked national antipathy was found to exist against the Burmese government. In other places, particularly at the capital of this subjugated kingdom, the policy of the conqueror, in banishing every man of weight, and in judiciously removing distinctions between Burmese and Peguers, had nearly obliterated in the latter all remembrance of ancient independence, except amongst the inhabitants of Martaban, who are chiefly Taliens, or pure Peguers.

The narrative before us, when it relates the march from Rangoon to Donobow, after the retreat of the Bandoola, assumes the form of a mere journal. The picture of the British camp during the advance presents a curious object :—

On reaching camp, the scene which presented itself was at once grotesque and novel ; no double-poled tent bespoke the army of Bengal, or rows of well-pitched rowties that of the sister-presidency ; no oriental luxury was here displayed, or even any of the comforts of an European camp, to console the traveller after his hot and weary march ; but officers of all ranks, couching under a blanket or Lilliputian tent, to shelter themselves from a meridian sun, with a miserable half-starved cow or poney, the sole beast of burden of the innate, tied or picketed in the rear, conveying to the mind more the idea of a gipsy bivouac than of a military encampment. Nothing of the pomp or circumstance of war was here apparent, nor would even the experienced eye have recognized in the little group, that appeared but as a speck on the surface of an extensive plain, a force about to undertake the subjugation of an empire, and to fight its way for 600 miles, against climate, privations, and a numerous enemy.

On their march they met with the people called Carians, and on arriving at Carianghoon, they found the village inhabited by this tribe. The houses of this strange people are mere pigeon-holes perched in the air on poles, a notched stick

stick serving as the sole means of egress and ingress. Although possessed of the strongest and most robust frame, the Carians are the quietest and most harmless people in the world. They are industrious cultivators; the women bearing an equal or the largest share of the labour, which produces signs of premature old age amongst them. The Carians pay heavy taxes to the government, but are free from the conscription laws. They behaved in a very friendly manner to the British, and never disappointed or betrayed them.

More details are given in the narrative respecting the transactions at Donoobew than are generally known. The death of Maha Bandoola gives Major Snodgrass an occasion to depict his character, which he describes as a strange mixture of cruelty and generosity, talent and want of judgment, and strong regard to personal safety combined with great courage and resolution, which never failed him. He was barbarously cruel, stern, and inflexible, putting to death, with his own hand, those who evinced the slightest want of zeal in their duty. The uncontrolled license he gave his troops to plunder was the chief cause of their attachment to him. He evinced no small degree of talent as a general, whilst the position and defences at Donoobew, as a field-work, would have done credit to the most scientific engineer.

The descriptions given by Major Snodgrass of the country and people, as the army advanced from Donoobew to Prome, are identically the same, even in language, as those which have appeared at various times in the Government Gazette of Calcutta, the substance of which we have transferred into our Journal, and we are glad to find their authenticity so well guaranteed.

The regulations which the British commander introduced into the government at Prome, whilst that city was in our possession, though it lessened the profits of the chief functionaries, particularly the Meuthogees (who are empowered to levy contributions upon the suitors in courts of justice), yet all ranks of people seemed delighted with the change of government: "taxes being abolished, and abundance of money in circulation, happiness and plenty prevailed amongst all classes of society."

The sketch which Major Snodgrass gives us of the Burmese character is favourable:—

Five months of uninterrupted tranquillity (at Prome) gave us, for the first time, an opportunity of forming some acquaintance with the manners and customs of the people of Ava; and although some allowance may be fairly made for the restraint which the presence of a victorious enemy may be presumed to have imposed upon the development of the national character, our experience, at least, warrants the assertion, that in his private and domestic habits and deportment, the Burmese evinces little of the arrogance, cruelty, or vice, which have made him so justly an object of fear and hatred to the surrounding nations, to whom he is only known as a sanguinary and ferocious warrior, carrying havoc and destruction into free and unoffending states, at the command of a grasping and ambitious tyrant.

Our previous opinion of, and limited acquaintance with the people, certainly had not prepared us to anticipate the tranquil and quiet conduct which now distinguished them in their domestic character; nor was the Prome population exclusively composed of the quiet and unwarlike part of the nation: many, indeed, a great proportion of the men, had borne arms against us; and it was not until satisfied of the folly and vanity of contending longer, that they had escaped from their chiefs, and retired with their families under our protection.

It has often been objected to the Burmese that they are given to pilfering, lying, and dissimulation, as well as insolent and overbearing to strangers; but the remark may be in a great measure, confined to the numerous government functionaries and their followers, with whom every town and village in the kingdom abounds: they are, indeed,

a vile race, who exist by fraud and oppression, and who, upon numerous pretences, no matter how frivolous, are always ready to rob and plunder all who come within the influence of their authority: the poor people, on the contrary, by far the best part of the nation, are frank and hospitable, and by no means deficient in qualities which would do honour to more civilized nations. They, very generally, can read and write; are acute, intelligent, and observing; and although frequently impressed with high notions of their own sovereign and country, show no illiberality to strangers or foreigners who reside among them. In a word, to sum up their character, their virtues are their own, and their faults and vices those of education, and the pernicious influence of a cruel and despotic government.

The foregoing remarks, or most of them, we have read in the India papers; but they are worthy of quotation, as they correct a pretty general misapprehension.

The particulars of the interview between the British and Burmese commissioners near Melloone (when the treaty of peace, afterwards so contemptuously violated, was agreed to) are given by Major Snodgrass at some length: they are interesting, because we have had hitherto few details of the negotiation upon which we could rely; but their length precludes us from attempting an epitome of them. The account of the ratification of the treaty is followed by a concluding chapter of remarks upon the trade and productions of the country, "drawn from authentic sources."

There is an appendix to the narrative, containing copies of some documents, most of which have been already published. A map and two woodcuts are added; the latter are not very ornamental.

The Ancient History of the Egyptians, Carthaginians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Medes and Persians, Grecians, and Macedonians. By M. ROLLIN. With Geographical, Topographical, Historical, and Critical Notes, and a Life of the Author, by JAMES BELL. Illustrated with Engravings, including a complete Set of Maps. Glasgow, 1826. Vol. II.

THE first volume of this edition of Rollin's *Ancient History* was noticed by us in our 19th Vol. (p. 674); further acquaintance with the work, or rather with the notes of the editor, has very much increased our desire to recommend it to public regard. These notes are not mere elucidations of the text, or corrections of the original author: but laborious disquisitions, evincing considerable erudition and research, and throwing much light upon events of early date, and the geography of the countries of which they were the theatre. Some of the notes are, perhaps, too long, but even these are not wearisome, for the subjects are extremely interesting.

Upon the whole, we think this edition of Rollin's *History*, which is, moreover, convenient from the diminution of bulk (being closely printed in double columns, in a small, but clear and good type), well deserves to supersede its predecessors.

VARIETIES.

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society was held on the 1st July, at the Asiatic Society's apartments, on which occasion Mr. Superintending Surgeon Kembal, Mr. McMorris, surgeon, and Mr. A. Gibson, assistant surgeon, on the Bombay establishment, and Messrs. Pennington and J. C. Paterson, on the establishment of Bengal, were elected members.

A letter was read from Mr. Henderson, of Aligubh, giving an account of his method of treating the rheumatic affections prevalent in that part of India. A specimen of a salt prepared with sulphuric acid from the bitter principle of the neem tree, by Mr. Piddington, of Neem Tolah, was submitted by him as furnishing a probable substitute for quinine. He proposes to term it sulphate of azadirine, from the trivial name of the plant (*media azadirachta*). Infusions of the neem leaves are commonly used by the natives, externally as discutients, and internally in fevers; and it seems not unlikely, therefore, that the substance in question may possess medicinal virtue. The Society have accordingly determined to take the necessary steps for ascertaining its properties. From Mr. Bell, of Moradabad, two drawings were submitted, one of a tumor on the face of a woman, and the other of a singular disease in the hand and fore-arm of a native, for which amputation had been successfully performed. Dr. Waddell presented to the Society a paper on the diseases which occurred at Rangoon, with an account of the medical topography of the place. A communication was received from Mr. J. Tytler, on diarrhoea bectica, and Dr. Adam, the secretary, submitted an account of the epidemic malignant ulcer, or hospital gangrene, of an Indian camp. The description of the medical topography of Aracan, and the diseases that prevailed there during the campaign, by Mr. Bernard, was then made the subject of the evening's discussion.

The town of Aracan, according to Mr. B., is, from its situation, peculiarly calculated to engender that condition of the surrounding atmosphere which long experience has shewn to be productive of febrile disease. It is distant from the sea about fifty miles, on the bank of a navigable river, from which branches intersect the town in all directions. The banks of the river are in general low: below the town they scarcely exceed the level of the water, and are covered with sedge, coarse grass, and a few bushes. The average rise of the tide, at the town, is about eight feet, but the spring-tides rise higher, and consequently cover the ground on either

side. Between the town and the sea a number of small streams descend from the neighbouring hills to the river; the intervals between them are overrun with jungle, and the whole forms a dense and impassable sunderbund. Three ranges of hills are visible from the town, which bears to the first range the relation of the apex of a triangle to its base; but from the waving line of the hills, and the number of insulated elevations detached from the main range, the town appears as if embayed in a recess of the hills. The hills are covered with jungle, and in the hollows between them are a number of shallow pools, formed by the periodical rains. About a quarter of a mile from the N.W. angle of the fort of Aracan is a large lake, extending in an irregular course several miles amongst the hills; its average depth is about eight feet; the banks are low and marshy. Besides this, the water of the heavy rains collects in various situations round the town, forming numerous shallow pools and swamps. Although subject to the monsoons, the changes are not very distinctly marked; and from whichever quarter the wind may blow, it passes over an extensive surface of wet soil and vegetable decomposition. There is no general inundation, as in Bengal; neither is there any season in which the ground is dry, the periodical rains and the streams from the hills always keeping it in that state of humid mud, which is most highly generative of miasmata. The elevated situations were not found more healthy than the low ground; but, from obvious causes, being so situated as to be more immediately exposed to the influence of the morbid vapours, by their peculiar disposition, or their lying to leeward of unhealthy spots. Such was the case with the hills in the rear of the Bondyne stockade, and scarcely any of the officers who were stationed there escaped; the stockade itself, which had been used as an hospital, was necessarily abandoned. This stockade was distant about a mile and a half from the centre of the fort of Arracan; it lay low, and the approach was by a circuitous route, in which the stream was crossed four times. The stockade was between the river and the hills, which extended nearly N. and S.; the river ran to the west: to the S.W. and S.S.W. was an uncultivated plain, partly inundated by the tide, intersected by shallow nullahs, and covered with jungle and coarse grass: over this plain the wind set in the south-west monsoon, and the vapours borne with it were arrested by the hills to leeward. It need not be matter of surprise, that such a situation should have proved sickly. The

The fever of Aracan is considered by Mr. Bernard as not varying essentially from the common endemic of tropical countries, nor is it uncommon to meet with cases of similar severity in Bengal, or, more especially to the westward, in Ramghur and Sinhbhoom: the great number of individuals exposed to the causes which induced the disease rendered their effects in Aracan more remarkable and distressing. Between May and September, 1,274 Europeans were admitted into hospital, of whom 260 died; and in three months, from July to September, the number of native sick was 5,795, and that of the deaths 778. The number of officers attacked fatally bore a full proportion to that of the men, and this circumstance afforded proof, if proof were necessary, that the mortality was ascribable to the effects of climate, and not to any unavoidable privations of food or accommodation. Mr. B. has appended to his paper a meteorological register of the weather from July to October. The highest range of the thermometer was in October, $95^{\circ} 5'$, the lowest in November, $71^{\circ} 8'$. A more characteristic peculiarity of the climate is the fall of rain, which in July and August alone exceeded 103 inches.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

AFRICA.

We last week briefly noticed the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel Denham, in the *Cadmus*, for the coast of Africa, where he is gone on a mission from his Majesty's government, which is said to embrace the most important objects connected with our settlements in that quarter of the globe. The precise nature of these objects does not, of course, transpire, but it is understood that they relate to the opening of a commercial intercourse with some of the kingdoms recently explored by Captain Clapperton, and to the formation of a more convenient and central establishment for the head-quarters of our African settlements, which may facilitate the communication with the interior of that vast continent. Sierra Leone is not calculated to answer the extended objects now in view. It has no navigable rivers, and the soil is found to be very slight and unproductive. The climate is also deadening to all enterprise, and from these various causes the condition of the slaves who have been rescued from captivity, and sent to that colony, have not undergone that amelioration which the sanguine promoters of abolition expected. New sources of trade are wanted by the country—new customers must be found to consume our manufactures; and though but a poor picture is drawn of the state of the native African tribes at present, yet, by opening a free intercourse with the most intelligent of these nations, by teaching

them the value of European arts, and the morals and manners of civilized life, there can be no doubt that in course of time the immense continent which is now enveloped in barbarism, would become a valuable market for our commodities, when the old world is comparatively closed against us by the rivalry of other nations. To this end, indeed, have travellers been sent to explore Africa—and we rejoice to find that their labours are now drawing to a conclusion. The last accounts from Captain Clapperton leave no doubt that the Niger runs into the ocean at the Bight of Benin, after traversing nearly the whole extent of Africa. Here then will be the spot to erect a settlement: through that celebrated river, which is said to be navigable for 1,500 miles, a trade could be carried into the heart of Africa. The island of Fernando Po, at the mouth of the Bight, has been recently surveyed, and it is supposed that this island will be selected as the future head-quarters of the British power in Africa.—[*Devonport Telegraph.*]

MUNIPORE.

The following account of Munipore, given by a resident of the place, appears in the *Calcutta Government Gazette*:—

The valley of Munipore extends from north to south about sixty miles, and is nearly thirty in breadth, from east to west. It is completely surrounded by mountains, rising from 1,500 to 2,500 feet above the valley, in which, at considerable intervals, there are several insulated hills; it is otherwise a perfect level, if I may except an almost imperceptible declination from both sides to the centre, where a chain of lakes and swamps extends from the south, about two-thirds of the whole length towards the north. The most southern of the chain is a lake of considerable extent, about ten miles by seven, and is studded with islands of nearly the same appearance as the hills, which rise from the plain.

The whole valley is perfectly clear of forest: the only trees are those in the few villages that are now inhabited, and those which mark the sites of the many which have been depopulated by the Burmahs, the ruthless spoilers of this once happy but still beautiful country. Often have I allowed my imagination to re-people the deserted villages, with their scattered inhabitants, and to cover with flocks and herds this ever-green and mountain-girt vale, and as often has it called to my memory the happy valley of *Rasselas*. Should this country continue to enjoy the support and protection of the British government, there is every prospect of these flights of my fancy being in a great measure realized. The cattle which were taken from the Burmahs have afforded great assistance in bringing the land into cultivation, which together

together with the great industry of the people will ensure plenty for the numbers who are expected to return next year.

Although in features the Muniporees strongly resemble the people to the eastward, yet in religion they assimilate with those of the west, and differ from all around them: they are Hindoos, and mostly Rajpoots. Surrounded as they are by rude tribes, differing from them as much in manners as in religion, their origin becomes a question of as much interest as it is difficult to solve. As is ever the case when such is involved in uncertainty, their account is fabulous; they say, they are descended from a Hindoo deity, but I should dispute their claim to so high an origin, and conceive it very probable that the demi-god was no other than some wanderer from Hindostan, who has immortalized himself by converting them to the religion of Brahma, and introducing some of the arts of social life, with which they, then a savage people, were unacquainted.

The purity of the atmosphere seems to have given an elasticity to the spirits of the inhabitants, who are certainly the most cheerful people I ever met with. Their amusements and exercises are of a nature characteristic of their lively temperament; they play with great dexterity, both on foot and on horseback, at a game which in Scotland is called "*Shinty*;" and frequently practise leaping, and the putting stone.

The females have all the freedom which the fair sex enjoy in Europe, and even take a much more prominent share in the active duties of life; the whole trade of the country is in the hands of these fair merchants, by whom the bazars are exclusively kept.

The climate is delightfully cool; the oak, peach, pine, raspberry, and wild rose, with many other plants, natives of the temperate zone, are found here in numbers.

CHINESE FESTIVAL OF THE NEW YEAR.

The following extract from the journal of Mr. Medhurst, missionary at Batavia, appears in the *Missionary Chronicle* for January:—

"Feb. 18. To-day, being the Chinese new year, I rose at four o'clock, and proceeded to the great temple in the Chinese Kampông, to distribute some tracts which I had composed purposely for the occasion. It was yet dark when I entered the temple; but the number of worshippers was considerable, and they appeared to have been employed already for some hours. The routine of their worship was as follows:—the votaries came dressed in their gayest apparel, generally with a pair of candles and a bundle of incense. Having lighted the former, they stuck them

on a high frame in front of the idol, capable of holding about fifty candles, and afterwards placed a few sticks of incense in a pot upon the altar; they then prostrated themselves several times, knocking their heads against the ground. This done, they took the remainder of the incense and offered a few sticks on this altar, and a few on that of the inferior deities who were placed on each side of the temple, and lastly, offered some incense, or burnt some gilt paper, in front of the temple, to the honour of the visible heavens. This order was observed by almost all the attendants, though by no means together, or in unison, but some here and some there, some sooner and some later, accordingly as they happened to come in, or as their inclination led. Some were prostrating themselves, others were lighting their candles, while the rest were either talking upon indifferent subjects, or smoking their pipes in the middle of the temple. The priests, in the mean time, were employed in going about to the different altars, extinguishing the candles almost as soon as lighted, and carrying off the sticks of incense as their private perquisites; this is connived at by the people, and, indeed, is almost necessary, as otherwise the stand appropriated for candles would soon become so full that there would be no room for others. Every pair of candles, of a moderately large size, costs upwards of a dollar, and are, I understand, sold by the priests at very little under the cost price, immediately after the ceremony is over. During the hour I staid there, I calculated that there must have been more than 300 worshippers, each of whom brought candles and incense as an offering. I must not omit to mention, that there were some persons engaged in prayer, though only for temporal good. After they had done offering their candles, &c. they usually went to the front of the idol, and, begging him to be propitious, threw up two pieces of wood, in order to judge, by the way in which they fell, how their *luck* would be; and, if they found the answer pretty favourable, they proceeded to draw lots, by taking, promiscuously, one from among a number of pieces of bamboo, which, having certain characters on them, directed them to a shelf at the side of the temple, where they found slips of paper corresponding with the characters on the bamboo. These slips of paper contained a few verses, alluding to prosperous or adverse circumstances in life, and the tenor of which would determine what their future fortunes would be. One man came to me, requesting me to explain the purport of the verse which had fallen to his lot. I looked over it, and found the word "*misery*" in the second line, which made him look very gloomy, and hasten out

out of the temple. Among the worshippers I observed some captains, or principal men, who, when they bowed down to the idol, did it with a great deal of state, and a priest always stood by, striking a large bell, to give notice to the divinity that a person of consequence was paying his adorations to him! This was never done when poor or middling people worshipped, but they were left to take their chance whether the god should be paying attention or not! But the greatest abomination of all, and which made my heart sick, was the introduction of young children, and even infants, only a few months old, to these idolatries. The little unconscious creatures were made to hold up their hands and bow their heads before a stock and a stone, and those who could scarcely walk were taught to carry a pair of candles, or a stick of incense, and offer them before the idol; while in another place boys of three or four years old were knocking their heads against the ground in imitation of their elders. I was struck with the imposing effect which the scene was adapted to produce on ignorant and superstitious minds: the glare of the candles, the smoke of the incense, the prostration of the worshippers, and the din of fireworks in front of the temple, altogether combine to attract the heathen mind, and to foster a predilection for idol-worship."

COLOSSAL STATUE OF BUDDHA.

An interesting specimen of Hindu sculpture has lately been set up in the compound of the Asiatic Society's house at Chowringhee; a colossal statue of Buddha, which stares the visitor in the face the moment he is within the gates. The figure is of black granite, in a sitting posture, as usual with statues of Buddha or Gautama, and is characterized by the large ears and curling locks which have been supposed to indicate the African origin of this divinity. The nose, however, is any thing but African,—the figure is raised upon a low pedestal, and is ten or twelve feet high. We understand this figure was surreptitiously brought down from Guya by the Raj Góroo of the King of Ava. How he contrived to smuggle such an article is not easily conceived. On its arrival in Calcutta, it could no longer be hidden in a corner; and the image was redeemed from its purloiners. After the departure of the Góroo, the image was left in the compound of the Insane Hospital, where the European soldiers amused themselves with profanely pelting it with stones, by which the hands have sustained some damage; in other respects it has escaped unharmed, and forms a very appropriate *durwan* for the Asiatic Society's apartment.—[*India Gaz.*

BURMESE GOD-BURIALS.

We understand that the Burmese and Mughis invariably bury their treasure and gods in the north-east angle of their temples. We have had this intelligence from excellent authority, and we doubt not it will appear somewhat curious to our masonic readers.—[*Ibid.*

A BURMAN-ROSCIOUS.

A performer on the Rangoon boards (for the Burmese, it seems, are a very theatrical people) being a star of the first magnitude, was, in due time, transferred, as is customary in these cases, to the Theatre Royal of Amerapura. A still more brilliant success attended his metropolitan than his provincial career, and from being a popular favourite on the stage, he became the friend and companion of the Golden Feet. He was admitted to the court, and took his seat amongst the Woodocks and Woonghees of the most exalted rank. This actor had always been the inveterate enemy of the English, and he repeatedly endeavoured, indirectly, to instigate the majesty of Ava to put his European prisoners to death. The king, however, who is naturally of a humane disposition, not only refused to listen to such insinuations, but expressed his displeasure at their repetition. The actor did not venture to urge the measure immediately to the king, but on one occasion, whilst sitting in court, he asked his neighbour, a minister of state, loud enough for the king to overhear, what had become of the treacherous Europeans. The other replied, that, through his majesty's clemency, they were all alive. The actor received this information with affected surprise, and, in something like Hercules's vein, observed, that if he were king, he would have them demolished without delay. The king, who had heard the conversation, looked his displeasure at the presumption of the son of Thespis, and rose and retired from court. The actor read his fate in his master's countenance, and thought it prudent to retire also. A few days after this he made his appearance again before the king, and by the humility of his intreaties obtained forgiveness, on condition of joining a body of troops then about to take the field. He accompanied them on their expedition: but on the first occasion of exposure found that the field of battle was not his proper sphere, and, in his hurry to retreat fell upon some stakes, by which he was lamed, and unable for some time to move. On his recovery, he ventured to return to Ava, and on his way back found a native in confinement who had a beautiful daughter. Her charms inspired the Burman Roscius to assume authority to liberate the father, and carrying his prize with him, the only result of his campaign, he reached

ed the capital. Here, apprehending that the last transaction would be known, and involve him in further disgrace, he deserted his partner, but his inhumanity was unavailing—his conduct was known at court, and he was thrown, by order of the king, into close confinement.—*Semachar Derjana*.

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APOLOGUES FROM SADI.

1. They asked Alexander the Great, "By what means have you extended your conquests from east to west, since former monarchs, who exceeded you in wealth, in territory, in years, and in the numbers of troops, never gained such victories?" He replied, "When, with the assistance of God I subdued a kingdom, I never oppressed the subjects, and always spoke well of the monarchs."—"The wise consider not him illustrious who speaketh ill of the great. Injure not the name of those who have died with a good reputation, in order that, in return, your own good name may be immortal.

2. One who had neither hands nor feet having killed a millepede, a pious man passing by said, "Holy God, although this had a thousand feet, yet when fate overtook him, he could not escape from one destitute of hands and feet."—"When the enemy who seizes the soul comes behind, fate ties the feet of the swift man. At that moment, when the enemy attacks us behind, it is needless to draw the kian-yau bow.

3. A certain pious man saw in a dream a king in paradise and a holy man in hell. He asked what could be the meaning of the exaltation of the one and the degradation of the other, as the contrary is generally considered to be the case? They replied, "The king has obtained paradise in return for his love of holy men; and the religious man, by associating with kings, has got into hell."

4. Abu Horiera used every day to visit Mustefa (Mohammed), upon whom be the blessing and peace of God! The prophet said, "O Abu Horiera, come not every day, that so affection may increase."—"There is no harm in visiting men; but let it not be so often that they may say 'It is enough.' If you correct yourself you will not need reprehension from another.

5. Jurnshaid introduced distinction in dress, and was the first person who wore a ring on the finger. They asked him why he had given the whole grace and ornament to the left, whilst excellence belongs to the right hand? He replied, "The right hand is completely ornamented by its own rectitude."—"Do good to the wicked, for the virtuous are of themselves great and happy.

6. Fremember (says Sadi) that, in the time of childhood, I was very religious.

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I rose in the night, was punctual in the performance of my devotions, and abstinent. One night I had been sitting in the presence of my father, not having closed my eyes during the whole time, and with the Koran in my embrace, whilst numbers were around us asleep. I said to my father, "Not one of those lifteth up his head to perform his genuflexions (or ritual of prayer); but they are all so fast asleep that you would say they were dead." He replied, "Life of your father, it were better if thou also wert asleep, than to be searching out the faults of mankind."—"The boaster sees nothing but himself, having a veil of conceit before his eyes. If he was endowed with an eye capable of discerning God, he would not discover any person weaker than himself.

7. Somebody brought to Nowshirwan the Just, the good tidings, that the God of mercy and glory had taken away such an one who was his enemy. He asked, "Have you heard that he will by any means spare me? The death of my enemy is no cause of joy to me, since neither is my own life eternal."

8. They asked Lokman (the Æsop of the East) of whom he had learned philosophy? He answered, "Of the blind, because they never advance a step until they have tried the ground." At another time they asked him from whom he had learnt urbanity? He replied, "From those of rude manners; for whatsoever I saw in them that was disagreeable, I avoided doing the same."—"Not a word can be said, even in the midst of sport, from which a wise man will not derive instruction.—*Gulistan*.

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GLOSSARY OF BURMAN TITLES, &c.

Assaywoon	paymaster general.
Attawoon	privy councillor.
Boonmien	general.
Chaingee woon	master of elephants.
Chickey	lieutenant.
Chebwa	tributary prince.
Daywoon	king's armour-bearer.
Engy Teekien	prince royal.
Kioumi	monastery of priests.
Ledegee	steersman of a boat.
Lozoo	hall where the grand council assemble.
Maywoon	viceroy of a province.
Miou	city, town, or district.
Miou gee	chief of a district or town.
Nakhaen	register.
Phoonghee	inferior order of priests.
Piasath	the regal spire.
Praw	temple; also lord; also title ascribed by an inferior to a superior.
Pymon	banker; assayer of metal.
Raywoon	governor of a town.

Rhahaanpriest.
 Rhoompublic hall; court of justice.
 Ruavillage.
 Sandohgaanmaster of the ceremonies.
 Sandozienreader of public documents.
 Seres Dogeeprincipal secretary.
 Seres Miouprovincial secretary.
 Seresclerk.
 Shahbunderport intendant.
 Siredawhigh priest.
 Teeumbrella of a pagoda.
 Teekienprince.
 Terezogeeofficer of inferior rank.
 Tsaloechain of nobility.
 Woongeefirst councillor of state.
 Woondocksecond councillor of state.

EULOGY ON INDIA.

"If there is a country on earth which may claim the honour of having been the cradle of the human race, that country is India; if there is a religion which explains itself by the powerful impression of nature, and by the free inspirations of the mind, the forms and conceptions of which are at once simple and profound; that religion we find still flourishing on the banks of the Ganges, with its priests, its fanes, its sacred books, its poetry, and its moral doctrines. Always ancient, yet always new, India stands over her ruins, like an eternally luminous focus, in which are concentrated those rays which for ages enlightened the world, and can never cease to shine."—[Guignaut, *Relig. de l'Antiq.*

THE SI BADANG.

The native legend of Si Badang, in Malay annals, is as follows:—The Badang was a slave to a cultivator of the soil, and was a very lazy fellow, being much fonder of fishing and other sports than of working, for which his master was wont to scold him. One time it happened that for several days he found his nets broken and the fish taken away, nothing being left but the scales and bones, he therefore determined to watch and find out the offender; accordingly, having set his nets as usual, he concealed himself near the spot and kept a good look-out. In the middle of the night he beheld a demon of a hideous form with a long beard go to the net, take out the fish, and eat them. Badang, as may be supposed, was not a little alarmed: but having screwed up his courage, he ran down and laid hold of the devil by the beard, and told him that he would most certainly kill him for taking the fish; the devil upon this began to get alarmed in his turn, and struggled hard to get loose. Badang, however, held on stoutly; the devil then said that if he would forgive him this once he would grant him any thing he might desire.

Badang agreed to the proposal, but was at a loss what to wish for. If, said he, I get rank, it will only make me appear ridiculous as I am only a clown and should not know how to conduct myself; and if riches it will all belong to my master; but if you will grant me strength so that I shall be enabled to tear up by the roots the largest forest trees, I shall be able to get through my work easily, and give satisfaction to my master. The devil told him that he could grant his request provided Badang could agree to eat what he (the devil) should vomit. Badang, not being very fastidious, readily assented, and the filthy process having been performed to the letter, he tried his strength upon some trees and found he could break them down with the greatest ease. It was this same Si Badang who, having been chosen champion to the Rajah of Singapore, in a trial of strength with a Kling champion, took up a large rock, which his antagonist could not lift, and pitched it into the sea at the entrance of the Singapore river, where it still remains a stumbling block to the Orang Kling; but the members of the Singapore Yacht Club have put a beacon upon it for the public benefit, finding that none of their number was strong enough to pitch it back again.—[*Sing. Chron.*

MAHMOUD ALI, VICEROY OF EGYPT.

Mahmoud Ali is free and accessible in conversation, and fond of displaying the knowledge he possesses of the situation, policy, and resources of other kingdoms, though in his details he sometimes makes sad blunders. His countenance is mean and common, and relieved only by the expression of a fine eye. He is fond of women, of whom he keeps a tolerable harem, collected from different nations. In the gardens of his palace of Shoubra he has lately erected a beautiful bath of white marble, supported by slender pillars of the same material. It had a light and elegant roof, but was quite open at the sides, and fountains played into the marble basin beneath, which was several feet deep. A lofty seat for Mahmoud Ali was erected a few feet from this, and here it was his delight to sit, with his long and rich pipe in his hand, while no attendant was suffered to approach; he passes hours in this (to a Turk at least) enviable situation.

It has all along been his aim to train up his sons to follow his own footsteps, and, by inuring them early to hardships and fatigues, to make good soldiers of them. Ismael, who delivered Mecca from the Wahabees, and afterwards commanded the expedition to Sennaar, resembled much in talent and resolution his successful father. He was assassinated not long since during the latter expedition, and the

Pacha

Pacha grieved deeply for his loss; and yet the young prince, soldier as he was, would not engage in this distant war except his harem attended him, and it filled two barks, and accompanied the army in its long navigation of the Nile. Ibrahim, second son of the Pacha, and commander of the troops in the Morea, is very inferior in talents to his elder brother. While we were in Egypt, a curious instance of the Pacha's determination to inure his children by time to a hardy life occurred: his last-born son, scarcely twelve months old, he consigned to the care of a powerful Arab sheik, with instructions to bring him up in his deserts beyond the Red Sea, after the manner of his nation; that when he grew older he was to lead the life of an Arab, be made perfect in their exercises, and his frame hardened with fatigue and exposure to the burning climate. As a preparation for the child's journey to his future home, he commanded him to be plunged several times in a vessel of oil, that the rays of the sun might have less effect on his infant frame.

Although jealous in the extreme of any invasion on his prerogative, he has no notion of the value of the antiquities that cover so much of his territory in Upper Egypt, and cannot conceive the cause of the avidity and rapacity shown by the European consuls to get possession of them. Drouetti, the French consul, is the Pacha's favourite, whom he assisted some years ago by a loan of money in time of need; and the Frenchman has exercised a kind of monopoly, conveying, for many years past, by means of his agents, the most valuable antiquities down the Nile, his collection of which is estimated at £20,000. But the Pacha is the great monopolizer of the country: he has taken the exportation of corn entirely into his own hands; has erected sugar manufactories, has cultivated and exported cotton to an amazing extent, the sale of which fills his coffers, but cripples the trade of the various European merchants, some of whom have sent memorials to the Porte against this monopoly, where they were entirely disregarded. Mahmoud in his heart detests the Sultan, and wishes him devoutly in the halls of Eblis: for he well knows that spies are employed on all his actions, and that his sublime master only watches an opportunity to work his downfall, as in the case of the celebrated Ali of Yanina. But the Egyptian prince has his emissaries every where, the very seraglio is not free from them; and although in his own private expenses and table he is plain and unexpensive, he spares no money to procure intelligence, or to accomplish his plans.

His manners at table are not only simple, but, according to our notions, destitute of courtesy. An English traveller of

some distinction, accompanied by two ladies, had an audience of him about four years ago, and were very politely received, and, after some conversation, were invited to partake of refreshments, among which were several kinds of warm meats. The Pacha exerted himself to do the honours of the table, and took up a piece of meat in his fingers, and placed it on the plate of one of the ladies, who, surveying it with some surprise, forbore to touch it. Mahmoud, wondering at her delicacy, exclaimed in Turkish, "Why does not the woman eat?" and the Englishman, to avoid offending the feelings of this Sultan of Egypt, assured him it was ill health alone that prevented his fair guest from doing honour to the repast.

THE HINDOO IDOL, SUMNAT.

The following account of the demolition of Sumnat, the Hindoo idol, by Mahmud, is derived from the *Tebcat Acberi*, a history of Acber's reign, with an introductory view of the transactions of the Mahomedans in India, prior to that monarch; in point of date, therefore, it has the advantage of Ferishta, and as a work of good taste and sober investigation is still more decidedly superior. The author thus describes the transaction:

"In the year 415 (Hijera) Mahmud determined to lead an army against Sumnat, a large temple situated on a peninsular projection of the sea-shore appertaining to the followers of Brahma; the temple contained many idols, the principal of which was named Sumnat. It is related in some histories that this idol was carried from the Caaba upon the coming of the Prophet, and transported to India; the Brahmanical records, however, refer it to the time of Crishna, or an antiquity of 4,000 years. Crishna himself is said to have disappeared at this place.

"When the Sultan arrived at Neherwaleh (the capital of Guzerat) he found the city deserted, and, carrying off such provisions as could be procured, he advanced to Sumnat; the inhabitants of this place shut their gates against him, but it was soon carried by the irresistible valour of his troops, and a terrible slaughter of its defenders ensued. The temple was levelled with the ground; the idol Sumnat, which was of stone, was broken to pieces, and in commemoration of the victory, a fragment was sent to Ghisul, where it was laid at the threshold of the principal mosque, and was long after trodden under foot by the faithful."

We have here, therefore, no allusion to face, or nose, or belly, nor to the sum offered for its ransom, nor the booty obtained by its fracture. The story is told without the foreign aid of ornament, and is therefore more likely to be true; and

we have only to endeavour to verify the deity who has been the object of so much embellishment.

The above account informs us it was an idol of stone; and by identifying it, although perhaps erroneously, with the idol of the Caaba, leaves us to conclude it was shapeless: Manah, the idol worshipped by the tribes about Mecca, being nothing more than a large rude stone.—(Sale's *Introduction*, 24). D'Herbelot makes the author of the *Rozet al Sefa*, say, the idol was of one stone fifty cubits long, of which forty-seven were sunk in the ground; but this is a very preposterous arrangement, and a very unfair representation of Mirkhond's account, who states that it was *five* cubits long, and of these two were out of sight. I did this writer injustice myself in my last letter, taking upon trust his being one of the authorities for the fables coined on this subject; but his accounts are less extravagant than I imagined. He talks, to be sure, of the temple being supported by fifty-six pillars of gold, and of enormous booty acquired by the plunder of the temple and fort: but we have nothing, even in his narrative, of the mutilation of the image, its proposed redemption, or the discovery of its concealed wealth. To return to the image, therefore; we are to infer, from the above accounts, that it was nothing more than a straight block of stone of about four or five feet in length, and, as Mirkhond expressly states, proportionable thickness, and that it had no pretensions to "imitate humanity 'even' abominably."

What then was Sumnat? In our present intimacy with the Hindu system, we cannot be at a loss to reply; it was nothing more than one of those emblems of Siva, by which alone in most of the temples of Hindustan that divinity is now represented—a solid block of stone, on which there were no features to be de-faced, and in which there was no cavity to conceal inestimable treasures: these accompaniments are therefore the phantoms of Mahomedan superstition and European credulity, with a sufficiency of ignorance in the historians of both the East and West.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

SUGAR.

The author of the Remarks on the Husbandry and Internal Commerce of Bengal, seems to be of opinion that the sugar-cane grew luxuriantly throughout Bengal in the most remote ages; and that from India it was introduced into Europe and Africa; and it is a fact that from the Sanscrit word for manufactured sugar (*sakkara*) are derived the Persian, Greek, Latin and modern European names of the sugar-cane and its produce. The same excellent author expresses a doubt if the

sugar-cane was indigenous in America, as historical facts seem to contradict it. In the days of Illy, sugar appears to have been brought to Rome from Arabia and India.—[Ainslie's *Materia Indica*.]

BURMESE MANNERS.

It does not appear that the Burman females are in the same degraded state as those of India; a very large proportion of them are taught to read, and are therefore at least on every important step in advance. Our correspondent writes: "Women here (Ava) are at liberty to go abroad, and have as much influence as in any country in the world, though they are not treated with equal delicacy and tenderness, neither are they considered quite so high in the scale of being as men. The queen has very great authority, and it is well known, that the late governor of Rangoon permitted his lady to enjoy a dignified part in the government. It is true that a man can beat his wife and daughters at any age, and also his sons; but a wife can go before a magistrate and obtain a divorce if her husband beats her unreasonably. An elder brother can beat a younger, or a younger sister. A mother-in-law has peculiar claims upon a son-in-law. Unless he pays her a certain sum of money, she can govern him, and he must support her three years, three months, and three days. I have, in two instances, paid for my servants the sum required to free them from such claims. I think in most things women enjoy equal privileges with men; there is a fancied difference to be sure. If they were respected only in proportion to their virtues and amiable qualities, few of them would stand high. They are bold, quarrelsome, turbulent, and generally very dirty in their persons."—[*Friend of India*.]

BRUCE MANUSCRIPTS.

The whole of the valuable collection of rare and curious MSS. of the traveller Bruce, which were obtained by him in Egypt and Abyssinia, will be offered for sale in May next: they consist of nearly 100 volumes, in the highest state of preservation.

BABER'S DESCRIPTION OF THE HINDUS.

The following description of the country and people of Hindustan by the Emperor Baber, written in the sixteenth century, is curious:—"Hindustan is a country that has few pleasures to recommend it. The people are not handsome. They have no idea of the charms of friendly society, of frankly mixing together, or of familiar intercourse. They have no genius, no comprehension of mind, no politeness of manner, no kindness or fellow feeling, no ingenuity or mechanical

mechanical invention in planning or executing their handicraft works, no skill or knowledge in design or architecture; they have no good horses, no good flesh, no grapes or musk-melons, no good fruits, no ice or cold water, no good food or bread in their bazars, no baths or colleges, no candles, no torches, not a candlestick. Instead of a candle and torch you have a gang of dirty fellows, whom they call *Deutis*, who hold in their left hand a kind of small tripod, to the side of one leg of which, it being wooden, they stick a piece of iron like the top of a candlestick; they fasten a pliant wick, of the size of the middle finger, by an iron pin,

to another of the legs. In their right hand they hold a gourd, in which they have made a hole for the purpose of pouring out oil. Their peasants and the lower classes all go about naked. The chief excellency of Hindustan is, that it is a large country, and has abundance of gold and silver. The climate during the rains is very pleasant. Another convenience of Hindustan is, that the workmen of every profession and trade are innumerable. For any employment and any work there is always a set ready, to whom the same employment and trade have descended from father to son for ages."—[*Memoirs of Baber.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Saturday, January 6, 1827.—In consequence of the decease of H. R. H. the Duke of York, on the evening of the 5th inst., the General Meeting appointed to be held this day was postponed.

Saturday, January 13.—At a council of the Society held this day, it was resolved, "That the funeral of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, one of the Vice-Patrons of the Royal Asiatic Society, being appointed to take place on Saturday, the 20th instant, the General Meeting of the Society to be held on that day, should be postponed to Saturday, the 3d of February."

Burmese War.

FLOTILLA ORDERS

BY COMMODORE SIR JAS. BRISBANE, &c.

To Capt. Chads, of H. M. S. *Alligator*, and the officers of all description, employed under the command of Sir Jas. Brisbane, on the expedition against the dominions of Ava.

H.C.'s steam-vessel Diana, off Patnagore, on the Irrawaddy river.

"The happy termination of a long and arduous contest by an honourable peace, enables the commodore to return his unfeigned acknowledgments to Capt. Chads and the officers of all descriptions, for the prompt obedience, unwearied exertions, and gallantry, which they have so conspicuously displayed throughout the late campaign; the various materials of which the flotilla was composed, brought together for one grand object, might have occasioned frequent collisions between the members of different services, had not a spirit of emulation pervaded all ranks, surmounting all difficulty, and producing an universal feeling of harmony and good-will.

"The British commissioners have most handsomely acknowledged the services rendered by the flotilla in forcing the passage of the river, as tending most materially, by such a display of our power, to impress upon the minds of the enemy a strong sense of our superiority, and thus convince them of the hopeless futility of further prolonging the contest. The commodore will long remember with feelings of the highest gratification, the period which he has commanded this branch of the expedition; and the personal acquaintance it has afforded him of individual merit.

"He begs the officers, without distinction, to be assured that he has brought under the notice of

their superiors his opinion of their merit, and the brave men who have served with them, giving as they have the most striking examples of activity and exertions under the greatest privations in open boats.

"Although it is not the province of the commodore to eulogize the enthusiastic gallantry displayed by the military part of the force employed in the late operations, he cannot avoid expressing his admiration of those soldier-like qualities, which embarked, which are indispensable in combined operations; the selection of Brigadier Armstrong to command the water column, and the well-earned character of H.M.'s Royal regt., were measures eminently calculated to ensure that hearty unanimity which has been so fully manifested.

"The good conduct of the native seamen in the H.C.'s gun and row-boats, engaged, as they have been, in an unusual mode of warfare, have merited my warmest approbation."

JAS. BRISBANE, Commodore.

To the Officers of the Navy and H.C.'s flotilla.

H.C.'s steam-vessel Diana, Feb. 25, 1826.

I feel the highest gratification in announcing to the flotilla, that the unwearied exertions, gallantry, and zeal of the officers and every individual composing it, have been crowned by an honourable peace; and on my resigning the command of it, I beg to express my unfeigned thankfulness for the alacrity and cheerfulness with which this arduous service has been performed; and the personal attention which I have at all times experienced, will ever be remembered by me with most pleasing and grateful feelings.

H. D. CHADS.

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ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

ENSIGN F. COOKNEY, 56TH N.I.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, June 20, 1826.

—At an European General Court-Martial, held at Barrackpore on the 24th May 1826, of which Lieut. Col. Wm. Nott, 43d regt. N.I., is president, Ensign F. Cookney, of the 56th regt. N.I., was arraigned on the following charges, *viz.*

1st. "For conduct subversive of military discipline, in having, whilst on the sick list, absented himself from the station, without permission, for many days between the 10th and 29th of December 1825, after the consequences of such absence had been carefully pointed out to him by his commanding officer, Lieut. Col. Broughton, on a previous similar occasion.

2d. "For again absenting himself from the station, without permission, when on the sick list, on the 31st of December 1825, and not returning until the evening of the 1st or morning of the 2d of January 1826, after having received from Brigadier O'Halloran, C.B., commanding, a severe reprimand for his former absence; such conduct being in flagrant disobedience of the Brigadier's orders, in contempt of authority, and in breach of the articles of war.

"Barrackpore, 2d Jan. 1826."

Additional Charges.—1st. "For appearing at the theatre in Chowringhee, on the evening of the 23d of February 1826, he being then under arrest; such conduct being in breach of the positive orders of Brigadier O'Halloran, C.B., commanding the station, as communicated to him, Ens. F. Cookney, by Capt. Currie, Major of Brigade, and contrary to the rules and customs of war.

2d. "For persisting to inhabit a house situated out of the limits of cantonments, after it had been officially communicated to him that he was not permitted to occupy it, and after the positive orders of Brigadier O'Halloran, C.B., commanding, for his immediate removal into cantonments had been made known to him on the 4th of January 1826, such conduct evincing an utter contempt of authority, a marked disobedience of orders, and being in breach of the articles of war.

"Barrackpore, 25th Feb. 1826."

Other additional Charges.—3d. "Appearing, whilst under arrest, at a public ball given by the officers of the 28th regt. N.I., on the 28th of Feb. 1826, after he had, on a former occasion, applied for and been refused by Brigadier O'Halloran,

C.B., commanding the station, permission to attend such parties; such conduct being a breach of his arrest, and a contemptuous disregard of the commanding officer's orders and authority.

4th. "Gross disrespect and insubordination towards Lieut. and Adj. Macan, of the 16th N.I., his superior officer, in repeatedly refusing to quit the ball-room when directed by that officer to withdraw, and in saying that he would stand the consequence and remain, and that he did not consider Lieut. and Adj. Macan his superior officer, or words to that effect.

"Barrackpore, 1st March 1826."

Upon which charges the court came to the following decision:—

Finding.—"The court, having maturely weighed the evidence before them, are of opinion that Ens. F. Cookney, of the 56th N.I., late doing duty with the 16th regt. N.I., is

"Guilty of the first charge.

"Guilty of the second charge.

"Guilty of the 1st additional charge.

"Not guilty of the 2d additional charge, of which they do acquit him.

"Guilty of the 3d additional charge.

"Guilty of the 4th additional charge, excepting the word 'gross.'"

Sentence.—"The court having found Ens. F. Cookney, of the 56th regt. N.I. (late doing duty with the 16th N.I.), guilty to the degree specified, do sentence him to be cashiered."

Approved,

(Signed) **COMBERMERE,**
Commander-in-chief in India.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-Chief:—

The Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief is willing to give every favourable consideration to the youth, inexperience, and contrition manifested by the prisoner in this case, as well as to the solicitation in his favour on the part of a large majority of the court by which he was tried; but a sense of justice to the service must prevent his Excellency overlooking the repeated instances of flagrant insubordination of which Ens. Cookney has, by the just verdict of the court, been pronounced guilty. His Excellency, therefore, will mitigate the sentence of "cashiering" to "dismissal from the 56th regt.," and he will solicit the Governor-general in Council to replace the commission thus cancelled by a new one, placing Ens. Cookney the junior of his rank in the regiment to which he may hereafter be posted.

By order of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

W. L. WATSON, *Adj. Gen. of Army.*

ENSIGN

ENSIGN J. D. KING, 13TH N.I.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, July 8, 1826.

—At an European General Court-Martial assembled at Barrackpore on the 2d of June 1826, of which Lieut. Col. Wm. Nott, 43d N.I., is president, Ensign J. D. King, of the 13th regt. N.I., was arraigned on the undermentioned charges, viz.

“For conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman in the following instances:—

1st. “In having drawn a bill, in the month of October 1825, upon Messrs. Mackintosh and Co., agents, Calcutta, for sicca rupees 1,350, or thereabouts, in favour of Lieut. Craigie, of the 13th N.I., he (Ens. King) being aware at the time that he had no funds in the hands of Messrs. Mackintosh and Co., and having been warned by them not to draw upon them, with an intimation that if he did they would not honour his drafts.

2d. “In having, on or about the month of November 1825, taken possession of and resided in a house at Barrackpore, under the charge of Messrs. Mackintosh and Co., without their permission, and in having kept possession thereof up to the present time, in violation of a written promise to quit it ‘forthwith,’ dated the 18th of November 1825.

“For insubordinate conduct, subversive of good order and military discipline, in the following instances:—

3d. “Declining to attend the Court of Requests as defendant, although duly warned to do so by Capt. Read, officiating Major of Brigade, in a letter dated the 15th of December 1825.

4th. “In having addressed to Capt. Currie, Major of Brigade, on the 21st, 22d, and 28th days of December 1825, three official letters, containing language highly disrespectful and insubordinate.

“Barrackpore, 4th Jan. 1826.”

Additional Charge.—“Highly insubordinate conduct in refusing to give up his sword to Capt. Currie, Major of Brigade, when that officer was sent to place him (Ens. King) in arrest, on the 4th of Jan. 1826; and for telling Capt. Currie that he would give up his sword to no man, unless taken from him by force, although the Major of Brigade explained to him the necessity and propriety of conforming to the custom practised on similar occasions.

“Barrackpore, 4th Jan. 1826.”

Second Additional Charge.—“For highly contumacious conduct in addressing a letter to the Major of Brigade under date the 5th January, in reply to a communication from that officer conveying to Ensign King, Brigadier O’Halloran’s permission to leave his quarters for the purpose of taking exercise, in which letter he (Ens. King) declares that he will, should he think fit, go to public parties (which, in

the Major of Brigade’s communication, he was expressly forbidden to do), and that he does not conceive himself ‘under any sort of restraint.’

“Barrackpore, 9th Jan. 1826.”

Upon which charges the court came to the following decision:—

Finding and Sentence.—“The court, having maturely weighed the evidence before them, are of opinion that Ens. J. D. King, of the 13th N.I., is not guilty of the first charge; not guilty of the second charge; of both of which they do honourably acquit him.

“Guilty of the third charge.

“Guilty of the fourth charge, excepting the letter dated the 22d of December 1825.

“Guilty of the 1st additional charge.

“Guilty of the 2d additional charge.”

Sentence.—“The court, having found Ens. J. D. King, of the 13th N.I., guilty to the degree specified, do sentence him to be suspended from rank, pay, and allowances for the space of six calendar months.

“The court cannot refrain from expressing their regret, that a guard should have been placed at Ens. King’s house; after weighing attentively the evidence before them, they cannot admit the expediency of adopting so severe a measure. They are also much concerned to remark the humiliating restrictions imposed upon Ens. King by the guard, for several hours.”

Confirmed.

(Signed) COMBERGHE, General.

Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

Had not the Commander-in-chief determined to remit the punishment awarded against Ens. King, he would have considered it necessary to order a revision of this sentence, it being perfectly inconsistent with the situation of a prisoner, who, labouring under pecuniary difficulties, would, by its being carried into effect, have had his embarrassments increased, and consequently deprived of the possibility of that reformation which, by their verdict, it ought to have been the object of the court to stimulate.

The Commander-in-chief fully concurs in the honourable acquittal of the prisoner on the 1st and 2d charges, as well as in the remarks of the court respecting the guard placed on the prisoner’s quarters. His Lordship considers the restraint imposed upon Ens. King, by placing a guard over his house without any communication with him as to the nature of its duties, was quite unequalled for and improper; to the irritating harshness of this measure must be ascribed the highly unmilitary correspondence into which that young officer was drawn, and which might have been forgiven in consideration of his youth and ignorance of the customs of the service.

The

The Commander-in-chief cannot but consider the 3d charge as totally irrelevant. Ens. King had, by his absence from the civil court to which he had been summoned, become liable to a penalty (the loss of his cause), which the court had inflicted, he could not therefore be considered as subject to a second punishment for the military offence.

His Excellency further thinks it necessary to declare his decided disapprobation of a system which appears to have obtained, in this case, of uniting a number of charges, each, separately considered, venial or trifling, to form grounds for bringing an officer to a court-martial, which should only be resorted to in extreme cases.

The Commander-in-chief now remits the punishment awarded Ens. King, trusting that his good sense will show him the necessity of evincing, by his future conduct, that the contrition he has expressed is sincere, and that the clemency shewn him has not been misplaced.

The prisoner to be released, and directed to join his corps.

By order of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

W. L. WATSON, *Adj. Gen. of Army.*

APOTHECARY J. HAMILTON.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, July 24, 1826.
At an European General Court-Martial assembled at Ackeyab, on the 12th of May 1826, of which Lieut. Col. Lindsay, of the regt. of artillery, is president, Mr. Assistant Apothecary James Hamilton, attached to the south-eastern division of artillery, was arraigned on the following charges, *viz.*

1st. "Infamous and highly disgraceful conduct, in having, during the month of Dec. 1825, frequently appeared in the hospital of the European artillery at Arracan in a state of intoxication, and distributed medicine to the sick, while thus incapacitated from the exercise of that caution and attention indispensably necessary to the performance of so delicate a duty.

2d. "Having at various times during the months of Dec. 1825 and Jan. 1826, whilst under the influence of liquor, wantonly and cruelly beaten many of the hospital and other servants, especially Bola-kee, hospital cook, and Ghoolam Hoossien, hospital bheestee, both of whom were in consequence disabled from the performance of their duties for many days.

3d. "Having, on or about the 16th of Feb. last, between the hours of four and eight p. m. (although at the time under arrest for the offences specified in the 1st and 2d charges) entered the house of Mea-

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few, subadar of the Mugh levy, and wantonly struck him with a cane or stick.

4th. "Having on the night of the same day, between the hours of eight and twelve, again entered the house of the aforesaid Meafew, subadar of the Mugh levy, accompanied by a party of about twenty or thirty disorderly Mughls and others, and abetted in breaking open a box the property of the said Meafew, subadar, and taken therefrom the whole of the contents, consisting of about 230 rupees in cash, nine silk dresses, and several other articles of wearing apparel."

Upon which charges the court came to the following decision:

Finding.—"The court having maturely weighed and considered the evidence which has been adduced on the part of the prosecution, together with what the prisoner has urged in his defence, are of opinion that, with regard to the 1st charge, he is guilty of being frequently intoxicated in hospital, but acquit him of the remainder of the charge.

"That he is guilty of the 2d charge, with the exception of the words 'both of whom were in consequence disabled from the performance of their duty for many days.'

"That he is guilty of the 3d charge, with the exception of the words '(although at the time under arrest for the offences specified in the 1st and 2d charges),' no evidence of this part having been adduced.

"That he is guilty of the 4th charge."

Sentence.—"The court, having found the prisoner guilty of so much of the 1st, 2d, and 3d charges, and of the whole of the 4th charge, do sentence him, Mr. Assistant Apothecary James Hamilton, to be discharged from the Hon. Company's service."

Confirmed.

(Signed) COMBERMERE, *General, Com. in Chief.*

Remarks by His Exc. the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

The Commander-in-chief would have ordered the revision of the proceedings of this court-martial, had it been practicable to re-assemble the members, it being evident that the court did not take into their consideration that the 4th charge, of which Assist. Apothecary Hamilton was found guilty, was a positive case of felony, and consequently ought to have been punished by a separate sentence adequate to that crime, and in conformity with the common law of England, a sentence which the court was fully competent to have awarded.

By order of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

W. L. WATSON, *Adj. Gen. of Army.*
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LAW

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, June 16.

The King, on the prosecution of Awchow, v. Akoonchy, Tankung, Acheen, Awkeem, Ackuae, and Asseen.

This was an indictment against some Chinamen, charging them with stealing from the house of a fellow-countryman 500 rupees and other property, on the 16th December.

The Advocate-general, in addressing the jury for the prosecution, stated that it was notorious that these Chinese had for some months past been endangering the peace of society.

The first witness was Awchow, the prosecutor, who stated as follows: "I live at Colootollah, in Calcutta; six of us live in the same compound, each in a separate apartment; I live in a room by myself. I am a carpenter. I know the prisoners at the bar; on the 16th December last, about 7 P.M., they came into my house; there was a lamp burning in my room; there was light sufficient to recognize the countenances of those that came in. Tankung asked me for the loan of 400 rupees; on that I replied, I do not owe you any money; he took hold of me by the hair of my head, and Ackuae gave me a blow and a kick; Awsee struck me with an iron instrument; they held me down, and Tankung broke my chest. Awkeem took the bed-cover, and with it tied up several things; the other four took up my chest of tools: they all went away together. After they went away I began to weep and cry; I was apprehensive of danger, and remained at home. About three months ago I had the prisoners taken up. It took me some time to collect money; when I had collected together a little, I preferred a bill of indictment against the prisoners. I have not seen any of my property since that."

Cross-examined.—"The compound I live in is large. When these ten persons came in they made very little noise; they beat me and took away my things. All those apartments are occupied by Chinese; one or two of them belong to the Durrum-tollah party, the others to no party; the others had run away, except one man, at the time these men entered the house. I remained inside, weeping at the loss of my property."

Other witnesses proved the entrance of the prisoners into Awchow's house, and that one of them beat him with a *khachuck*, an iron instrument, about eighteen inches in length, and weighing two pounds, which the Chinese carry in their sleeves.

The prisoners, in their defence, stated, that they had alternately been applied to by one Kychung, for pecuniary aid, and that on their refusing to assist him, or

pleading poverty, he threatened them with an action in the Supreme Court, and in consequence had them taken up on bench-warrants, confined in gaol, and finally brought before the Supreme Court.

Sir John Franks summed up, and the jury found all the prisoners guilty of stealing under the value of one shilling.

June 17.

The King on the prosecution of Shaik Ameer, v. Rammohun Day, Rammohun Sircar, and others.—Of several who were indicted, only one man, answering to the name of Rammohun Sircar, pleaded *not guilty* to the indictment, which charged him and the others with having conspired, confederated, and combined together for the purpose of subjecting the prosecutor to divers heavy costs, by having a writ issued against him for the sum of sicca rupees 2,507.6, under false pretences, and with having extorted, compelled, and forced him to pay the sum of 350 sicca rupees to obtain his release.

The Advocate-general stated the case to the jury.

This was a case of some importance, as the parties implicated had committed the offence under the forms of law. The prosecutor was a wheat-merchant, and was sitting in his shop, when the conspirators came in and inquired the price of flour: they then asked him if the stock was exclusively his own, or whether he had any brothers who were partners with him. The prosecutor replied, "you have come here on business, and you have no right to inquire into my private concerns." The parties then said, "no matter, we will come on a certain day and complete our bargain."

It would appear that a person named Rammohun Day attended at the office of a Mr. Harold Alphonso Smith, an attorney of this court, and gave instructions for a writ to issue against Shaik Ameer, who was not indebted to such a man. Whether this man was the person, or some one else appeared to represent Rammohun Day, he (the Advocate-general) neither knew nor cared, but this man, the real Rammohun Day, came and completed what the other had begun; that he went to the shop of the prosecutor for the purpose of pointing him out to the sheriff's peons; this latter circumstance was alone sufficient to implicate the traverser. After the prosecutor had been arrested, he was taken to the house of one of these conspirators, where he did not see Rammohun Day. In this house he was beaten, and required to give fifty rupees in order to procure a respite. He was afterwards told that if he gave 300 rupees he would be set at liberty. At first he resisted, but after being beat and intimidated in the manner represented, he sent

sent for fifty rupees, which he gave to the sheriff's peons, who did procure for him a temporary mitigation. He was then taken to another place, and there told that hitherto he had borne a good character, and that if he were taken to gaol he would be shamed and disgraced. Influenced in this manner by threats and menaces, he was at length obliged to yield, and sent for 297 rupees, on the receipt of which he was set at large.

Shaik Ameer was first called, and deposed as follows: "I live in Jaun Bazar, and am a dealer in flour. On the 14th December last Rammohun Day, Hullokar Thakoor, Radamohun Misser, and Durraub Mistry, came to me for flour; Rammohun Day said, 'I will buy ten maunds of flour;' I shewed him a sample, and he approved of it; he asked me the price, and I replied four rupees a maund; he said, 'get it ready, and I will take it away.' He asked me on whose ground my house stood; I replied on Panchoo Dutt's aunt's ground; he asked me if I had a brother, and what were my means? I said I had no brother, and that he had no right to inquire into my means. After telling me their names, they went away. On the fourth day after this they came again, at about seven or eight in the morning, and inquired if the flour was ready; on my saying the flour was ready, Hullokar went to call coolies; Rammohun Day told Radamohun this is your defendant; upon this Radamohun took me by the hand, and pulled me down from a place where I was sitting; after that Rammohun Day went away, and Radamohun called out to Seeboo Roy that he had got the defendant. Seeboo Roy is a sheriff's peon, and said he had a writ for 2,500 rupees against me. I said, this is the way you came under pretence of buying flour: I do not owe any man. They took me to the house of Surreetoolah; Seeboo Roy and three others took me into the house, and Surreetoolah took me into a room and beat me: Radamohun, Surreetoolah, and Durraub Mistry, were together. They told me that Rammohun Day was plaintiff. I did not owe him or any person else of that name any money. Surreetoolah said, 'you must give us fifty rupees;' I said I did not owe them any thing. He said, 'give us the money, and I will save you a beating.' They began beating me, and I cried out; I requested them to call a man named Tittoo; upon his coming, I requested him to bring fifty rupees, as it was the only means of saving my life. Tittoo brought the money, and gave it into the hands of Surreetoolah; after that, Surreetoolah brought me into the verandah of the house, and asked me to settle the affair. I replied, I did not owe any person. I was then taken away, and Tittoo came and told me that if 300 rupees were given it would

all be settled. I was taken to the side of the Government-house, under a tree, where I met Surreetoolah and Radamohun. Surreetoolah asked me if I had brought the money; I replied I did not know what money he spoke of. On their annoying me a great deal, and finding no means of escape, I requested Tittoo to get the 300 rupees from my shop, which he did. On this they agreed to go to the sheriff's office and to get a release."

Several other witnesses were called, including Mr. Harold Alphonso Smith, who proved taking out the *capias*, and granting the release; the man who applied to him was not the traverser (whom the witness knew from his having given him some jobs), but another native.

Mr. Winter defended the prisoner, and urged the probability of the prosecutor being mistaken as to the identity of the prisoner, especially as Mr. Smith had sworn that another person of the name of Rammohun Day had called at his office and gave instructions for the writ. He admitted that a foul conspiracy had taken place against the prosecutor, but, he was sure, not by the traverser.

Alexander Gego, called by Mr. Winter. "I am a clerk of Mr. Smith's; I know one Rammohun Day; that is not the man (pointing to the prisoner). Chaundmohun, in December last, brought a person named Rammohun Day to issue a writ against Shaik Ameer; it was not the prisoner at the bar. I drew up an affidavit according to the instructions. As far as my knowledge goes, the prisoner had no concern in this affair. I have known the defendant upwards of two years; he comes often to Mr. Smith's: he transacts business for Mr. Smith. I have often seen him in court."

Bhowanychnurn Buttachargy called. "I have known Rammohun Sircar from my childhood. I am about thirty-six years of age. I know his hand-writing; this is not his writing, his letters are not formed in this manner. I was bill-sircar to Mr. John Cox. I have known the defendant to be a good man; his name is Rammohun Sircar."

The Chief Justice then charged the jury. His Lordship observed that there were few charges that the court could look upon with greater indignation. The charge was, that a tradesman, who was obliged to work all day to obtain a living, was under the necessity of paying over to the officers of justice a sum of money which he did not owe; thereby endeavouring to bring the Supreme Court in opprobrium in the eyes of the natives, chiefly for whose protection it was established. And his Lordship felt bound to say, that if the jury found the prisoner guilty, the court would be called upon to inflict upon him a most exemplary punishment, inas-

much as they believed that such practices were not uncommon in this country. His Lordship did not think that he could put it to the jury as a doubt that the conspiracy did not take place. The only point of doubt was, whether those three persons who had sworn to the identity of the prisoner, and were in a manner corroborated by the evidence of the others, were mistaken. It was extremely probable, from what had appeared in the evidence, that there was another man in this transaction. The impression on his Lordship's mind was, that this other man had sworn to the affidavit. His Lordship knew that it was common in this country, for the purpose of throwing impediments in the way of prosecutions for perjury, to assume the names of others. But that was not the charge against this man; it was for conspiring and for assisting in having the prosecutor arrested under false pretences for the purpose of extorting money.

The jury, without retiring, returned a verdict of guilty.

The sentence passed upon the prisoner was given in our last number (p. 76); as well as the remarks of the Chief Justice upon the frequency of such cases as this, which led the court to adopt a rule with respect to writs of *capias*, which is also recorded in the page quoted.

[Upon this topic we add the following extract from a pamphlet, written by an attorney, published at Calcutta, entitled "Observations, &c. upon the present State of the Practice in the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, particularly with respect to the Attornies of the Supreme Court, &c."]

"Be it known, that in almost all the attornies' offices there are retained a banian, a sircar, a head-writer, their numerous attendants, a set also of their dependants called apprentices (who write, or pretend to write, without salaries), and, to close the pack, the *bringers of business*, the law-brokers, the *Bubbliahs* (or promoters of domestic broils), or *Anglicè*, eaves-droppers. On the whims and caprices of all these persons is the attorney thoroughly dependent. With the banian, sircar, or the head-writer, he is most probably involved in debt, and possibly may be found to be in partnership with one of them. To the *bringer of business* he either allows a salary, or gives a per-centage upon the bill of costs, seldom less than ten per cent.

"Let me ask, whether the attorney dare refuse to take a cause which any of these fellows bring? Dare he say, I will not do this, I will not do that? Dare he endanger the perquisites of any of his under-strappers? Dare he say, I will not be the tool of persecution, or the instrument of unworthy motives? Most certainly not! he will lose his client if he dare resist:—

a pitiful subterfuge for a truly British mind!

"I cannot better explain myself than by stating, as it were, a case. I will therefore suppose I have a cause which I am carrying on for a native of high rank. He employs a sort of native agent, commonly called a manager. I carry on the cause for some time; the manager then hints, through my writers, that he wants a sort of refreshing fee, and that unless he gets it, his employer may probably be induced to change his attorney. This being a preconcerted plan with the writers of another attorney, if I do not give the present required, the cause is ousted and slid away from my office into the office of another attorney, in the midst of all my exertions for the client, who most probably is totally ignorant of how or why he is bandied about. The manager can easily trump up some excuse to his master; and in modes of a similar nature, the rapacious servant obtains his pelf by sacrificing both attorney and client.

"Suits and actions are obtained in offices in a similar manner, nearly, by means of managers or brokers, who go about to different offices, trying on what terms they can best dispose of causes, and attornies, by direct and indirect means, barter with them; and I will almost venture to say, that unless an office is supported by the business of a house of agency, very few of them have any business but through the result of barter. I, for one, who have always held up both my hands against the practice of huying or intriguing for business, or the supplanting other practitioners, am now left with such a small share of it, as to induce me to leave off practice in court, and to confine myself entirely to the line of a conveyancer, feeling it to be much more to my credit, as it is consonant with my sentiments, that I should be without business, than such as may be procured by what may be fairly termed *black partnership*.

"It has many times happened to me, that I have been offered causes of great weight if I would give the managers certain sums of money. At other times I have been offered large causes out of other offices, on very moderate terms, nay, I have been offered the whole native business of offices, together with the whole native establishment, would I give certain sums of money (and not very large ones either); but I do on my honour declare, that I never, directly or indirectly, gave any sum of money, or promise, in order to obtain business.

"So great is the influence which these native managers have over their employers, that it is well known that causes have been kept on foot by them in families for generations—in fact, fortunes have been made by these people; and when a family estate
has

has been exhausted by litigation, the remnant of the litigants have turned managers to other happy litigants.

"Various other modes are practised here for obtaining business, even from European clients, in which the 'pot-companion' is not idle; nor is it here thought to be in the least disgraceful for one professional man to entice away the client of another attorney. All these points are confirmed by observing the very frequent changes of attorneys in causes, from which it is most reasonable to infer, that such changes would not naturally be so frequent were it not for some particular urgent grounds.

"In England, the circumventing a man in his profession is thought to be disgraceful; here, strange to say, it is not, but is rather considered as a 'good joke.' It is no uncommon thing to find an attorney on one day employed for the plaintiff, and on the next for the defendant. These are points on which natives speculate.

"I have been informed, that one of the former judges who presided in the Supreme Court, proscribed about a dozen of the then promoters of litigation, ordering that they should not enter the verge of the court; and that if they were found frequenting the offices of attorneys, they would be called to severe account."

The following remarks upon the effects produced upon the minds of the natives by this abuse of the courts of justice, appear in the *Hurkaru* of June 29:—

"The case of extortion which lately came before the Supreme Court is by no means singular among natives. The idea has got abroad amongst them, we profess not to say from what causes, that justice is not administered in an English court, and they know from hearsay, if not from experience, that the expense is immense; their horror of being brought before that tribunal is so great, that many would rather submit to any mulct than become the objects of a legal prosecution, and they consequently yield a rich and ready harvest to the villains who impose on the timidity and the ignorance of their countrymen. The conviction of one of those prowlers, we doubt not, will deter the fraternity from exercising their iniquitous trade, at least so boldly as they have been in the habit of doing, for some time to come; and a few such examples might put an end to it altogether."

June 28.

The King on the prosecution of John Palmer and others, v. Joseph Warr.—This prosecution was brought against the defendant for forging a bill of exchange in the name of J. S. D'Costa. The defendant was indicted under ten counts; but the jury, in consequence of a mistake in the indictment as to the Christian name of one

of the partners of the firm (Mr. Prinsep) were unable to find him guilty on the first and second, which charged him with having forged, with the intent to defraud the firm of Palmer and Co., and with uttering it to them knowing it to be forged; they, however, convicted him on the third and fourth, and seventh and eighth counts, in which he was charged with forging and uttering the bill of exchange to defraud one John Simon D'Costa, and with forging the endorsement.

The prosecutors employed no counsel, at which the presiding judge, Sir John Franks, expressed regret; the Advocate-general and Mr. Turton were employed for the defendant, who appears, from the evidence, to be a native of India, born of Indian servants. He was in the employ of Messrs. Palmer and Co. four or five years ago.

Some days previous to the trial, the Advocate-general applied to the Court for an order that the depositions made at the police-office might be produced; the court declined to do this, but, as an indulgence, allowed the defendant's attorney to see the depositions previous to the trial.

July 7.

The following case, which came before the grand jury at the sessions, illustrates the subject to which allusion has been already made.

A talookdar at Hoogly, named Ramgovind Mundul, a short time ago, being compelled to pay a fine under the judgment of the late Mr. Oakely, called upon his ryots to contribute towards the payment of the penalty, which being objected to by some, he enforced the order through his agents. Four of the persons placed in the village under the magistrate made a complaint to the judge and magistrate of the circumstance, stating likewise that two other native peace officers, stationed on the talook of this Ramgovind, had been discharged from their situations by him. The Judge, after summoning the talookdar, ordered these men to be reinstated, adjourning the investigation of the other matter of complaint till a future period, when full evidence might be obtained.

A few days after this, and with a view to intimidate these complainants, Ramgovind preferred a charge against them before the Judge, at the instance of a servant of his, named Mudden Mundul, of having forcibly taken from his person fifty rupees. This complaint was dismissed by the Judge, who kept the prosecutor in custody till Ramgovind was produced, as he was satisfied the charge was a malicious one, and made at his instigation.

Frustrated in this attempt to convict the innocent and pervert the true course of justice, another plan of mischief and revenge

venge suggested itself to this Ramgovind: he caused a distress to be made of all the property of his unhappy victims, under some regulation or other, and sold the whole, although rent had been regularly paid by them. He also caused four actions to be instituted against them on bonds, alleged by them to have been forged. These actions are not as yet tried.

The vindictive spirit of Ramgovind would not rest here; he seemed determined to pursue his victims to the grave. He prohibited them from cutting their harvest, which was then ripe. The unfortunate men again felt themselves obliged to appeal to the magistrates, and a *purwannah* was issued directing them to pursue their occupations without interruption. To circumvent this order, Ramgovind had recourse to one of those wretches who are at all times both ready and willing to swear to any thing for a few pieces of silver. This man, whose name is Radamohun Ghose, after making the necessary affidavits, procured a writ of *capias*, and under it these men were taken up and lodged in the Calcutta Great Gaol.

To obtain this writ, this nominal plaintiff swore that the defendants were indebted to him for ten chests of indigo, and that the defendants, being inhabitants of Calcutta, were subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, when in truth they had never resided in Calcutta, had never seen this plaintiff, and instead of being able to pay the sum of 3,000 rupees, which was the price said to have been agreed on, they were never worth above twenty rupees individually. On investigation it was found that Radamohun Ghose has no means, and lives in a straw hut, for which he paid but one rupee a month.

A true bill was found against him by the grand jury during the present sessions; but he has traversed to the next.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GAITIES AT MUTTRA.

Extract of a letter, dated Muttra:

"We have all experienced painful feelings after any great excitement, a something more than *ennui*, and yet not amounting to a complete depression of spirits; at this station it was particularly the case after the capture of Bhurtpore. Previous to that glorious event it had been the centre of gaiety, owing to the grand army assembling here; but on our return to Muttra we found all in a state of stagnation, and so it might have remained had not the bachelors of the 3d and 6th Light Cavalry stepped forward and given a ball and supper, which all the beauty and fashion of this and the surrounding stations honoured with their presence, and inspired the softest sentiments into the breasts of those heroes, whose hearts, a few months before,

beat only for honour and glory. From the known taste of the officers of those regiments much splendour was anticipated, and on entering the ball-room at ten o'clock, our most sanguine expectations were surpassed. The room was hung round with wreaths of flowers (artificial), among which the laurel was conspicuous, no doubt alluding to the events that have lately occurred in Western India, brought about by the exertions of the army, of which these two regiments formed a distinguished part. Lights were in profusion, and there were two good transparencies (the work of an amateur), one representing a skirmish of our cavalry with that of the enemy, the other the commissioners signing the treaty with the Burmese. Attractive as these objects were, our attention was soon taken from them to the blaze of beauty which now poured in upon us!

"Oh woman, lovely woman! nature made you
To temper man. We had been brutes without
you;

Angels are painted fair to look like you;
There's in you all that we believe of heaven,
Amazing brightness, purity and truth,
Eternal joy and everlasting love."

Where all are beautiful, it is difficult to select; but one lady struck us as particularly handsome, and on her our eyes were continually wandering. We can only particularize this lady's dress, which we thought becoming in the extreme, and very elegant: it was composed of net over a white satin slip, gored, and full enough to admit of its hanging in easy folds round the figure, the bottom flounce headed by rouleaus of white zephyrine. The corsage was tight to the shape, and decorated with pearls; hair dressed in the French style: white satin slippers and white kid gloves.

"Round her she made an atmosphere of light;
The very air was lighter from her eyes."

Dancing was kept up till a late hour: the supper was excellent, and some bacchanalians circulated the champagne till daybreak.—[Ben. Hurk.]

LOTTERIES.

Our attention has been lately called to an evil of no small importance to the humbler classes of the community, to provide a remedy for which would be well worthy the consideration of Government: we allude to the system of petty lotteries, which we are given to understand prevails to an almost unlimited extent here. It is necessary to explain that we do not at all allude to those lotteries on a large scale on tickets in the state lottery, &c. which are publicly advertised, for though they are necessarily liable to the same objection in principle as all other lotteries, they are at least fairly and honestly conducted, as is evident from the respectability of the names by which the shares are guaranteed; but

but the species of lotteries to which we are now alluding, and which we really think ought to be put down, as tending to encourage a spirit of gambling, and to facilitate the practice of extensive frauds on the classes referred to, is of a very different character. What do our readers think of one-rupee tickets for *landed property*, consisting of two pieces of ground and several houses, with muslins, watches, &c. valued at 7,000 rupees? One of these tickets was lately put into our hands: it contains a description of the said property, which may nevertheless be in *nebulis* for any thing that the purchaser of the ticket can know to the contrary, and which bears a signature in the Bengali character of the proprietor, or *soi-disant* proprietor, whose name is not even written in English, though by way of attestation another native signs himself in Bengali and English, as a trustee, and it is dated (if it be a date, as we suppose) in Arabic. How many of these tickets there may be we do not know, but the one we have seen is numbered 1,242: the prizes appear (if each lot is a prize) to be *three*. This may appear to some a very insignificant subject for legislation; but to us it really seems to be a system that ought to be put down, as having a decidedly immoral tendency, in the spirit of gambling it is calculated to create, and the encouragement of fraud and chicanery which the success of such schemes involves. The fact is, that the very classes who are most likely to become contributors to such lotteries, are composed of those the least likely to reason, or be capable of reasoning, on the matter, and who, caught by the tempting bait of the possibility of gaining *seven thousand rupees* for their one, never dream of asking where this property is, but pay down the cash as cheerfully as poor Hodge paid for his razors, though, unlike him, they do not gain, by the bargain, *useful experience*; more valuable than would have been his razors, had they really been made to *shave*, instead of merely to sell. Far from this, the adventurers in these "little-goes" impute their loss to want of luck, and never dream of fraud; thus they go on till a spirit of gambling is engendered, fatal to those habits of sober industry, which alone can gain for them respectability, preserve them in the path of integrity, and guard them from ruin and distress. We have said that this system of petty lotteries is carried on to a most unlimited extent, and that even anna and two-anna tickets are occasionally issued for property described as of large value, in order to deceive the unwary. The evil, we hear, is daily increasing, and it is one, we repeat, which ought to be checked by some regulation, making it at least incumbent on parties distributing tickets in this way to obtain a license for the pur-

pose, which should be only granted at the discretion of the magistrates; and all persons found infringing this law, should be liable to a fine proportioned to the amount of the tickets, one-half to go to the informer. Some law of this kind would at least check, if it could not cure, the evil we have been exposing; and we have certainly licensing laws of a far more questionable character, as regards the public good, than this we have suggested.—[*Col. Press Gaz.*

CURIOUS INCIDENT.

A few days ago a snake was found in the corner of a lumber room in a gentleman's house near Chowringhee: it appeared lively, and about four feet long, of a dirty ash colour. On being killed and opened, a Persian cat belonging to the house, and which had only disappeared in the course of the morning, was found in its stomach, of course quite undigested. What appears extraordinary is that such a wary and lively animal as a cat, and one which, when provoked, will, we believe, give battle to a snake, should suffer itself to be surprised by one, and that such a comparatively small snake to appearance, should be able to swallow a cat, and that in such a short space of time.—[*Ind. Gaz.*, June 19.

ZEAL OF THE MUSSULMANS.

Extract of a letter from Ghazee-pore:
 "A zeal for religion characterizes our present Mahomedan native subjects, especially of those in the central provinces. The great Syed Ahmud Peerzada, a resident of Rae Bareilly, who returned from Mecca a few years ago, was an able champion in the Mahomedan cause. On his way up to the territories of his Majesty the King of Oude, where and in some other quarter he was suspected as a disaffected person, he infused such a spirit of religion and inquiry amongst his followers, of whom numerous of all ranks are to be met with in all parts of Hindoostan, that they will not easily subside. Formerly there was rarely an instance of a Mahomedan ever going to prayer after the hours of morning and noon, consequently their public edifices were left to become sufferers by the hand of time. At present, wherever we turn our eyes, we see new mosques erected and old ones repaired; and on Fridays, their sabbath-days, we behold them laid low in the dust in the Jameh Musjid, or the principal mosque, offering their adorations to the one great God, or Ullah-Uqbur, with as great devotion and solemnity as in any of our own well-concerted assemblies. This change and love for the Creator, or Juhan Afreen, has in some sense caused a moral improvement in the condition of many of our Mahomedan native subjects, from which

which beneficial results are likely to accrue to the government at large, and to the whole community of that class.

"Lately, the Mahomedan native officers of this station made a representation to the magistrates, for permission to obtain a small piece of ground attached to the court's premises, to construct a mosque for themselves to attend to at evening prayers, which, after the high authorities were consulted, was granted. In consequence a subscription was opened amongst the principal of these officers, and a sum of money collected sufficient for the purposes required. Our worthy magistrate, in this case, with a laudable zeal unprecedented, contributed a handsome subscription towards this benevolent object, and we understand this has created such a general feeling of satisfaction amongst all Mahomedan classes, that they are loud in the praises of our most worthy magistrate.

"At present the materials of the building are being collected, and we trust that the construction of the edifice will be speedily undertaken, and when this shall have been completed, we shall probably see a most novel and pleasing spectacle never before seen. It is not unlikely, I understand, that the Hindoo native officers are also desirous of making a similar application; but whether the government so readily will grant them permission to build a temple on the court premises must be left to conjecture."—[*Col. Pr. Gaz.*]

RANGOON.

Since the restoration of tranquillity the population of Rangoon has increased in a most astonishing manner: it is suspected that part of the augmentation is only temporary, the people being so far on their way to the southern settlements: however, such a purpose is not avowed. The Burman authorities are very suspicious of the intentions of the Peguers, and very unreservedly express a hope that we may be solicited to remain some time at Rangoon, until the new order of things is fully established: no intimation of such a wish, however, has been officially made, and our preparations for a final remove proceed without interruption.

We understand that shortly after Sir A. Campbell's return to Rangoon, a party with elephants and cattle were detached from the land column to Martaban, by way of Pegu. In consequence, however, of the unusually early commencement of the rains the roads proved impassable, and the party were compelled to return to Pegu, whence they will proceed to Rangoon.

The most friendly intercourse is maintained between the British authorities and Burman chiefs; and, amongst others, a letter has been received from Udina, the

Ex-Rajah of Martaban, who is rather in an awkward predicament, as he has not been restored to his government by the court of Ava. This chief is seventy years of age, addicted to the use of spirits, mischievous at all times, but particularly when in his cups. He served under the Bundoola in Assam and Cassay, and from his temper and habits is not unlikely to be a troublesome neighbour, if replaced in his post. His power to do mischief, however, must be very limited, and his years and propensities render it probable he will not, however well disposed, be troublesome long.

Commerce was beginning to revive at Rangoon, and considerable supplies of grain had been already received from the Martaban province; a proof of the productiveness of the latter.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, June 27.]

ORIENTAL LITERARY SOCIETY.

The second report of this Society, established by Indo-Britons, is published, and contains the following paragraph:—

"Your committee cannot draw to a conclusion without congratulating the Society on the success that has already crowned its exertions towards the accomplishment of the objects for which it was established. It is now entering on the second year of its career, and if the charm of novelty no longer act as a stimulus to exertion, the unwearied zeal of a few, and the steady support of the greater portion of its members, offer a far more substantial security for its continuance and gradual improvement. Its silence may cease to attract the notice of the public, but cannot be construed into an indication of declining interest; as the frothy and resounding stream, bursting into existence and carrying all before it, is admired for awhile; but the placid bosom of the silent rivulet affords a surer earnest of its solidity and depth."

NATIVE SUPERSTITION.

On the 15th June last the Dasabara, Baboo Moti Lal Mullik celebrated the consecration of his tutelary idol in his new mansion. He made presents of shawls and gold armlets to the Brahmins of his own tribe: to the forty-five houses of the Nityanandi and other Gosains he presented various articles of dress, furniture, plate, and jewels, and similar donations to other sacred families. To his Guru, or spiritual preceptor, he gave a house worth 2,500 rupees, and a like sum in money, besides a diamond ring, a pearl necklace, and shawls. He also distributed two rupees a piece to the Brahmins, and one rupee to all other poor individuals, fifty thousand of whom are said to have attended.—[*Samachar Chandrika.*]

NATIVE

NATIVE LIBERALITY.

It will be encouraging as well as gratifying to every real friend of India, who takes an interest in the efforts now making by the religious world for the enlightening of its vast population, to be informed that these disinterested and zealous labours are not entirely disregarded or unappreciated by the influential part of the native community, whom indeed they most intimately concern, and whose co-operation it is so important and desirable to obtain. We have this day to record an example of liberality in a native gentleman, Muthoornauth Mullick, of Ramkissonpore, which, reflecting as it does so much honour on the individual, will, we trust, be speedily imitated by others of his countrymen. We allude to the magnificent annual subscription of 400 rupees to the Diocesan Committee of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in connection with Bishop's College, which, after a visit made to that foundation, the above gentleman desired might be recorded in his name.—[*Cul. Gov. Gaz.*]

MASONIC LODGE AT CHUNAR.

A new masonic lodge, entitled "the Lodge of Sincere Friendship," was dedicated at Chunar, June 24, the anniversary of the Festival of St. John. The fraternity assembled at an early hour at the old lodge-room, and proceeded in procession to the church, where an impressive discourse was delivered by the Rev. W. Greenwood. After the usual ceremonies, the post-master, wardens, and brothers assembled, addressed the Right Worshipful Master, who replied in suitable terms.

CIVIL SERVICE ANNUITY FUND.

A meeting of the Civil Service Annuity Fund was held at the Town-hall yesterday morning, which was very numerous attended. We understand that a long and animated discussion took place with respect to the legality of the meeting of the 24th April last, and the validity of the proceedings on that occasion, which have been of late the subject of such frequent discussion; as it appeared, however, that the non-attending members, from whom proxies were received, confirmed the view in which the authority given by them was contemplated by the chairman, and that they concurred in the decision founded on the sanction so expressed, the meeting was declared to be legal, and consequently the proceedings were recognised as valid.—[*Cul. Gov. Gaz. June 22.*]

SICKNESS AT CHEDUBA.

The following is an extract of a letter, dated Cheduba, June 1. "I am sorry to say we have experienced much sickness, *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. XXIII. No. 134.

and the mortality which has attended our men has been very great. On the first of last month our strength was about 400 men, forty and more of whom have since been laid in their graves, and ere this month is closed I dare say twice that number will have shared the same fate. Our sick in hospital has increased from fifty to upwards of 250, besides convalescents in barracks that were obliged to be discharged to make room for others, whose cases were of a more urgent nature. It is truly melancholy to see the state that the corps is in: from the circumstance of this being only the commencement of the healthy season, and from the recent calamitous fate before our eyes which attended the army in Arracan, similarly situated to what we are at present—despair is almost visibly portrayed in every countenance; and such is the baneful influence of this pestilential climate, that neither care nor attention to your health is seemingly of much avail, as death generally seizes the youngest, stoutest, and most sober of the men—our Bengal servants are equally as sickly as the European soldiers: the fever, however, must be with them of a less degree, as few have been carried off by it; they have, however, become perfectly helpless, and look miserably."—[*John Bull.*]

VOLUNTARY INHUMATION.

The following account occurs in a native paper, the *Sumachar Durpan*:—We are sorry to hear that a certain Zogy or weaver, inhabitant of Somrah, having died on the 15th ultimo, his wife, according to the custom of her own caste, went down to the grave with her deceased husband, when instantly her friends and relatives covered the victim and the corpse with earth, and in this most inhuman way made an end of her existence.

CHILD-MURDER.

The following remarks upon the execution of a native, named Ghazee, on the 26th June, for murder, appear in the *Bengal Hurkaru*:—Another case has occurred in the Supreme Court, from which much benefit is to be looked for: we speak of the wretched man who has paid the forfeit of his life for a crime the greatest which a human being can commit. It is notorious to the inhabitants of this city, that the late has been the only execution of a native which has taken place for many years. It is equally notorious that crimes of as deep a dye have more than once been committed by natives:—the frequency of child murder is dreadful. It must be fresh in the memory of many persons, that at various times individuals, differing from the unfortunate man who suffered a day or two ago, in country, caste, and religion (belonging to a large body in Calcutta, who are

are, we hesitate not to say, the most depraved and vicious of the variety of species of the human race of which the diversified population of this city is composed), have been brought to the bar of the Supreme Court, and have escaped the punishment due to the beastly and murderous crimes of which they have been found guilty, owing to the leniency, or humanity, or irresoluteness of the Judge. The consequences of this mistaken mercy are, as might be expected, deplorable: crime has increased rapidly; the perpetrators of heinous and crying sins against law and nature, by escaping the punishment which ought to have inevitably followed their commission, imagined, we really think, that the Supreme Court dared not to carry into effect the dreadful punishment which our laws award, and they have therefore attained to a climax in guilt and hardihood not before recognized. We anticipate, however, the best effects from the awful example recently made, which gives promise that strict justice will, in future, be administered, and that crime, however disguised or shielded, shall not escape the searching arm of the law. We trust that our chief and puisne judges will not shrink from the performance of their duty as judges, however painful or repugnant it may be to their feelings as men. To them the public look for a reform in the practices of those in any way connected with the court, and for the fullest security of the lives and properties of all under their jurisdiction, whether European or Native, Bengalese or Chinese.

JUGUNNAT'H.

We have perused with some attention an article in the last "*Friend of India*," entitled "*Reflexions on the incidents which occurred this year at the Rut'h Jattrra of Jugunnat'h in Orissa*." The subject is unquestionably of the first moment, inasmuch as the alleviation of human misery, and the preservation of human life, must be objects of the highest importance to every Christian and humane government. The account of the festival and its melancholy consequences is given by missionaries on the spot, and its accuracy may be relied on. It establishes a position, which we have often seen controverted, that the number who fall voluntary victims beneath the wheels of the idol is comparatively small; for on this occasion, when the narrator speaks of 200,000 persons surrounding the car, he mentions only two, who, in a moment of fanatical phrenzy, threw themselves in its way. The picture, however, which he gives of the misery, sufferings and death, of which this annual visit or pilgrimage to the great seat of Hindoo superstition is the cause, is truly harrowing; and although, perhaps from

the accidental accession of a prevailing epidemic, the mortality was greater this year than on an average, there can be no doubt that the waste of life, in the keeping up of this superstitious practice, is excessive. The writer in "*The Friend*" does not propose to apply the hand of authority, and to shut up the temple and its avenues, as has been recommended with more zeal than wisdom; but adverting to the fact, that the tax, humanely imposed by Government, with the view of discouraging the practice, has become the very means of perpetuating it, and been even converted by those who have a selfish purpose to answer in keeping it up, into a proof, that the Christian Government of India recognizes the divinity of Jugunnat'h, and believes in the virtue of a pilgrimage to his shrine, as expiating human sins, he proposes, and we certainly concur with him, to abolish this tax altogether and to leave the Hindoos free to go or not, as they please, on this pilgrimage. Nothing, we are persuaded, would more effectually tend to lessen the resort of pilgrims to this celebrated seat of superstition than the total indifference of Government as to the practice. The tax imposed upon the pilgrims, when found, as we believe it is, ineffectual, as a check upon the practice, ought without delay to be abrogated. It has been imposed in ignorance of the native character; but now that a better knowledge of this character has been acquired, and the natives themselves are undoubtedly beginning to be influenced in their notions as to the value of their religious acts, by their intercourse with Europeans, it is time to change the system; and at least to try the effect of one directly opposed to the present, so far as levying a tax is concerned. The good people at home do not do justice to the Government of this country in the object they have in view by this tax. They maintain that it is greediness of revenue which has imposed it; and certainly where the fact of its inefficiency for the purpose for which it was laid on is proved, his representation acquires strength by the continuance of the impost.—[*Cal. John Bull*.]

Madras.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

ARTILLERY COMMANDS.

Fort St. George, July 21, 1826.

1st. The Hon. the Governor in Council has deemed it expedient to cancel that part of the general order of the 5th August last, by which Rs. 600 and Rs. 500 per month were authorized for artillery commands, and to direct that the following

ing allowances be established in lieu thereof.

2d. Officers commanding corps of artillery regimentally, being in receipt of the established allowance of Rs. 400 per month, are not to receive any additional allowance on account of extra details of artillery which may be placed under their command, whether in the field or in garrison.

3d. When the command of the artillery of a field force, or at a field or full batta station, consisting of more than a troop or company, shall devolve upon an officer not in the command of a corps, he is to receive, if a regimental field officer, Rs. 300; if of inferior rank, Rs. 200 per month; but these allowances are not to be payable to officers commanding detachments therefrom.

4th. The senior officer of artillery in a brigaded force, if a regimental field officer, will be allowed a brigade major, and the allowances of an officer commanding a brigade.

5th. When troops of horse artillery, whether European or native, may be detached, an acting troop adjutant will be allowed to each, on the allowance of Rs. 70 per month, laid down in general orders 9th March 1819.

6th. When a troop or company of artillery may be serving at the same station with the head-quarters of a brigade of horse or battalion of foot artillery, the regimental adjutant or quarter-master, as may be directed by the officer commanding, is to execute the staff duties of the whole, receiving an extra allowance of Rs. 35 per month for writers and stationery on account of the extra duty; in such cases, therefore, no separate staff will be allowed for the artillery at such stations.

7th. When a troop of horse artillery may be at a station with a company or detail of foot artillery, not being the head-quarters of a corps, the acting troop adjutant is to act as staff to the senior officer commanding, and to execute the duties of the whole; receiving an extra allowance of Rs. 35 per month on that account, as provided in the preceding paragraph.

8th. At stations not being the regimental head-quarters of any corps of artillery, and where there may be no horse artillery, or a detail only (less than a troop), with a party of foot artillery, the necessity of a staff officer for such inferior artillery commands will be taken into consideration, in each case, by Government; and if such an appointment be deemed requisite, an acting adjutant will be nominated on the allowance of Rs. 70 per month above-mentioned, without reference to the details being composed of native or European artillery.

9th. Regarding the extra pay and allowances of artillery officers appointed to the horse brigades, the following rules are

to be observed in future. On the appointment of officers to the horse artillery, their extra pay and allowances are to be governed by the regulations applicable to staff appointments; that is, they are to be payable from the date on which the officers join for the performance of regimental duty; and on removal by promotion or otherwise, they are to receive the extra pay and allowances until relieved: it is to be understood from this regulation, that no officer can have any claim to horse artillery pay and allowances who has not joined the corps for regimental duty.

10th. In regard to the absence of horse artillery officers from their corps, the rules laid down in general orders 24th July 1819 are to be adhered to, which provide "that officers of the brigade of horse artillery, when absent on furlough in Europe, or when appointed by Government to permanent staff situations and commands, are not entitled to horse artillery pay in the one case, or pay and allowances in the other; but temporary staff employ, or detached duty, is not to deprive them of the pay and allowances of the horse artillery, while they remain on the strength of that corps."

11th. The temporary detached duties above alluded to, which are not to deprive horse artillery officers of the extra pay and allowances of that corps, are to be understood in a strict sense, such as being detached as a member of a court-martial or committee, being nominated *pro tempore* by a subordinate authority to act in a staff situation, until an appointment by Government takes place, &c.; but a horse artillery officer ordered to take the field for foot artillery or staff duty, succeeding to a command (either as senior officer or by appointment), or appointed acting commandant of artillery during the absence of the senior officer in Europe; in these or any similar cases, horse artillery officers are to be considered as coming under the above provision regarding permanent command or staff duty, and therefore not entitled to horse artillery pay and allowances; should any cases however occur in which these provisions may appear to warrant an exception in favour of the parties concerned, the Government will take them into consideration on the representation of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

12th. The officers who may have commanded corps of artillery in addition to the command of divisions, being those to whom the allowances specified in the 1st paragraph were payable, are authorized to draw them up to the 31st instant; but in other respects the foregoing provisions are to operate with regard to all unadjusted claims connected with the general order 5th August last, equally as regards artillery

lery commands as horse artillery pay and allowances.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE PRESS.

We understand that the Court of Directors have ordered the famous Calcutta Press Regulations to be extended to Madras and Bombay, and that accordingly an ordinance similar to the one which made so much noise in Bengal, and which the Privy Council have affirmed, is preparing for registry in the Supreme Court here. It is our duty to obey without a murmur; and all we think it right to say upon the subject is, that we are sorry, sincerely sorry, for the projected change; believing, as we do, that for all parties the old system was decidedly preferable to the new. We at least knew what we were about, and what we had to expect, under the former. No man, however sound his judgment or great his discretion, can at all times steer clear of giving offence, and encountering danger under the latter. It is hard, too, that the innocent should suffer for the guilty—the peaceable and content, for the unruly and dissatisfied—and that we good homely people at Madras, who hitherto have been jogging on so quietly and good-humouredly, without either giving or taking offence, or uttering a complaint, should be visited with the same pains and penalties as our factious, quarrelsome, and dissatisfied brethren of the metropolis; who have talked and boasted of their power and superiority over the “fettered press” of sister presidencies, until they have procured for their unthankful neighbours the blessing of being reined up with the same severe curb that they have been chafing and fretting under ever since it was found necessary to put down the *Calcutta Journal* some three or four years ago.—[*Mad. Cour.* June 6.]

[We add the succeeding reflections upon the above paragraph, from the *Bengal Hurkaru* :—

We beg our readers to refer to the remarks of the editor of the *Madras Courier*, on the Calcutta Press Regulations being extended to the sister presidencies. We were both disappointed and surprised at seeing such observations from the pen of the editor of that paper; nor could we wish for stronger proof, if additional proof were wanting, of the superiority of the Calcutta Press to that of the Madras Presidency. The declaration of the “content” and good “humour,” nay, satisfaction of the editor with the censorship, is completely superfluous, as his columns bear satisfactory evidence of all these; but why he should deem it right to visit the sins of the Court of Directors on the heads of his “factious, quarrelsome, and discontented brethren of the metropolis,” as he is kind

enough to designate us, is beyond our comprehension, we must confess.—That he of the *Courier* and his brother “by authority” have jogged quietly on, there is no doubt, and if he only continue in the same course he has of late so successfully pursued, we imagine neither much “sound judgment,” nor “great discretion,” will be requisite to “steer clear of giving offence” to all in authority over him.]

Bombay.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

ENGINEERS.

Bombay Castle, July 20, 1826.—In publishing the following extract from a despatch from the Hon. Court, dated the 8th Feb. last, the Governor in Council directs that officers of Engineers requiring the services of an officer of the line to superintend the construction or repairs of buildings, communicate through the chief engineer, for the information of Government, the nature and expense of the work proposed to be committed to such infantry officer, and that no officer from the line be employed without the previous sanction of the Governor in Council.

Para. 69. “The practice of drawing officers from the line for carrying on scientific works, such as the superintendence of bunds and embankments, the repair and construction of canals, civil buildings, piers, wharfs, and civil surveys of importance, has never met with our approbation, and we now desire that all duties which may be considered to come within the scope of civil as well as military engineering may, except in cases of a deficiency of engineer officers, be confided to them and to them only.”

FORCES IN CUTCH.

Bombay Castle, July 29, 1826.—The Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the official designation of “Brigade Quarter-Master to the Forces in Cutch” be changed to that of “Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master General.”

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, July 21, 1826.—Mr. T. Eyre admitted to cavalry and prom. to cornet.

Portuguese Militia. Lieut. J. Anderson to be capt., v. Pedro de Silva dec.; and Sign. Mauricio de Silva to be lieut., v. Anderson prom.; both dated 17th July.

July 29.—Lieut. H. Hart, 6th N.I., and an assistant surveyor in Deccan, permitted to draw his staff pay from 15th April last.

July 31.—Lieut. Harris, of Engineers, to superintend construction of dams in Candesh until further orders.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, July 24.

Immediately after the Grand Jury were sworn in, the Chief Justice addressed them at considerable length, in a very animated speech, the particulars of which we regret we are unable to give, from not being in court. We understand generally, however, that his Lordship took a review more immediately of the several presentments that had been made by the different grand juries, for some years back, on the subject of improvements to the gaol, and the consequent indulgencies which might be granted to debtors, as well as the reformation of offenders, and finished with a few comments on the case of libel that was to come before them. The case we allude to is that of the Rev. H. Davies, *versus* Capt. Miller of the artillery; and as it has excited the most intense interest at this presidency, we shall perhaps furnish our readers with the particulars of the whole case from its commencement in court in the next Gazette.—[*Dom. Gaz.*, Aug. 2.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE THEATRE.

The Castle Spectre and the Deaf Lover were performed last Wednesday, before a crowded audience, and we believe few dramatic entertainments at this Presidency have ever given more general satisfaction. Most of the characters were respectably supported, some were excellent: and it is much to be regretted that more frequent opportunities do not occur for the exertion of so much talent and attention as distinguished the performance of Osmond, Alice, Angela, and Motley, to encourage by example, and also afford practice to those amateurs who labour under the trammels of diffidence in their dramatic novitiate, and to dispel the apathetic monotony of Indian society.

Some little interruption occurred during the evening, from a party of sailors in the gallery; but order was soon restored by the interference of some gentlemen; amongst whom, it was said, a reporter for one of the papers volunteered to restore tranquillity, having been disturbed by the gods in his critical vocation; but soon had cause to repent such temerity, as a son of Neptune resented the intrusion, by forcibly ejecting some extract of tobacco from his mouth into the eyes of the critic, which obliged him to close them and his memorandum book together, without farther comment on the performance. This we are inclined to doubt, though it must be confessed the *Courier's* unusually brief dramatic report smells strong of short-cut.—[*Bombay Gaz.* May 31.

DAMAUN.

The 13th of May being the anni-

versary of his most faithful Majesty's birth-day, was kept with that festivity and splendour which testified the warmest feelings of loyalty and respect. At sunrise a salute was fired from the fort, and repeated by the ships in the harbour. At eleven o'clock the troops marched to the fort, with the governor at the head of the column, accompanied by the members of council, the first magistrate, and the principal persons of the settlement. After reviewing the troops, the governor returned to the government-house, where he received the compliments usually paid on such an occasion. The drawing-room in which the company assembled was decorated in the most superb style; and at the end was exhibited a whole-length portrait of his Majesty in his robes of state, presented to the town by our present governor Don Julian. At four o'clock, about a hundred persons sat down to an elegant dinner; and on the removal of the cloth his Majesty's health was proposed by the governor, and drank with the greatest enthusiasm, when an imperial salute was fired of 101 guns. A second table was provided for the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the garrison, where free admission was given to every one who came to partake of the governor's hospitality. At night, the drawing-room being brilliantly illuminated, crowds assembled to see the portrait of their sovereign; and after the concourse of spectators had retired, the governor, attended by the most distinguished persons, moved towards the picture, and read a *Pindaric Ode* of his own composition, in commemoration of the joyful day. The poetic genius displayed in this sublime production was equal to so exalted a subject, and drew forth reiterated applause. The entertainment finished with quadrilles and favourite national dances, which engaged the company till four o'clock in the morning, when every one retired, highly gratified with the great liberality which had furnished the entertainment.—[*Ibid.*

MURDER OF LIEUT. BENNET.

Camp Jaulnah.—Lieut. Henry Bennet, of the 40th regt. Madras N. I., being obliged to quit Jaulnah for the benefit of his health, proceeded on the 4th May to Nurra, where he remained two days, and sent on his tent to the next stage, intending to have proceeded the following morning. Owing to the heat of the weather he had his cot brought out of a small tent he had with him, and lay down in the open air, and while asleep was awakened about midnight by the attack of robbers. Being totally unprepared, his arms being in the tent, he got off his cot with the view of escaping, when a dreadful cut on the back of the head brought him to the ground, having previously received four deep

deep cuts on the back, and another in the elbow. He was brought into Jaulnah, and expired about twelve hours after his arrival. Some tat-makers belonging to Jaulnah, who were bringing tats into that place, and were encamped within four yards of Lieut. Bennet's tent, have been taken up on suspicion, several large crooked knives found on their persons being stained with blood. The motives of the murderers for committing such a crime it is impossible to guess at, as the property in the tent, which they afterwards carried away with them, might have been carried off without its being known; the murder was therefore as wanton a one as has ever been perpetrated.—[*Bom. Gaz.*]

COMMODORE MANWARING.

Died, at his house at Byculla, on Saturday the 17th June, Commodore William Manwaring, of the Honourable Company's marine, aged 68.

The hand of death, awfully present at all times in India, but particularly of late, has been busy indeed with some of the brightest ornaments of the Bombay Marine, for often has the fatal messenger summoned those in the spring of life; but in this instance the withering dart fell on one in the autumn of existence, whose grey hairs, after a service of forty-one years in the marine, are mingled with the dust, amidst the regret, respect and regard of few or no cotemporaries, but yet of all who knew, even for a day, the friendly feeling, hospitality and friendly affection, that warmed a heart, never cold till now.

To the seniors of his service he was a beacon, whose light, though now extinguished, might well direct them to be a friendly guide to those who should look up to them; to the juniors, the writer of this tribute will only say (from his knowledge of the deceased's private virtues) may they through life cherish and possess that bright quality of their profession, which sheds a never-fading lustre on Commodore Manwaring's memory,

"The heart that can feel for another."

[*Bom. Cour.*]

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

July 29. *George Cruttenden*, Nalquadah Saboo Tyeb, from Mocha.

Departures.

Aug. 1. *Norfolk*, Grelg, for China.—2. *Lord Louther*, Steward, and *Duchess of Athol*, Danell, both for China.—3. *Thomas Coutts*, Chrystie, for China.—7. *Darius*, Browne, for London.

Passengers.

Per *George Cruttenden*, from the Red Sea: Maj. Gen. Sir Hudson Lowe; Maj. and Mrs. Elwood; Capt. de Lancey.

Per *Lord Louther*, for China: Maj. Elder; Capt. Drysdale; Ens. Westly; Mr. J. M. Johnston.

Per *Duchess of Athol*, for Singapore: The Hon. Sir Ralph Rice, pulse judge at Bombay; and servants.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 11. At Dapoolie, the lady of Colonel K. Egan, of a daughter.

Aug. 2. At Byculla, the lady of L. R. Reid, Esq., civil service, of a son.

DEATHS.

July 27. At Byculla, Anne, the wife of Maj. Gen. Wilson, commanding the presidency division of the army.

31. At the house of Lieut. Col. Leighton, Miss H. M. Holland, aged 16.

Ceylon.

MISSIONARIES AND SCHOOLS.

When the late Bishop Heber visited this island, the Church Missionaries in the archdeaconry of Columbo presented an address to him, detailing the circumstances of each station, with their various difficulties and encouragements. The following are extracts from the address which is given in full in the *Missionary Register*:

"There are at present in this archdeaconry, sent out from the Church Missionary Society, six ordained missionaries, occupying four stations. *Nellore* has been established seven years: it is occupied by Messrs. Knight and Adley: one of them performs divine service in English, in the Fort of Jaffna, once a fortnight; and, for nearly two years past, the other has officiated in Tamul, at Mr. David's Church once, and occasionally twice a week. Divine service is also performed, in the same language, at *Nellore*, once a week, or oftener; and occasionally at out-stations. There were till lately eleven schools; but, by sickness and other casualties, they are reduced to eight, containing about 280 boys and 25 or 30 girls.

"The *Kandy* station has been established about six years, and is, at present, occupied by Mr. Browning alone. There are two services in Cingalese and two in Portuguese every week. The schools belonging to the station are five, containing 142 children.

"The *Baddagame* station has also been established about six years, and is placed under the superintendence of Messrs. Mayor and Ward. There are four services in the week at *Baddagame*, and two at the out-stations. There are six schools, containing about 260 boys and 70 girls.

"The *Cotta* station has been established nearly three years; and is superintended by Mr. Lambrick alone—his fellow-labourer, Mr. Bailey, having been recently obliged to leave the island on account of the dangerous illness of his wife. There are three Cingalese services on the Lord's day; and the missionary visits the people from house to house every week-day.

There

There are eight schools, containing 168 boys and 19 girls. By direction of the committee of the society at home, materials are collected at this station for the erection of buildings for a Christian institution.

"In the schools at all the stations, the children read and commit to memory, in their own language, portions of Scripture; and, in most cases, simple catechisms, or summaries of the Christian faith: and a select few are instructed in English."

The Bishop replied to the address in a letter dated Sept. 13, 1825, wherein occur the following passages. With reference to the question as to the propriety of the regular clergy engaging with missionaries of other sects in solemn conferences on topics connected with conversion of the heathen, which are held at each other's houses, in rotation, the wives and families of the ministers and missionaries attending, as well as devout laymen, his lordship thought it not necessary to advise their cessation as they were established, but he cautions them against some serious dangers to which such meetings are liable.

"The first of these is the risk of leveling, in the eyes of others, or even in your own, the peculiar claims to attention on the part of men, and the peculiar hopes of grace and blessing from the Most High, which, as we believe, are possessed by the holders of an apostolic commission over those whose call to the ministry is less regular, though their labours are no less sincere. God forbid, my brethren, that I should teach you to think, on this account, highly of yourselves! Far otherwise. This sense of the advantages which we enjoy should humble us to the dust, when we bethink us who we are, and what we ought to be—who have received the spirit of God by the dispensation of a long line of saints and martyrs—who are called to follow the steps of Ridley, Hooper, Latimer, Rowland Taylor, and Henry Martyn—and who are, by the external dispensation, at least, of Providence, the inheritors of that grace which fell on St. Paul. But humbly, yea meanly, as we are bound to think of ourselves, we must not appear to undervalue our apostolic bond of union; and the more so here in India, inasmuch as it is the great link which binds us to the ancient Syrian Church, and one principal means whereby we hope, with the blessing of our Master, to effect its gradual reformation. The neglect or abandonment, or apparent abandonment, of this principle, is the first danger which I apprehend to be incidental to such meetings as have been described."

The Bishop then goes on to prescribe other rules:

"With reference to the employment of laymen to officiate in your own congregations, I would say that, where a missionary

is himself as yet unable to read prayers or preach in the language of his hearers, he may unquestionably employ a native assistant to do both; provided the prayers are those of our church, and the discourse a translation from his own dictation or writing. The use of interpreters is not only sanctioned by the necessity of the case, but by the express authority of Scripture and ecclesiastical history. And even where this necessity has not existed, but where any convenience has been obtained either by priest or people, it has been always the custom of the church to admit lay catechists (under the direction of the minister) to read the Scriptures, to give out psalms, to repeat the creeds, and even (when any convenience results from it) the Litany, down to the Lord's Prayer, and the following Collects, which the Rubric assigns to the priest. In the absence of an ordained minister, it is still more certain that any qualified persons may lead the devotions of the church. It is hardly necessary to observe, that, both in this and the preceding case, the Absolution must not be read, nor must the sacraments be administered, by any but the regularly ordained minister.

"To your questions respecting baptism, I reply—

"1st. We are not, as I conceive, allowed to baptize the infant child of heathen parents, when there is reason to fear that such child will be brought up in heathenism.

"2d. We may not even baptize the infant child of heathen parents on the promise of such parents to procure for it a Christian education, unless security of some kind is actually given for its adoption, and removal from its parents' corrupt example, by its sponsors, or some other Christian.

"3d. We may, I apprehend, baptize the children of a Christian father by a heathen mother, though they are living together unmarried, provided the father declares his intention of giving his child a Christian education, and there are sufficient sponsors to add their promise to that of the parent. My reason for this decision is, that, as no professed Christian (however wicked his life) is beyond the outward means of grace, and the Lord may, for all we know, have still merciful purposes concerning him, so we cannot, for the father's sin, exclude the child from that promise which is made to the children and the children's children of believers. But, where the mother is Christian, and not the father, it is doubtful whether she may have sufficient property in, or authority over her child, to ensure it a Christian bringing-up. Nor is it a point on which the promise of a heathen father can be received as sufficient: its actual adoption, therefore, by some Christian

tian friend or sponsor must, in this last case, be stipulated for.

"4th. The same principle appears to apply to cases when one only of a married couple is a professing Christian; though here some latitude of discretion may be allowed—in case of danger of death, of extreme maternal solicitude, of known good character on the believing mother's side, and the known probability that may exist that her wishes and the endeavours of the sponsors will not be frustrated in her infant's education.

"5th. The case of nominal Christians notoriously addicted to heathen practices must depend, in part, on the nature and extent of the evil; and still more on the character and sufficiency of the sponsors. Mere idolatrous or superstitious habits in the parents, if not attended with open apostasy, cannot exclude the infant, when properly vouched for from another quarter. The parent, however blinded and sinful, has not lost the external privileges of Christianity; and the infant cannot be deprived of a privilege which the parent has not forfeited.

"6th. The same rule will apply yet more strongly to Christians of whom we know no further harm, than their ignorance and neglect of public worship.

"7th. It will have been already seen, that we have no right to refuse baptism to children actually adopted by Christians, provided those or other Christians become their securities.

"8th. With regard to the case of children thus adopted, when past the age of six years, and on the marks of conversion which may then be required in them, it appears that, at this age, a child who has not from its earliest infancy enjoyed a Christian education, can seldom know much of Christianity. Such may be admitted as infants, with proper sponsors; and it may very often be desirable thus to admit them. It is not easy to fix an age at which infancy ceases; which must depend on intellect, opportunity, and many other considerations. In *subjecto capaci* conversion is, doubtless, required; and where capacity may be soon expected, it is generally desirable to wait. But, in cases of sickness, or where any good or charitable end is answered by the immediate baptism of such children, and where (as before) sufficient securities are present, it appears that we are not warranted in denying them God's ordinance.

"9th. The Church of Rome, though grievously corrupted, is nevertheless a part of the visible church of Christ: we may not, therefore, repel the children of such parents from baptism, if they are vouched for by their sponsors in the words of our Service; which, it may be noticed, are wisely so framed, as to contain nothing but those points on which all Christians

are engaged. The direction at the end to teach our Church Catechism, is a counsel from us to the sponsors—no engagement entered into by them. It follows, that we are not to refuse baptism to the children of Roman-Catholic parents, with sufficient Protestant sponsors. I even doubt whether we are at liberty to reject such with sponsors of their parents' sect.

"But, in all these questions, I cannot forbear observing, that we may remark the wisdom of that primitive institution (which our church has wisely retained) of god-fathers and godmothers, as affording a way of receiving into the flock of Christ those children, for whose education their own parents cannot satisfactorily answer. An ignorant or immoral father may be himself, for the present, irreclaimable; but we may always insist that the sureties whom he adduces should be competently informed, and of life not openly immoral. And, though the decay of discipline in our own country has grievously impaired the value of such sponsors, yet a missionary among the heathen both may and ought, in this respect, to exercise a sound discretion—both examining with mildness, informing with patience, and with firmness and temper deciding on the knowledge, faith, and holiness of those who themselves undertake to be the guides of the blind, and to sow the seeds of knowledge, holiness, and faith in the hearts of the young candidates for salvation."

Singapore.

THE CURRENCY.

Notification.—With reference to the public advertisement of the Resident, dated the 15th November 1823, limiting the currency of Singapore to Spanish dollars, except only in small payments, from five dollars and under, and in consequence of recent orders from the Government of Penang, Singapore and Malacca, notice is hereby given that, from and after this date, Calcutta sicca rupees will form a part of the currency of this island, and that all receipts and issues at the Public Treasury will be restricted to the above two coins exclusively which will circulate at their relative intrinsic value of 210 sicca rupees, 8 annas, for 100 Spanish dollars.

Notice is further given, that the Calcutta sicca rupee alone is established as the coin of account and standard of value in all transactions wherein Government is concerned.

E. PEARCE,
Acting-Resident.

Singapore, 27th July 1826.

TRADE WITH PEDER.

We have much pleasure in noticing the commencement of a direct traffic in betelnut

nut between this port and the Pedier coast, conducted in European vessels. The *Malvina* has lately imported a full cargo of this article, which has met a ready sale, being chiefly intended for the China market. The bark *Royal Charlotte*, which sailed from this about ten days ago, has gone to the same quarter, for the purpose of procuring a cargo in time for ships touching here on their voyage to China, towards the end of the season.—[*Sing. Chron.* July 20.]

RAFFLES CLUB.

We have to notice, as far as our means will allow, a splendid entertainment given by the Raffles Club, on the anniversary of Sir Stamford's birth-day. This was the second festival of the club since its formation, and consisted of a dinner, ball, and supper, given at the Singapore Hotel, in Commercial Square. Mr. S. G. Bonham took the chair, supported by Mr. Paton as croupier, and the company was numerous and highly respectable. After the royal toasts which are usual on such occasions were disposed of, the following toasts were proposed by the president, and drank with much applause and loud cheering:—"Sir Stamford Raffles"—"Governor Fullarton"—"Our Resident, Mr. Crawford"—"Colonel Farquhar." Numerous other toasts followed from gentlemen of the party, which were equally popular and well received. The gentlemen joined the ladies after dinner in the ball-room, and the evening passed off with much splendour and satisfaction.—[*Ibid.*]

CATASTROPHE ON THE CALEDONIA.

We have learned with much regret the following circumstances of an unhappy nature, connected with the ship *Caledonia*, which sailed from this port on the 22d of March, on a voyage to the west coast of Sumatra.

It appears from the statement of a gentleman who was a passenger on board the *Caledonia* at the time, that on the night of the 1st of June, one of the sukannies made an attempt to assassinate the chief officer of the ship, during his watch on deck, and that the latter, after an effectual resistance although a good deal cut, proceeded to the cabin for the purpose of rousing Captain Farret: who instantly came on deck, but was stabbed to the heart by the sukannie just as he had got out. Captain Farret died instantly, and the sukannie sprung into the sea. The chief officer (Mr. Scott) took the ship immediately into Bencoolen, at which place he found the *Queen of the Netherlands*, bound for Batavia, and, being desirous of having another vessel in company, it was agreed that they should sail together. The two ships left Bencoolen on the 25th of

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June, and continued in company for some days, when they separated, and the *Queen of the Netherlands* reached at Batavia on the 5th inst.—[*Ibid.*]

NEW DUTY ON GAMBIER IN JAVA.

By a late regulation of the Java Government, a new duty has been imposed upon the importation of gambier into that country. The amount of this tax is eight rupees per picul when imported in Dutch vessels, and twelve on vessels under a foreign flag. The object of the regulation is, we believe, to encourage the culture of the plant on the island of Java, some parts of which, particularly the district of Bantam, are supposed to be well suited to it. The new duty, amounting to double the original cost of the article, has induced some speculators to embark rather extensively in the project of introducing the gambier manufacture, and some estates in Bantam have already been planted with the shrub. The plant has been tried formerly, and grows luxuriantly; but this luxuriance of vegetation may cause its failure: for it is well known that it does not require a rich soil like that of Java, and that in Rhio and Singapore, the principal places in the archipelago which afford it, it is cultivated on a very poor soil. In manufacturing gambier, the operation is carried on day and night, without intermission; and the consumption of fuel is immense. The expense of this article will be a serious difficulty in most parts of Java. A little care and science in constructing the furnaces will, however, remedy the difficulty considerably: for we have no doubt that the quantity of fuel consumed in the establishments which we have seen on this island might very easily be reduced one-half, and still afford the same degree of heat which is produced from the rude and imperfect furnaces commonly in use.—[*Ibid.* June 22.]

TRINGANU.

By a prahu, which arrived a few days ago from this place, we are informed that the King of Siam had sent two armed junks with a deputation to the Rajah of Tringanu for the purpose of suppressing piracy, &c. It appears that a notorious pirate named Tuuku Onar, who is a relation of the Rajah of Tringanu, has lately been committing depredations on some of the traders of Siam, and the commanders of the war junks had received orders to insist upon his apprehension, and, in case of the Rajah's refusing to become bail for his future good behaviour, he is to be conveyed to Bankok to be imprisoned for life. The Siamese appear to entertain some suspicions of the fidelity of the Tringanu state, as the mandate of his majesty requires of the raja to commission

mission some person of rank to repair to the royal city of Bankok with the *Boonga mas*, a sprig of gold, which is the token of submission, and acknowledgment of her being a tributary of Siam.—[Sing. Chron., June 22.

NEWSPAPER AT MALACCA.

A newspaper is about to be established in Malacca, and printed once a fortnight, under the name of "The Malacca Observer."—*Ibid*.

NEW HARBOUR.

In addition to the pleasure which it gives us to announce the arrival of H.M.'s ship *Rainbow* in our roads, we have the satisfaction of stating that Captain Rous has effectually established the practicability of the passage through New Harbour, for vessels of a large draft of water. By having boats sounding in every direction, and other measures of precaution equally judicious, the safety of the ship was completely secured, and the *Rainbow* came through without difficulty.

The beautiful and romantic scenery of New Harbour, with the view of Batu Belayer (or the sailing rock), renders the navigation through the Strait delightful, and would well requite a stranger for the trouble of a visit. The situation of the anchorage, and the peculiar advantages which it possesses over Singapore roads of being easily fortified, so as to afford the most complete protection to shipping, will probably one day make it a place of some consequence on this island. Besides the entrances from the Straits of Malacca and from Singapore roads, the old Straits of Singapore afford an excellent outlet from the harbour, with regular tides, by which means vessels can go out or come in at all times, without waiting for favourable breezes. There is at present a village at New Harbour, inhabited principally by the followers of the late Tumungung, who removed his family there soon after our occupation of Singapore. Cultivation is also extending rapidly in that direction, and the jungle giving place to neat plantations of pepper, gambier, &c.—[Sing. Chron. Aug. 3.

DEATH.

July 15. The infant son of Capt. Green, of the ship *John Munro*.

Malacca.

DEATH.

July 4. Lieut. J. W. Colquhoun, 32d Bengal N.I., son of Colonel Ludovick Colquhoun, and nephew of the late Sir James Colquhoun, of Luss, Bart., N.B.

Spanish India.

MANILLA.

Advices to the 7th of June have been received from this country via Batavia. Trade is represented as being dull, and the market glutted with British goods. Two American ships had arrived there in the month of May, with large investments of English cotton cloths, woollens, &c., which had been landed, but remained unsold in the warehouses of the agents. The produce of the country, of every description, is quoted at high rates, and sugar had been purchased as high as eight dollars per picul.—*Sing. Chron., Aug. 3.*

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

The Finances.—The following notes on a project of law and memorial, published at the Hague in Nov. 1825, respecting the embarrassments of the Indian Government, and which was noticed in our Journal, vol. xx. p. 721, appear in a Calcutta paper; they were furnished by a correspondent at Java:—

The above memorial, accompanying the project of the law of the King of the Netherlands, for providing for the wants of the East-India possessions, enumerates the existing causes of the embarrassment, and manifests either an unpardonable ignorance of the state of those possessions, or is intended to satisfy the nation, and obtain their guarantee to the loan, without which no capitalist in his senses would come forward. The causes of the embarrassment stated are:—

1st. "The too great mass of paper currency." This has embarrassed the circulation, and consequently the trade of the colony, and is now embarrassing the Government, whose revenues are all paid in paper; but it has, until very lately, been a source of advantage to them, inasmuch as they have by means of it gradually extracted from the public of Java upwards of eleven millions of Java rupees, or five millions of Spanish dollars, which they could not otherwise have procured, and which they are now redeeming with eleven millions of Dutch guilders, or little more than 4,300,000 dollars.

This currency, therefore, has hitherto supported them, and enabled them to go on, and is not a cause, but an effect of embarrassment produced by other causes.

2d. "The payment of large sums for goods, taken by agreement from the British Government." The British Government left all their cash balances in the treasuries throughout the colonies, amounting to a very considerable sum; and military,

tary, marine, and other stores, in the magazines, amounting in all to about one million sterling, for which to this day they have not been paid one stiver, and in fall of which they are, I observe by the late commercial treaty, so faithfully observed by the Dutch, to receive one hundred thousand pounds, on 31st December 1826. So much for this cause of embarrassment.

3d. "The loss of ships laden with produce," &c. Two or three ships laden with spice; the total amount of which loss could not have been very considerable.

4th. "The missing of a ship from Japan with a rich cargo." None of their Japan ships exceed in value two, or at the utmost three hundred thousand rupees.

5th. "The great expenses incurred by the erection of military works, and of a colonial marine." Not one military work has been erected, but great and very prodigal expense has been incurred in the construction of roads, bridges, piers, &c. &c., the greater part of which might have been dispensed with. The colonial marine has indeed been very expensive, and they might, with equal justice, have added, very useless.

6th. The wars alluded to have certainly been a great cause of their embarrassments; but then these wars have been produced by causes which have not yet ceased, and which, from experience of the principles, policy, and feelings of the majority of the Government *employés*, is not likely to cease, so long as they continue to govern.

7th. "Failures of crops, and contagious diseases," have been less felt in Java than in any other part of the eastern world.

8th. "The distress was ascribed in India to temporary causes." It was not, and could not be ascribed to temporary causes, till 1824; for in the year 1821 they began to negotiate loans in Bengal, after having swept all the public establishments (orphans, widows, and others) of their funds, and after having drained from the public, by means of their currency, an unfunded or floating loan, of upwards of five millions of Spanish dollars; I therefore venture to assert, and it can be proved from their books, that the just amount of their debts in the commencement of 1824, exceeded twenty-five millions of Dutch guilders. How much they may reduce it to by their new process of calculation, is another question, and affects only their unfortunate creditors, but does not alter the amount of their expenditure.

The only alienated domains we are aware of their having repurchased is the estate of Soeka Boeme, for which they engaged to pay 800,000 rupees, and half of which is still due.

It was fortunate that they rejected the Bengal loan, and set about raising one in Europe: for the Bengal loan, if I am rightly informed, had failed long before his Majesty's pleasure was known, from a want of confidence in the security tendered.

The 20 millions of guilders proposed to be raised, and thought sufficient to re-establish the finances of Java, will hardly do more than meet deficits of revenue and expenditure caused by the existing insurrection, even if speedily brought to a close; and therefore I would speedily recommend to his Netherlands' Majesty, to set to work immediately to raise an additional loan of 50 millions of guilders, which would set all square; and then, if a good system of management be adopted, the colony may not prove a farther charge to the country. But if the present system be persevered in, his Majesty ought at once to propose a fixed annual grant for the support of the colonies of from 5 to 11 millions of guilders.

It will take at least five years of a wise and peaceable administration to place Java in the same situation as it was before the present revolution broke out, and more than ten years to make it what it was in 1818; until then it is absurd to talk of the Indian treasury providing one stiver beyond its expenses, for it will not only require a very extensive military force to restore order, but a respectable force must afterwards be kept up to preserve order, the expense of which will more than treble all that can be retrenched by the greatest possible reduction, in the civil and other departments.

The revenue of Java was estimated at 22 millions of rupees, for 1826, but the Government at home, by giving the Company the coffee, have deprived them of 4 millions of that estimated income, and by depriving the commerce of its only available returns, will, with the other measures in force, deprive the customs of 1 or 2 millions more, while, on the other hand, their expenses, independent of war contingencies, will exceed 25 millions.

The expenses of the war, and the deficit of revenue, particularly in the land rent and opium farms, resulting from it, will involve at least 10 millions more by the end of 1826.

The *Singapore Chronicle* of June 22d contains the following article:

In giving place in a former number to the regulation published by the Dutch Government, notifying the reduction of interest at Batavia from 9 to 6 per cent., we were induced, in opposition certainly to our past experience, to express a confident assurance that no *unjust* application of the measure would be attempted. It is painful to us to state that our expectations have been disappointed, and that instead of the reform which we were inclined

clined to hope for from a change of councils, an undisguised breach of public faith should mark almost the commencement of the new regime. Lest the severity of these remarks should bring their justness into doubt, we subjoin a literal translation of one of the Treasury notes issued by the Java Government, and on the faith of which individuals have for some years advanced money for the exigencies of the public service. We will merely ask what individual in the private circumstances of life, after having entered into such a contract, and having derived relief from it in financial difficulties, could maintain a respectable station in society and refuse to abide by its terms, either to refund the amount of the stipulated loan, or to pay the rate of the stipulated interest; for the conditions of the agreement are so specific and distinct, as not to admit, by any sophistry, of another alternative?

The Machiavelian doctrine that admits the consistency of moral wrong with political rectitude is, we are happy to think, nearly banished from the modern practice of politics, and we trust that in the present instance, as in others, its injurious tendency may recoil on the heads of those who attempt to revive it.

1000.—Registered.

No. 863. (Signed) H. S. HACK.

Batavia 11th Jan. 1826.

The General Government of Netherlands India promises to the holder of this, twelve months after date, or so much sooner as it may find good, to pay out of the treasury of the state at Batavia the sum of one thousand Indian guilders, with the interest at three-quarters per cent. per month.

In the name of the Governor General in Council.

Sixth issue.

No. 868.

(Signed) CHASSE.

The proclamations of the Commissioner-general Viscount Du Buss de Geslignees have excited great consternation amongst the monied interests in Java. They had reduced the standard of the currency 14 per cent. All the Java rupees and the rupees of Western India had been withdrawn from circulation, allowing 14 days from the publication of the proclamation to exchange them at the different treasuries in Java. All the 1 and 5 f. notes had also been called in, allowing 30 days to exchange them; and all the Bengals (a species of copper money, principally in circulation in the eastern parts of Java), allowing only 8 days to exchange them, at the rate of 125 f. per picul, below their current value, or nearly 60 per cent. As the different descriptions of currency were only exchangeable at the principal residences of Java and Madura, the holders

of paper at the out-stations have been severe sufferers, owing to the difficulty of communication preventing their sending their paper within the time specified. Notwithstanding the hardship of their case, not only have they been refused redress, but even those who were actually in attendance at the treasuries, with notes, previous to the expiring of the time specified, and could not get them exchanged, are denied redress. These and other measures are said to have disposed of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions of guildens in specie which the commissioner brought out, and although the whole has been thrown into the circulation, and more than three millions of currency have been redeemed and withdrawn, still silver money was not to be seen, nor procurable except at a considerable agio, and the public were experiencing great distress from the want of small money for their ordinary disbursements. Under pretence of relieving this distress, Government was issuing doits at 100 in place of 120, as formerly, to the rupee, but it is suspected that before they can introduce the 6 millions of guildens in doits, which they have contracted with the company for, and by which they thus expect to extract 20 per cent. from the public, that the circulation will consist entirely of doits, 200 of which will scarcely purchase a silver guilder, while the Government revenues will all be paid in doits at 100, and thus reduce their revenues one-half. Independent of the loss which the Government will sustain, the commercial operations of the place must be greatly embarrassed and checked by having so inconvenient a medium of exchange. That the commercial prosperity of the Dutch colonies has already greatly declined is proved by the continued depreciation of the currency, even after withdrawing nearly one-half of its former amount from circulation. The interest on upwards of 6 millions of treasury notes in circulation had, by one of the commissioner's proclamations, been most arbitrarily and unjustifiably reduced from 9 to 6 per cent., and when the notes fell due the holders could not even procure payment. About 2 millions of ordinances and other acknowledged demands on the treasury were also refused payment, and various other arbitrary and despotical acts had caused such universal consternation and distrust, that all the foreigners, as well as Chinese and Arabs, were realizing and preparing to quit the country for Singapore, or other establishments, where their property would be secure. So low is the credit of the Government reduced, that a respectable American establishment, from whom they had purchased provisions, would not allow them to be taken from his store until the money was paid down, or they procured the security of two mercantile houses in Batavia.

In

In the present state of Java, it is hardly possible to give such a statement of markets as could be calculated upon with any certainty. The alarm existing amongst the natives, and more particularly the Chinese, had caused a demand for all descriptions of real property, merely to get rid of the Government paper, on which they placed no confidence. Although the price of goods had thus nominally increased, still the markets could hardly be considered as more favourable, owing to the still greater advance on produce suited for returns, and the almost impossibility of procuring remittances by any means. Bills on India were not procurable at any exchange, and the very limited amount of specie that was procurable was at an advance of 12 per cent. for guildens, and 10 per cent. for Spanish dollars. Bills on England were nominally at 19d. per guilder, and the Commissioner-general had commenced drawing on Holland, at 102 Dutch guildens per 100 India guildens.

The new Dutch Company were receiving extensive consignments of manufactures from the Netherlands, of very superior texture. Their imitations of native fabrics were excellent, and of very brilliant fixed colours; but invoiced at nearly a guilder for every shilling, which the same description of goods are invoiced at from England. Notwithstanding this disparity of cost, the Company, from the advantages they possess in importing free of duty, in possessing a monopoly of the whole of the Government coffee (which constitutes the chief means of returns from Java) at a reduced rate, and in receiving every countenance and facility from Government, are able to undersell the British merchant, who has to pay an import duty exceeding 45 per cent. on the prime cost, besides being subjected to a thousand expensive vexations and annoyances from all the public departments, the customs alone excepted. The consequence was, that four of the principal agents for British manufactures in Batavia, who last year paid the customs upwards of one million of rupees in duties, had not, at the same period this year, paid one-fifth of that amount. In short, every possible method is adopted to harass and disgust the English, and drive them from the colony. Indeed, the commissioner has openly declared that he only considers the English as foreigners, and many of his public decrees testify his sincerity. The effects of this feeling are already so apparent, that all the English who can possibly quit, without ruin, have commenced closing their concerns, and preparing to quit Java, and those are greatly to be pitied whom necessity compels to remain. The private Dutch merchants throughout Netherlands India are also likely to be ruined in consequence of the Company opening retail stores in every

direction, and selling hams, cheese, butter, gin, &c. &c. at very reduced rates. Their object is said to be to drive away all competitors, by a sacrifice of two or three millions of guildens, which they expect will soon be compensated for by the enhanced prices they will afterwards obtain.

Under such a system of management, the Netherlands colonies in these quarters are more likely to require an annual aid of several millions of guildens, than to set apart a surplus of a million and a half to liquidate the loan of twenty millions, for which his Netherlands' Majesty has requested the guarantee of the nation.

It is said that it will require 10,000 troops from Europe to restore tranquillity in all their settlements. Such a force, together with the necessary equipment and stores, and the transport to Batavia, cannot cost much less than fifteen millions of guildens. Thus five millions of the national loan, and eight millions said to be borrowed from the Company, will constitute the whole of the means at the disposal of the commissioner, to liquidate the local obligations of the Java Government, which, if faithfully paid, will exceed thirty millions.—[*Beng. Hurk.*, July 3.

THE INSURRECTION.

The Netherlands papers contain the ensuing particulars respecting the insurrection in Java:—

Brussels, Dec. 27.

Batavia journals to the 6th of September have been received here. The superiority of the rebels appears to have enabled them several times to engage with the government troops with success; and private letters express the fear of their making further progress, unless reinforcements arrive. In July, the two guardians of the Sultan had been taken prisoners by the rebels, with their escort, and murdered. (These are, doubtless, the two native princes that have been mentioned before.)

The *Courant* of the 16th August contains a despatch from Major General Van Geen to the Lieutenant Governor General, dated July 29, which contains the details of his movements from the 17th to the 20th in the environs of Katjebon, where he was suddenly surrounded on all sides. The following morning the rebels had entirely disappeared, but the general had, nevertheless, thought it advisable to retreat. Another report of the general says, that his troops were constantly harassed by the enemy.

A report of Major le Bron de Vexela, dated Kadju Kusumo, states that having expended all his ammunition, he had been obliged to retire.

In the *Courant*, of 30th August, there is an account of a considerable advantage gained by the rebels under Diepo Negro, near

near the Dessa of Kambang. The government troops, after being abandoned by their ally, Mangko Negoro, were obliged to fight their way through the midst of the enemy. The general says, in his despatch:—

“On this unfortunate day we had to deplore the loss of many of our brave officers and soldiers; two mortars, a great deal of ammunition, nine draught horses, the arms of the killed, and others, fell into the hands of the rebels. Many of the troops of Mangko Negoro have returned to our camp disarmed and naked.”

According to the latest accounts, Diepo Negoro was near Bedeyo, and the garrison of Gamping, being too weak to defend that place, had fallen back to Djojo. The troops having been much reduced in numbers in the several actions with the rebels, the military duty was chiefly done by the merchants of Batavia, who were most anxiously expecting reinforcements from the mother country.

Rotterdam, Dec. 29.

Private letters from Batavia of 6th September, brought by the ship *Potomac*, which has arrived at Antwerp, affirm, that the rebels had, for some months, made extraordinary efforts in carrying on the war. The government had ordered the greater part of the garrisons of Sumatra, Banca, Macassar, and Borneo, to Java, to reinforce our troops, and had released from prison the twice dethroned Sultan of Djojo, and treated him with all the respect due to a sovereign prince. It is said that this old prince, the father of the chief of the rebels, has made a treaty with the rebel government, by which he places the young Sultan (a minor) on the throne, and takes upon him to pacify the country. Another account mentions among the wounded, Major Sollewyn and Captain Van Geen.

Haarlem, Jan. 15.

The *Queen of the Netherlands*, a merchant ship from Batavia, has just brought newspapers to the 26th of August last. Their chief contents relate to what we already knew, of the spreading of the insurrection, in consequence of the taking prisoners of the two guardians of the young Sultan, and of four out of the six persons who accompanied them. It seems that, for want of European troops, it had been found necessary to give the princes an escort of only eight hussars and fifty Javanese infantry. On the other hand, our ally, Mangko Negoro, seems to have depended too much on the Dessas of Djoojocarta, which at first affected to submit to their lawful prince, but as soon as the insurrection broke out anew, rose again. The rebels immediately put to death the two guardians and the four princes. It does not appear, from these journals, that any bad consequences had resulted from

this event. The government having sent for all the troops that could be spared from the other colonies, expected no fewer than 1,500 men, half of them European soldiers. On the other hand 750 men were already arrived, of 1,000 sent from Europe.

Brussels papers to the 24th Jan. contain intelligence from Batavia to the 27th of Sept., brought by the *Harmony*. These accounts give a more favourable picture of the state of affairs in Java than that presented by the information received from the Dutch settlement in that island of late. According to the accounts contained in private letters, brought by this conveyance, the Dutch forces have obtained some considerable advantages over the insurgents. Between the latter end of August, the date of the last despatches, and the time of the *Harmony* quitting Batavia, the rebels had been several times defeated, and were driven back on all sides. These successes had revived the spirit and restored the confidence of the auxiliary native troops, who, with their chief, Mangko Negoro, had again distinguished themselves on more than one occasion. The prince of Serang, a leader of the rebels, had suffered a total defeat, and had been reduced to the extremity of becoming a wanderer in the woods. The provinces adjacent to the settlement of Kambang are represented as becoming tranquil, and their inhabitants well-disposed towards the Dutch. These circumstances, and the arrival of a reinforcement of troops from Europe, had induced the rebels to withdraw themselves entirely from the government settlements.

The Cinnamon Plant conveyed from Ceylon.—By letters just received from Batavia, we learn that the brig *Lechme*, which arrived there in February last from Ceylon, had brought twenty-five boxes, containing about 3,000 cinnamon plants, besides a considerable quantity of seeds, for the Java Government. The plants were in excellent condition, and were highly prized by the Government, who expect through their means to make Java rival Ceylon in this valuable article of commerce, and thus put an end to the monopoly of the East-India Company.

The agent they employed to procure the plants, set out from Java under pretence of a trading voyage, all the risk attending which it is well-known was to be borne by the Java Government, who were, moreover, to pay him Rs. 1,000 per month during his absence, and a sum proportioned to his success on his return.

As the vessel on which the enterprize commenced proceeded no farther than Penang, the *Lechme* must have been purchased for the express purpose of conveying the cinnamon plants to Java. They were

were smuggled on board in the following manner. Twenty-five boxes, containing ordinary plants and flowers, were regularly passed through the custom-house at Point de Galle, and sent on board: the cinnamon plants were sent off in a canoe, late at night, with the agent's baggage, and as soon as the vessel was at sea, the plants and flowers in the boxes were taken out and thrown overboard; and the cinnamon plants put in their place.

The individual who undertook to perform this service to the Dutch Government is a native of Madras, who was educated in England, but refused admission into the civil service of the Hon. Company by the Court of Directors on account of his Indian nativity; and was afterwards, by the Madras Government, refused permission to settle in the interior, or to possess lands, because of his European parentage. Although, therefore, the injury which this act of his may inflict on the East-India Company, is far short of that which he has sustained at their hands, it is not the less to be regretted that the Dutch Government found a British subject capable of becoming so base an instrument in such unworthy hands.—[*Beng. Hurk.*, July 3.

We observe from this morning's *Hurkuru*, upon the authority of private letters, that the cinnamon plant had been introduced into Batavia, smuggled from Ceylon, by an agent in the service of the Dutch Government. This is not the first time, however, that the cinnamon plant has been introduced into Java, and that it thrives there has been long established; but, as observed by Crawford, it must be reared as cheaply, and of as good quality, as that of Ceylon, before it can enter into competition with the produce of that island.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, July 3.

MACASSAR.

Intelligence on which we place the fullest reliance has been received from this quarter, apprizing us of the renewal of hostilities against the Dutch. Being connected by matrimonial alliances, a close connexion has always been kept up between the native courts of Java and those of Celebes; and we doubt not that the latter have been accordingly influenced with the view of creating a diversion in favor of the Javanese insurgents, as well as of effecting their own liberation. The Batavia Government have, we believe, resolved on sending no further succours to Macassar. This resolution may have been taken from necessity, but is at the same time the most prudent that could be adopted. Had the Baron Vander Capellen acted on such moderate and prudent counsels, the tranquillity of Java would not have been disturbed.—[*Sing. Chron.*, July 20.

China.

We have received accounts of the cotton and opium markets down to the 2d May. The stock of opium on hand on the 1st April was, Patna and Benares, 1,636 chests, and Malwa, 967 chests. The quantity of Turkey was not known, but there was supposed, however, to be enough for two years' consumption. The deliveries for April were supposed to be small, not more than 150 chests of Patna and Benares, and 350 of Malwa; but the returns had not reached Canton when the *Charles Forbes* took her departure. The present prices were, for Patna, 1,050 dollars; Benares, 1,060; Malwa, 880, per chest; and for Turkey, 530 to 540 dollars per pecul. There were about 400 chests of Patna, and 200 ditto of Malwa of last year's sales to come on. If to that and the stock on hand be added the supply from Damaun and the quantity sold at the Company's sales, the supply for the whole season may be easily ascertained, making a deduction of about 800 or 1,000 chests for Java, Singapore, Sumatra, Borneo, &c. The consumption per month was about 300 chests of Patna and Benares, and about 500 ditto of Malwa. Bombay cotton is quoted at 11 tale to 12 tale 5 mace per pecul, and, for very good, 12 tale 8 mace to 13 tale; Bengal, 10 to 11 tale 5 mace; and Madras, 13 tale. The Company's treasury was open for bills on England at 4s. 6d. the dollar six months, and on Bengal at thirty days, 203 Calcutta siccas per 100 drs.—[*Bom. Gaz.*, July 26.

Persia.

The *St. Petersburg Gazette*, of Dec. 23d, contains the following intelligence respecting the war, dated from the army in Georgia, November 25:

"The aid-de-camp of General Paskevitch, in despatches dated November 3, from his camp on the river Tcherakene, states, that with part of his troops he had made a movement beyond the Araxes, both to hinder the Persians from sending a considerable force against the detachment of Colonel Mitschin Knewks, who was advancing from Schirwan, and to keep off from the banks of the Araxes the enemy's parties, which are always ready to attack and plunder the neighbouring villages. This movement was also intended to obtain more certain information respecting the position of Abbas Mirza's army.

"On the 25th of October a detachment of Russian troops advanced towards the village of Maralian, and, by a shallow ford, crossed the Araxes, which is not above fifty fathoms broad at this place. On the same day the van-guard of this detach-

detachment, commanded by Major Toudine, advanced to the steep banks of a deep canal, three wersts beyond the Araxes, and crossed this canal by the throwing a bridge over it. On the 26th the aid-de-camp of General Paskevitch advanced through defiles to the river Cara Pascha, and convinced himself of the truth of the information he had received of the retreat of Abbas Mirza towards Ardebil. That prince was accompanied by only a small number of troops, and had dismissed the others till the spring.

"On the same day the aid-de camp of General Pasketvitch, after a march of twenty wersts through difficult roads, passed the night near the village of Dahlipere-mesli, where he was joined by 600 mounted Tartars and Armenians, who had readily attended to his invitation to join him. On the 27th he advanced ten wersts beyond the Cara Paschala, and was met by the chief of a tribe, deputed by 200 families of Russian subjects, who had been violently carried off from the Russian territory, and solicited permission to return to the province of Karabagh. Being informed that a great many families, carried off in the same way, were at other places in the neighbourhood, Major General Shabelsky was sent with a detachment of Cossacks and Tartars, cavalry, to deliver them. Notwithstanding the resistance of the enemy and the disadvantages of the ground, General S. advanced to the rivulet of Kalentar Boulouk, and brought away the poor people whom the Persians had carried off.

"On the 28th, Major Poliakoff being entrusted with another similar expedition, met the enemy in a defile near the little river of Deravourt; the Persians being charged by our troops, lost the Begh of Schirwan Nouraly, who was taken prisoner, and Mirza Ismael killed. The latter had a standard and a letter from Abbas Mirza. On the same day Major General Shabelsky had a second successful rencontre with the Persian cavalry. The corps of General Paskevitch's aid-de-camp passed the night of the 28th six wersts from Shakhlarla. The object of the movement beyond the Araxes was thus completely attained. The enemy was repelled from our frontiers; many Russian subjects enabled to return to their homes, and large magazines taken from the enemy. The aid-de-camp then, thinking it useless to pursue the Persians, recrossed the Araxes on the 30th and 31st October, near Astandouze. The celerity and success of this operation on the right bank of the Araxes, prove that the obstacles which the nature of the country opposes cannot stop the progress of the Russian armies. Even the heavy artillery passed these defiles and steep rocks, which the Persians have always considered as the bulwarks of their country.

"The troops under the command of Gen. Paskevitch's aide-de-camp have resumed their former positions on the river Tcherahene."

General Yermaloff has published the following proclamation "to all the inhabitants of Georgia," dated Teflis, August 22:—

"The Persians, or, more properly speaking, the Kisilbashians, who have been long known to the inhabitants of Georgia by their hostile dispositions and base insolence, have unexpectedly entered our territory with their forces. Firmly convinced that our great monarch, like ourselves, his faithful subjects, maintains inviolate the rights of the peace concluded with them thirteen years ago, we did not think the hostilities which they have so shamefully began, possible, at a time when our ambassador is still among them. I think it unnecessary to give you here a detailed character of the Persians. You, Georgians, are perfectly well acquainted with them; but I must not conceal from you, that they have been able to gain over a part of their Tartar brethren; that they promise the troops all the property of the Georgians as their booty, which in former times they carried into effect in so barbarous a manner; but they have already forgotten that the Georgians, inspired by love of their true religion, and attachment to their country, drove them back into the frontiers of Persia with a handful of militia, and this in earlier times, when the powerful hand of the Emperor Alexander did not yet protect them. The deeds of the Georgians, and their intrepidity under the brave Wochtang Gorgaslaw, under the famous Princess Tamara, and under David (called the Regenerator of his People), are known to us from the history of this country; but you still remember how the brave Czar, Heraclius, with a small body of troops, defeated the Persian sovereign, Ascadowners, and made the Khan of Erivan tributary to him. Now that just chastisement from our emperor awaits the Persians, for their faithless attack upon our territory, you will certainly hasten to take up arms against the enemies of Russia, those enemies which are again thirsting for your blood. Which of you does not remember the invasion of Asimagured Khan, an uncle of the present Schah of Persia, who laid Teflis in ashes? Are not these Persians the tyrants who boast of the victims they have made to their unbridled passions, with whom they fill their houses and their seraglios, a great number of whom are Christians, your countrymen? You, my countrymen, are compelled by them to follow the Mahometan religion. If the Tartars, who entertain like sentiments with the Persians, their faithless brethren, have

have ventured to betray their lawful government, it is my duty to inquire unanimous firmness from you, Christians, the inhabitants of the province committed to my care. I therefore call on all classes among you, princes, nobles, peasants, to arm; leave only a sufficient guard to protect your houses and your effects; and, furnished with provisions for twenty days, hasten to Teflis, our appointed rendezvous. Your militia shall be led by the marshal of the nobility or his deputy, for each canton, and I will join to them a part of the victorious Russian armies. We shall advance together against the enemies of our tranquillity, and, with the help of God, defeat the faithless Persians. Let us drive them out of the country. The army expected from Russia will soon arrive, and then we will carry the war into the heart of Persia itself, and take two-fold vengeance in the interior of Persia, for all the oppression and violence that Georgia has suffered from the Persians, and for the mischiefs which they so insolently again do to us. Give me, therefore, an opportunity to acquaint our most gracious emperor of the exemplary zeal which you have constantly shown, during my government of this province, that I may solicit for you proofs of his majesty's favour, of which the treacherous Tartars alone have made themselves unworthy. After this proclamation of mine, none of you can excuse himself by saying he had no opportunity of serving his own country and the state. While I thus summon you to the path of honour and glory, and the restoration of the security of our families, I am convinced that you will attend to it according to your duty as Christians, and as bound by your oath of allegiance to your emperor. With these sentiments you will gain such advantages over the Persians as the Kisilbashians have not long expected from the Georgians themselves. I hope that the nobles will give the warriors and the peasants the first example of valour, and of a general rising in arms against our enemies.

"You know, then, in the midst of the most profound peace and tranquillity, the Persians have attacked our troops, ravaged the open country of Schurager, and carried off captive the peaceful inhabitants, who, confiding in the existing friendly relations between the two sovereigns, lived, without any apprehension, close to the frontiers of Persia. Persian troops advanced at the same time into the province of Karabach.

"The absurd reports which were spread that the Russian troops were employed in quelling disturbances in the interior, and a certain Seid Mulla seduced by the presents of the grandees of Persia, have caused this war to be undertaken, though General Prince Mensikoff, in whom his

imperial majesty has particular confidence, was in Persia to regulate the demarcation, and has been invited for that purpose to Sultanich by the Shah himself. I know that the Persians are independent enough to employ all kinds of seduction and lies: be prudent and do not suffer yourselves to be misled.

"You will be invited to flight; to treason; then you will be removed into the interior of Persia far from your homes. Ask the Demurtschessalze, they will tell you that many of them have returned from Choragan, whither they had been sent. What advantages will the Persians offer you? Will they give you better land than that you cultivated here, while they themselves live in many places on a barren soil and in a state of poverty? It is a melancholy existence that awaits traitors and deserters, for whither can they fly when the Russian troops enter the enemy's territory? Remain faithful to your great emperor, rally against your enemies, defend your families and your property, and you will laugh at the credulous minds of those who shall trust to the perfidious lies of the Persians.

(Signed) "GENERAL YERMOLOFF."

Commercial letters from Georgia mention that agents from the King of Persia have arrived at the head-quarters of General Yermoloff, to treat provisionally for a suspension of arms between Persia and Russia.—[*Gazette de France*, Jan. 14.

German Papers of the middle of January state that orders have been sent from St. Petersburg to the commander-in-chief of the army in Georgia to suspend offensive operations against the Persians, and only to maintain the line of the Araxes. This intelligence is regarded as the precursor of peace, and entire credit is given to British mediation for these pacific indications on the part of Russia.—[*London Paper*, Jan. 19.

POLITICS OF RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

The difficulties attending the question between this country and Persia may be said to divide themselves into two branches; first, as relates to the obligations imposed upon us by the faith of treaties; secondly, as relates to the obvious delicacy of our position with regard to Russia. The former of these difficulties involves principally the following consideration:—Was the present war provoked by the aggressions of Persia or of Russia? If, as we are strongly inclined to believe, the whole conduct of the Russian authorities in Georgia has been one series of provocations, tending to excite dissatisfaction and alarm on the part of Persia, the mere fact of hostile incursion beyond a gratuitously assumed

assumed line of demarcation, would merge in the superior consideration of the causes which induced such an incursion. Russia, we know, has asserted boldly that her territories have been invaded by Persia; and yet, when we look at the comparative power of the two empires, to hear the former complaining of an attack by the latter, is as if a lubberly athletic fellow, six feet high, were to attempt to justify the violent chastisement of a crippled dwarf, in consequence of having been assaulted by him.

Persia, on the other hand, alleges that she is the aggrieved party: and the object of Mr. Willock's mission to this country is to satisfy the British Government of this fact. The consequence of such proof would be, the demand for immediate assistance, as guaranteed by the treaty to which we have already referred. We admit the difficulty of the proof, and we are aware of the manifold considerations which would make us more inclined to assume the office of a mediator rather than that of a protector. We are bound to assist Persia in case of invasion; but, as in the question of Portugal, our first efforts will be to avert the necessity of assistance, by amicable interference between the belligerents. These efforts have not been wanting; with what effect they have been, or may continue to be made, remains as yet undecided.

It has been said, England is not bound to support Persia in any war she may choose to provoke by her own conduct. By the strict interpretation of treaties, England certainly is not bound to the fulfilment of such large and comprehensive obligations; but, by considerations of general policy, she might find it difficult to escape from them.

A long series of petty provocations, of unfriendly acts, of irritating circumstances, might be studiously persevered in, to goad Persia into a specific act of aggression, such act being a pretext anxiously desired, to give a plausible colour to meditated schemes of ambition. These provocations, too, might be so ambiguously contrived and executed, as to render it extremely difficult of demonstration that they bore the character of grievances. Lastly, this whole system of progressive and increasing injuries, might be framed with special reference to the relations known to exist between this country and Persia, so as to weaken, in the first instance, the claims of the latter, and paralyze the interposition of the former. This, we say, is a possible case. But, supposing it now to exist, and in its most complicated shape (which, however, we are far from admitting), then, we repeat, "the general policy of the country would step in, to protect Persia from becoming a province, or pachalic, as it were, of Rus-

sia." No British minister would passively look on, and see Persia at the feet of Russia: and it is this imperative duty, imposed upon us by the highest considerations of national policy, as well as of national interests, which brings us into collision with Russia, in the way glanced at by the second branch of the difficulties, which we have described as belonging to this question.

Russia has always viewed with undisguised jealousy the ascendancy of English influence in the councils of Persia. She has not hesitated to make it matter of formal complaint even, at different periods, that the Persian troops are commanded by English officers, clothed in English uniforms, and supplied with English arms. A British officer, Major Hart, is generalissimo of the Persian forces; the physician of the Crown Prince, Abbas Mirza, Dr. Cornick, is an Englishman. Colonel Macdonald Kinnaird, the British chargé-d'affaires, was, at the date of the last advices, with the King of Persia, who was then about to proceed to the frontiers to join the Crown Prince. In short, the whole machinery of the Persian Government is put in motion, immediately or remotely, by English agents and by English influence. It may be remarked, too, that, within a very recent period, all foreigners, except the English, were ordered to quit the Persian territory. These are circumstances which disturb the repose of the Russian cabinet, in its dreams of Eastern policy. They constitute a barrier, which it is felt must be overleaped or removed at no distant day. Already in the possession of this ascendancy, the slightest interference of England is viewed with increased jealousy and alarm; and her mediation is regarded with suspicion, as proceeding not from a disinterested friend, but from an interested partisan. Her suggestions consequently are received with distrust; not because they are unfriendly or impolitic, but because they are met by preconceived notions of their selfish origin. Under such circumstances, the difficulties of any mediation are great, if not insuperable.

England, on the other hand, is no stranger to the ambitious projects of Russia; nor does she conceal from herself the contingency, however remote, by which those projects may operate upon our empire in the East. While we continue to hold Persia, as our fast and firm ally, all danger in that quarter is chimerical; but intrigue and open force, without positively increasing the danger, may reduce us to the necessity of onerous measures of prevention. A government like that of Russia, essentially military in all its principles, must always have a tendency to disturb the pacific relations of other states. Frequent wars, of some description or other, are

are among its necessities; they are the conditions of its existence. Hence the difficulty, at all times, of keeping such a government within those boundaries which are necessary for the tranquillity of surrounding nations. England has experienced this difficulty on more than one recent occasion; and she will now have again to contend with it.

It may enter into the calculations of Russian statesmen, influenced by the policy of other cabinets, as well as by the growing ambition of Russia herself, during the last half century, to exercise a control over the politics of Western Europe, that the ascendancy of England in that quarter is susceptible of check, by playing off against her the interests she has at stake in the East. We are not prepared to affirm, positively, that the events now passing in the Peninsula are complicated with those which are taking place in Persia; but there are many things which would surprise us more, than to find the power of Russia thus put in motion, as an experiment, to divert our energies, and intimidate our policy, by those who dread the one and cordially hate the other. The future, and not a very distant future, may disclose grave matters connected with this subject.—[*New Times*.

Asiatic Russia.

Information has been received at St. Petersburg from Orenburg, dated the 22d of Nov., as follows:—"The Khan of Bucharia is dead; his eldest son succeeds him. The ambassador sent to our court by the Khan of Khiva has arrived at the fort of Seratschikoff, on the line of the Bazoural; he brings with him two elephants and seven horses, destined as a present to his majesty the emperor."

Isle of France.

Letters from the Isle de France, of August last, say that, by a decision of the English Government in that colony, above 400 inhabitants of the island had been forced to leave it. These exiled colonists are Frenchmen, who, having been received in the Isle since it has been occupied by the English, had married there, and bought estates, but had not been admitted to take the oath of allegiance, though they had solicited to do so. The same letters affirm that no plot, no subject of discontent, has given occasion to this extraordinary and barbarous measure, which the English Government has thought it proper to take.—[*French Paper*.

Cape of Good Hope.

MURDER OF A MISSIONARY.

Mr. Schmelen, missionary of the London Missionary Society, has arrived in Cape Town, from Great Namacqualand, and has brought the melancholy intelligence of the murder of Mr. Threlfall, Wesleyan missionary. Mr. Threlfall, it appears, left Kammiesberg, Little Namacqualand, about August last, accompanied by two men, belonging to that missionary station, on an intended journey of discovery to the Damara's country, with the view of selecting a suitable spot near the coast for the establishment of a missionary station. When he arrived at Kammanoup, in great Namacqualand, the chief strongly advised him to return; but he determined upon going forward and prosecuting his intended journey. After having obtained some necessary articles, and hired a guide and several men to accompany him, he proceeded forward. A few days after they left Kammanoup, they arrived at a Bushman raul, where Mr. Threlfall, and the two men who accompanied him from Kammiesberg, were murdered by their treacherous guide and his companions. One of the men was shot whilst asleep, and the other shortly afterwards. Mr. T. fled to a bush, but was pursued and wounded by a musket-shot, when a Bushman, instigated by the villainous guide, pierced him near the heart with his assagai, and killed him. A Bushman, who was at the kraal on the night the murder was committed, fled, and gave the information to the people belonging to Mr. Schmelen's station. The guide was afterwards seen wearing the clothes of Mr. Threlfall, and the place where the assagai entered the body was distinctly visible.

We understand that Mr. Schmelen was, at the same time, on a similar journey, and was preserved to accomplish it in safety. He travelled beyond Woolwich Bay, and reached the coast, where a vessel was stranded a few years ago.—[*South African Advertiser*, May 17.

ALGOA BAY.

Ships off the Cape and intending to go into Algoa Bay, either for shelter from north-west winds or for refreshments, may find the following remarks useful.

The high range of mountains of which Craggy Mountain forms part, are situated about thirty miles from the beach, the range terminating about north from Cape Recife. About six miles to the westward of Cape Recife hills of moderate height commence, and extend to Cape St. Francis. These hills are about one mile, and in some places half-a-mile, from the beach,

and are in many places covered with wood to the top, and have in general a fertile appearance. From the east end of these hills to Cape Recife the shore is low, with sand-hills, and in some places bush. Cape Recife is low and rocky; the shore is bold to approach, and the sea breaks at all times on the rocks.

If bound into the Bay with a north-west wind, round the point as close as possible, and haul into the sandy beach, keeping five fathoms about one mile from the beach: keep this distance to Rocky Point, which you may also round close, as there are no dangers but what may be seen, and you will fetch into the anchorage in one tack. Following these directions you will pass inside of the Roman Rock. Horsburgh's directions for this danger are very correct; it is a pinnacle, and difficult to find out in a boat; it has six feet on it at low water, and the sea only breaks in southerly gales.

When off Rocky Point you will see a pyramid on the west side of the Bay: the town is under this mark. The fort is on the south side of the town, and Baker's River runs close to the southward of the fort. The whale fishery is on the south side of the Bay, which you pass.

In working in, stand well over to the northern side of the Bay; there is no danger, and you may stand into four fathoms. Anchor as directed by Horsburgh, about one mile and a half to two miles from the beach. An opening in the sand-hills, where the boats are hauled, with the flag-staff before the resident's house, is also a good mark. When in sight from the town, a boat will be sent off with a person to point out the anchorage. You may also communicate by telegraph.

The town has during the last three years much increased. There may be about 100 houses, a good hotel, four butchers' and four bakers' shops. Supplies of all sorts may be had in abundance, and on moderate terms. The present price is, for a fat bullock weighing 600 lbs. 35s., a fat sheep 8s., turkeys 3s., fowls 6d., ducks 9d. each, geese 1s. 6d., potatoes, cabbages, pumpkins, and other vegetables in plenty and reasonable. Fruit may be had all the year round; fish of most excellent quality may be had in great plenty, and cheap. Oysters may be caught on the rocks; salt may be had in abundance for about 10s. per ton. Salted meat may be had in any quantity.

Utenhague is the principal town in the district, and is about eighteen miles from the Bay, with a good carriage-road. Graham's Town is the principal town in the Albany district, where most of the settlers are located, and is about ninety miles from the Bay. The country around the Bay is fine, and abounds with game, such as

bucks, pheasants, partridges, hares, quails, snipes, and wild duck. A church is building in the Bay, and a medical man is always stationed at the place and at Utenhague. The exports from the Bay may be about 2,500 tons, consisting of ivory, gum, hides, skins, butter, soap, cheese, aloes, fat, salt meat, salt, and ostrich feathers. The winds blow three-fourths of the year from N.W., when the Bay is quite smooth. The south-easters seldom blow home, and prevail most between the months of November, December, January, and February.

The thermometer varies from 50° to 60° in the winter, and from 70° to 75° in the summer months.

Latitude by Horsburgh 34° 2' south, longitude 25° 42' east.—[*Bombay Courier*, May 25.]

TAX UPON NEWSPAPERS.

The following ordinance, dated 23d October, imposing a stamp duty on all newspapers printed within the colony (in addition to a tax of one penny recently levied upon every copy of a paper transmitted through the general post at Cape Town), has been published by the government at the Cape.

Ordinance for levying a Stamp Duty on printed Newspapers, and certain other Periodical Works.

1. It is expedient to levy a stamp duty on newspapers, and certain other periodical works printed and published in this colony, which are not included in the tariff annexed to the proclamations of the 30th April and 10th Dec. 1824. From the commencement of this ordinance there shall be collected and paid in this colony, for and in respect of the several articles, matters, or things described in the schedule to the ordinance annexed (excepting those standing under the head of exemptions), the several duties as therein respectively inserted and described; and that there shall be allowed and paid, for, and in respect of, all such articles, matters, or things, as are described in the said schedule, the several allowances therein set forth; and that the said schedule, and every clause therein, shall be deemed as part of this ordinance.

2. From the commencement of this ordinance, any person convicted of printing or publishing within this colony, on paper not duly stamped, any newspaper or other periodical work, required by this ordinance to be stamped, shall be subject to a penalty of twenty pounds for every such offence; one-half whereof shall be paid to the informer, and one-half to the colonial treasury.

3. This ordinance to be in force from the 1st January 1827.

Schedule

Schedule of Duties on Newspapers and other Periodical Works printed and published in this Colony.

Any newspaper, or paper containing public news, intelligence, or occurrences, and not exceeding one sheet—one penny.

For every additional half-sheet thereof—one half-penny.

Any almanack or calendar made to serve for any year, or time less than a year—sixpence.

Any almanack or calendar made to serve for any longer time than a year, or for several years—three shillings.

Any colonial directory—sixpence.

Schedule of Allowances for the Purchase of Stamps enumerated in the foregoing Remarks.

To any person who shall bring paper to the stamp-office, in Cape Town, to be stamped, or who shall buy stamped paper there, the duties whereof shall amount to ten pounds or upwards, an allowance of ten pounds for every hundred pounds, upon prompt payment of the duty upon such paper so bought or stamped.

Exemptions from the Duties on Papers, containing public News, Intelligence, and Occurrences.

Acts of Parliament, proclamations, orders in council, ordinances, government minutes, and acts of state, or other matters, printed by order of his Majesty or of the Colonial Government.

Any paper containing a single advertisement, printed and dispersed separately, save and except hand-bills, as specified in the proclamation of the 10th Dec. 1824, article 6.

Daily accounts or bills of goods imported and exported, and prices current.

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 7. Lieut. Steele, half-pay H.M. 60th regt., to Miss A. C. Langerman.

17. The Rev. Wm. Elliot, to Georgina Johanna, youngest daughter of the late W. Caldwell, Esq.

DEATHS.

Sept. 30. James Augustus Williams, son of Capt. G. Kilgour, aged 18 months.

Oct. 3. At Graham's Town, Serj. Maj. J. Pitt, late of the Cape Infantry, aged 44.

Polynesia.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Extract of a letter from Captain Wm. B. Jackson, of the brig *Harbinger*, dated

at Oahu, Sandwich Islands, March 8, 1826, received *vid* Canton, at Philadelphia:—

"On the 20th of January, the store in which were my goods was broken open, and several bales carried off. I immediately called on Pitt, and demanded a search, declaring, that unless my goods were restored and damages paid, I would lay off the harbour, and capture every island vessel attempting to go in or out. We had a search, and found one piece, which was carried to Pitt, together with the person with whom it was found. By the next afternoon all was returned, except thirty-two pieces, London prints, which Pitt said he could not get. The reason was, they were in the hands of a chief. I then presented a bill for 426 dollars 5 cents for the missing goods, and 140 dollars for damages, which he accepted and agreed to pay. Previous to its being settled, however, Pitt became deranged, and has since been unable to transact business. I waited for a fortnight in hopes of his getting better, when, finding there was no chance of it, I presented my bill to Boke, the governor, and demanded payment. He demurred. This morning I succeeded in getting his name to an obligation, binding himself to make the thieves deliver to my agent here, within four months, 80 piculs of good clean wood, which, at the island price, 10 dollars per picul, is 800 dollars. Having finished this, I am now winding up my concerns here, and shall be off in a few days."

PITCAIRN'S ISLAND.

Letters from Rio Janeiro state, that information has been received there of the *Blossom* frigate having touched at Pitcairn's Island, in the South Sea, where some years since the mutineers of the *Bounty* had found a retreat. Old Adams, the last survivor of these unfortunate individuals, was living, and in good health. The population had so much increased, that the scarcity of wood for fuel, and other purposes, was beginning to be felt; and fears were entertained of a greater diminution of this valuable article, from the increasing number of dwellings necessary for the inhabitants. It is added, that Adams wished for some of his community to be removed to New Holland, many expressing their desire for such a proceeding.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

We are without papers from Calcutta, as there have been no arrivals since our last number was published.

The absence of the interesting intelligence which the next files of newspapers will doubtless bring, affords us an opportunity to insert the following excellent article from the *Calcutta Government Gazette* of June 8, on the subject of the late war.

The occurrence, course, and consequences of the Burman war are likely, if we may judge from the manner in which they have already been adverted to in Parliament, to become the subject of much discussion, at least as far as the anticipated shortness of the session may admit. In the hands, however, of those who make the war a plea for an attack upon ministers, we do not think the subject will receive much satisfactory elucidation, and, for the sake of the English public, we could wish that a more efficient opposition, one more calculated to call forth the energies of its defenders, had made it their theme. No doubt can be entertained that abundant misconception will go forth: they may, perhaps, exercise a temporary influence upon the public mind, but it can be but ephemeral. The official papers already published at home, have indeed placed the occasion of the war beyond cavil; and those who so loudly announce interminable delay and ultimate disappointment, are little aware how prompt a falsification menaces their predictions.

The spirit of the court of Ava, which made war with that court inevitable, has already been dwelt upon in our columns, and exhibited in its real colours, upon grounds of the most authentic character. For these, we may be permitted to observe, we have not been indebted to our official pretensions exclusively, and that particularly in the communications signed "Kosmopolites," we have been the means of submitting to the public, evidence in which we do not fear to demand their implicit confidence; evidence which it would disgrace to place in competition with the nameless correspondence to which, in the proceedings at the India-House, and even in Parliament, allusion has been so frequently and so fearlessly made.

To proceed farther with any inquiry of this nature, therefore, might seem a very unnecessary claim upon the attention of our readers; but as the return of tranquillity has necessarily extended our intercourse with the Burmese, and has, consequently, enlarged our range of inquiry, as well as improved its character, we have been en-

abled to gather much additional information on a variety of topics connected with the war, which confirm the accuracy of the views we have hitherto taken of it, and which, as further tending to establish the real merits of the case, we shall lay before our readers at favourable opportunities, until our materials are exhausted.

We have all along maintained that war was inevitable; that the Burmese were determined to fight, and any compromise of our public character, any degradation to which the extreme of endurance could have stooped, could have deferred it but for a brief period. Accordingly we learn from various sources that such was the case, and that this ardour for action was inspired by the certainty of victory. The English were regarded as pusillanimous foes, with whom to contend was conquest: the general impression in the minds of prince and people was, that we were patient because we were afraid; the common language at court, and it was heard from the lips of the very first persons, such as the King's eldest sister, the Prince of Sarawadi, and others, was, "the English have conquered the Hindus, who have puny frames and no courage, but they have never yet fought with the Burmans, skilled in the use of the sword and spear: they are evidently afraid to encounter us—they always propose to treat when any disputes occur upon the frontier; and we have only to go to war with them to drive them to the remote island whence they have come." As far back as 1822 it was predicted, and generally believed, that the heir apparent, then a child about 11 years of age, should, when he arrived at manhood, rule over the Kulas countries, or those inhabited by people having caste, or in other words, British India—the Burmans distinguishing the Hindus and Europeans as black and white Kula. All who have ever resided in the country have expressed their conviction that, from the highest to the lowest, from the king to the beggar, the Burmans were hot for the war, confiding in an easy conquest, and certain of ample booty. The English, it was commonly said, were traders and navigators—they might be strong at sea, but were helpless on shore, and so unfit were they for military enterprise, that they were obliged to hire the effeminate natives of India to fight their battles for them.

With this mean estimate of our valour was combined a strong jealousy of our dominion. When a map of India, with the Burman territory and the Eastern Peninsula, was submitted to the king in 1819; he observed that the country of the

the strangers was of disproportionate extent and much too large. It was on this occasion that the invasion of Assam was resolved on. Upon the return of the Bandula from the conquest of that country, in 1823, various articles of plunder were laid before the king, at a public levee, amongst which were two English dogs; and the Bandula is said to have told the king, that having pursued the fugitives into the English territory, and made many prisoners, he was only induced to retire by the consideration that the two states were on terms of amity, but if the king wished to possess Bengal he would undertake to subdue it with the foreigners subject to Ava, without requiring a single Burman soldier. This brave, but mistaken chief, was mainly instrumental to the immediate occurrence of the war, as he never ceased to importune his master to allow him to conquer Bengal; and, on one occasion, ordered preparations to be made for equipping a fleet, with which he was to capture Chittagong, and thence sail up the Hooghly to Calcutta. Nor was the Bandula the only adviser of his master in these ill-guided councils; the courtiers generally echoed his opinion, and the persons nearest the crown were strongly impressed with similar sentiments.

It is also undeniable, that the court of Ava seriously considered the British government as usurping some of its just rights, and appropriating territory which belonged to Ava. It was not an unmeaning vaunt that demanded the lower part of Bengal from the Marquis of Hastings, but the deliberate repetition of a claim familiar to the every-day remarks of courtiers and people. The kingdom of Arracan, it was urged, formerly extended to the left bank of the Bhagirathi, including Dacca and Moorshedabad; and as Arracan had become a province of the Burman empire, those places also were of right a part of its dominions; it was incompatible with the dignity of Ava to suffer their longer alienation, and a favourable opportunity alone was wanting to effect their recovery.

Neither can any doubt be entertained that the court of Ava was fully persuaded, that in any attack upon British India, it would be immediately assisted by the native powers, and great pains were taken by its officers and by interested advisers to strengthen this impression. Intercepted letters from some of the party with the Raj Gooroo, whose presence at Lucknow was a consequence of this policy, were intended to confirm the king in this notion, without much regard for the truth. Bolder measures of imposture were had recourse to, and persons calling themselves emissaries from the native princes were found to turn the credulity of the court of Ava in this respect to account. Some short time before the war several Sikhs arrived at

Ava who pretended they had come from Runjeet Singh, but had unfortunately lost their credentials in crossing a river. They were civilly treated, and sent back with a letter and a sum of money to each individual. The court was not quite satisfied of these *sai-diant* ambassadors, but their success inspired imitators, and they were presently succeeded by several Mohammedans, who assumed the persons of envoys from the king of Oude. They were less fortunate or less dexterous than their predecessors, for upon being subjected to a little cross-questioning, the imposition was so flagrant, that they were thrown into prison and punished as cheats.

As if these causes were not more than sufficient to explain the determination of the court of Ava to go to war, we have another, in the affront offered to its pride by our regard for the claims of humanity, in the protection given to the helpless fugitives from invasion and cruelty. This grievance commenced in 1814, when the followers of Kinbering fled into the jurisdiction of Chittagong, and it was more recently exasperated by the asylum afforded to the emigrants from Assam and Casay. It is impossible to question the existence of this feeling, as it was manifested unequivocally in all public intercourse with the Burman authorities; and just before the war broke out it was the current report that the Bandula was about to march to reclaim the fugitives, or seize them by force, even though they should be secreted in the heart of Calcutta.

That this was not a mere vulgar report, we know from different authorities. At the end of 1823, levies of troops were made in all directions. Three bodies of troops moved from the capital: one under the Bandula, one under Saya Woonghee, and a third under Moun Kyayo. The Bandula proceeding on the *first of January* 1824, to Sembewghewn, where his main force was assembled; he thence marched to Arracan, with orders to enter the British territory, and capture Calcutta, unless the fugitives were given up, and the country on the east bank of the Bhagirathi was ceded to the Burmans. Had the British declaration of war, therefore, been delayed, it would have been of no avail, as the fiat of hostile aggression had actually gone forth.

The result of the affair at Ramoo served, of course, only to confirm the court of Ava in the impressions which they had so long entertained, and these were not in the least impaired by our occupation of Rangoon. They considered it as a mere marauding incursion, and were equally surprised and delighted when they found that, instead of plundering and destroying the town, and then re-embarking, the British forces remained—the English, it

was

was asserted, had fallen into a snare laid by themselves—they were caught in a net which their own hands had wove: all was alacrity to move against them, and the only apprehension admitted was, that they would discover their mistake, and decamp before the Burman troops could reach Rangoon. The king himself is reported to have said, that he hoped the Kulas would not run away before the arrival of his army, as their fire-arms would be of great service towards the conquest of Siam. When the Bandula was at Donabew, on his way to join the army, he gave out that in eight days he would take his dinner in the public hall at Rangoon, and afterwards return thanks at the Shoodagon Pagoda.

The protracted operations before Rangoon were insufficient to open the eyes of the government, and the delay was ascribed to the dilatory measures of the Kiwoongee; he was, accordingly, displaced, and Thongba-Woongee, a brave but rash officer, sent to supersede him: the attack upon the stockade in which he commanded, by a small body of Europeans, under Colonel McCreagh and Major Sale—the capture of the stockade, and the flight and death of the chief, first led the court to suspect they had underrated the prowess of their opponents; the next circumstance that tended to effect a revolution in their sentiments was the defeat of the Bandula, in his lines before Rangoon, and his flight: a general panic now took place at court, and it was expected that the Europeans would immediately be at Ava. The check we sustained at Donabew allayed the alarm, in some degree: but the Burmese no longer felt sanguine of success, and confidence gave place to anxiety and apprehension. In all their subsequent operations the government, and the king especially, anticipated failure, and they would gladly have negotiated had they comprehended the nature of such a termination of hostilities; but it never occurred to them that the victorious party would rest satisfied with less than the absolute subjugation of the country, and they were exceedingly at a loss to understand the proposal to treat, which was made by Sir A. Campbell, from Prome. The only certain conclusion was, that, if not a trick, it was an act of necessity, imposed by the

sickness of the troops, by disturbances in Upper Hindustan, or by the King of England's disapproving of the war; the prevailing opinion, however, was, that the King of Cochin China had sent a fleet of fifty ships to the aid of Burma, and a boat was actually dispatched from Ava to communicate with the Admiral.

The continued advance of the British forces filled the court with despair, and they anticipated, as an inevitable result, the entire occupation of the country. The policy, as well as moral beauty, of public faith, are unknown in the Burman code; and their reluctance to accede to our terms chiefly arose from their conviction that we had no intention of adhering to them ourselves. The instance of a regard for verbal pledge, which occurred in the case of Dr. Sandford's return, held out some encouragement: but the payment of the stipulated contribution was a desperate experiment, and the majority of the court were positive that the English would take the money and still march on to the capital. The restoration of the six lacs, by Sir A. Campbell, was a circumstance that subverted all their ideas of policy, and our strict adherence to the stipulations of the treaty, a matter of as much surprise as delight.

That the war had become unpopular with the nation at large need excite little wonder; the Burmese sank from one extreme to the other, and from holding the British in contempt, became afraid to encounter them. Towards the close of the contest no soldiers were to be procured, except from the lowest vagabonds of the capital, who having received the bounty, 100 to 150 tikals, expended it in smart clothes, ganja, and opium; but when led into the field took to their heels the moment the Europeans advanced against them. Although very unusual for the court of Ava to give any public intimation of its purposes, a royal edict was published on several occasions at Ava, announcing the king's intention of taking the field against the "rebel strangers," at the head of 100,000 Burmans, and the same number of Shans. There was no doubt that the King never entertained any such design, and the object of the proclamation was to encourage the chiefs and people to offer their services for the war.

THE BOMBAY PRESS.

REFUSAL OF THE JUDGES AT BOMBAY TO REGISTER THE REGULATION FOR THE PRESS.

The following intelligence, which appears in a London evening paper, did not reach us in time to be inserted in its proper place: it is, however, too important to be delayed till next month.

SUPREME COURT, BOMBAY, July 10, 1826.

The rule, ordinance, and regulation, passed by the Hon. the Governor in Council of Bombay, 14th June 1826, prohibiting the printing or publishing of any newspaper, magazine, or other periodical work containing public news, or strictures on the acts and proceedings of government, or any particular events or transactions whatsoever, without a license from Government, came before the court to be registered, as required by law. The judges delivered their judgments, *seriatim*, as follows:

The Chief Justice (Sir Edward West).—Before I consider the proposed regulation, I shall state what I conceive to be the duty of the court on these occasions where regulations are passed by the local Government, and by them transmitted to the court for registration under the statute.

By the 19th Geo. III., c. 63, sec. 36, it is enacted, "That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor-General and Council of the said United Company's settlement at Fort William in Bengal, from time to time, to make and issue such rules, ordinances, and regulations, for the good order and civil government of the said United Company's settlement at Fort William aforesaid, and other factories and places subordinate, or to be subordinate thereto, as shall be deemed just and reasonable (such rules, ordinances, and regulations not being repugnant to the laws of the realm), and to act, impose, inflict, and levy reasonable fines and forfeitures for the breach or non-observance of such rules, ordinances, and regulations; but, nevertheless, the same, or any of them, shall not be valid, or of any force or effect, until the same shall be duly registered and published in the said Supreme Court of Judicature, which shall be, by the said new charter, established, with the consent and approbation of the said court, which registry shall not be made until the expiration of twenty days after the same shall be openly published, and a copy thereof affixed in some conspicuous part of the court-house, or place where the said Supreme Court shall be held: and from and immediately after such registry as aforesaid, the same shall be good and valid in law."

This provision is extended to the settlement of Bombay by the 47 Geo. III. sess. 2, c. 63, sec. 1.

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It is to be observed, that this provision requires, in the first place, that such regulations are not to be repugnant to the laws of the realm; and 2d. that they shall not be valid, or of any force or effect, until the same shall be duly registered and published in the Supreme Court, with the consent and approbation of the said court.

Upon this provision various constructions have been put. First, it has been stated, on the authority of a late learned judge of the Supreme Court of Madras, who presided in the Recorder's Court here for a short period, Sir George Cooper, "that the court, except in cases where some gross and glaring infringement of the liberty of the subject is apparent on the face of the rule, have nothing to do with the legality of it, but that the government is to decide on the fitness, justice, and reasonableness of it, and that it is for them to see and take care that it is not repugnant to the laws of the realm."

This supposed judgment of the learned judge was published in the Government papers of the 12th April 1823, and is as follows:—"The power of framing rules, ordinances, and regulations, is placed in the Governor-General and Governors in Council respectively at each presidency. They, the governors aforesaid, are to decide on the fitness, justice, and reasonableness of the same, and it is for them to see and take care that such rules, ordinances, and regulations, are not repugnant to the laws of the realm. That the terms, consent and approbation, referred to publication and registry only, and were used because it would be too much to suppose that any thing could be hung up and registered in that court without its permission. That such publication and registry did not give them any additional weight in point of law, for if the Government made regulations which were repugnant to the laws of the realm, it was perfectly competent to that court to decide against their legality in any issue there depending; in fact, that the publication and registry in the Court of Recorder was nothing more than a declaration of the court's knowledge of their existence, but did not prevent its affording relief when called upon to do so afterwards, should the circumstances of the case seem to warrant an interference. That the court had, no doubt, the power of refusing to publish and register, but that it would only do so when some gross and glaring infringement of the liberty of the subject, arbitrary imprisonment, for instance, or something immoral, was apparent on the face of the rule sent for registry."

In the first place, were such the true construction of the clause, what is the meaning

meaning of the term approbation? In the next place, the learned judge is made to say, "that such publication and registry did not give the regulations any additional weight in point of law; for if the government made regulations which were repugnant to the laws of the realm, it was perfectly competent to the court to decide against the legality in any issue there depending." But what says the statute itself? "that the same shall not be valid, or of any force or effect, until they shall be registered; and that from and immediately after such registry as aforesaid, the same shall be good and valid in law." Besides, could any thing be more mischievous than that regulations should be passed and registered which the officers of the government and others are to enforce, and which, were an action to be brought against them for such enforcement, might be declared to be illegal, and, consequently, no justification to them? It is clear that the proper construction of the act is, that the court is to take care, in the first instance, before the rules are registered, that they are not repugnant to the laws of the realm, and that, as soon as registered, they shall be good and valid in law, unless disallowed by his Majesty as provided by the act.

2d. It may be, and indeed has been said, that under this provision of the legislature the court has only a judicial, but not a legislative power—that it is to consider the legality, but not the expediency, of regulations proposed by the government.

In the first place, however, such construction is opposed to the words of the statute, "that the regulations shall not be valid till they shall be duly registered with the consent and approbation of the court;" the word "approbation" is unrestricted and unqualified, and I do not understand how we can restrict and qualify the term by construing it to mean approbation merely in point of law. Had the legislature intended this, how easy would it have been to have said such regulations not to be registered by the court in case they shall consider them to be repugnant to the laws of the realm. In the next place, in all the proceedings upon the appeal of Mr. Buckingham to the King in council, against the regulation passed at Calcutta, it is taken for granted that the court are bound to consider, and did actually consider its expediency. Thus a part of the second reason advanced by the Court of Directors of the East-India Company in support of the regulation is as follows:—"That the restrictions imposed by the rule, ordinance, and regulation, which is the subject of appeal, were called for by the state of affairs in the settlements of Bengal, and were adapted to the exigency of the case; and that they were not injurious to his Majesty's subjects in the said

settlement, is to be inferred from the concurrent judgment of the Supreme Government of the East-India Company, and of the Supreme Court of his Majesty." The Court of Directors therefore assume, that the Supreme Court did exercise their judgment upon the expediency and necessity of the regulation, and did consider that it was called for by the state of affairs and the exigency of the case. Mr. Sergeant Bosanquet also, in his argument as counsel for the Court of Directors, takes it for granted that the Court did exercise such judgment. "It is," says he, "for your lordships' wisdom to determine whether in this case your lordships do or do not agree in thinking that necessary and expedient which the local government has found to be necessary, which the court established by his Majesty for protecting the rights of his subjects, and which is not the Court of the East-India Company, has thought expedient, and has adopted and registered in these regulations?"

Nor did the counsel on the opposite side, who impugned the regulation, ever contend that the court had no right to exercise a judgment as to its expediency; to them, insisting, as they did, that the preamble to the regulation which recited the existing evils had not been proved, it would have been a strong argument that the Supreme Court had exercised no judgment upon that point. They, however, did not touch upon such argument, and evidently because it was untenable.

In many cases, too, it is impossible to separate the question of legality from that of expediency. In many cases, expediency may make that not repugnant to the laws of the realm which, without such expediency, would clearly be so repugnant: I would instance the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. Would any one contend that such suspension would not be most unconstitutional, and, in that sense of the term, most repugnant to the laws of the realm, if passed under circumstances which did not render it expedient, or rather necessary? Would, on the other hand, any one contend that it were repugnant to the law, in case of such expediency or necessity? The same observations may be made with respect to the many acts of parliament which the legislature has pronounced to be rendered necessary by the disturbed state of Ireland. All of them would be unconstitutional, and, in that sense, repugnant to the laws of the realm, unless rendered necessary by the state of the country. Indeed, it may be said, that every law, every restriction of the liberty, or the will of an individual, is repugnant to law, unless it be called for by necessity or expediency; but there is this distinction, that many laws are evidently expedient upon the *faces* of them, and from the known principles and

and propensities of human nature, and require no specific proof that they are so; others may not appear to be expedient upon the face of them, and from the known principles and propensities of human nature, but may be shown to be so by evidence of particular facts and circumstances.

It is clear, therefore, that the court have a right, or rather are bound, to consider the expediency of proposed regulations; that the court has, by the statute, legislative, and not simply judicial functions to perform, and that even if it were not so, if the court were bound to exercise a power simply judicial, in many cases the legality depends so entirely upon the expediency, that the court could not divest itself of the duty of considering it.

I shall now proceed to consider the regulation in question.

It must be premised, however, that the press at this presidency is at present placed on precisely the same footing as in England. In March 1825, a regulation was passed by the Governor in Council (upon a suggestion from the court, made the preceding September, of its necessity, on account of the continued misrepresentations of the court's proceedings by one of the newspapers), which was merely a copy of the acts 37 and 38 George III, and the object of which was to afford to the public, and those who might be grieved by anonymous libellers, the means of discovering the proprietors, editors, and printers of newspapers, and other publications.

The purport of the present regulation, which is the same as that passed at Calcutta, is to prohibit the publication of any newspaper, or other periodical work, by any person not licensed by the Governor and Council, and to make such license revocable at the pleasure of the Governor and Council. It is quite clear, on the mere enunciation, that this regulation imposes a restriction upon the liberty of the subject, which nothing but circumstances and the state of society can justify. The British legislature has gone to a great extent at different times, both in England and Ireland, in prohibiting what is lawful in itself, lest it should be used for unlawful purposes, but never without its appearing to the satisfaction of the legislature that it was rendered necessary by the state of the country.

It is on this ground of expediency and necessity, on account of the abuses (as stated) of the press at Calcutta, from the state of affairs there, and from the exigency of the case, that the Calcutta regulation is maintained by its very preamble; by three of the four persons of the Court of Directors, upon the appeal; and by the whole of the argument of counsel upon the hearing of it.

Thus the preamble to the Calcutta regulation is—"Whereas matters tending to bring the Government of this country, as by law established, into hatred and contempt, and to disturb the peace, harmony, and good order of society, have of late been frequently printed and circulated in newspapers, and other papers published in Calcutta, for the prevention whereof, it is deemed expedient to regulate by law, the printing and publication, within the settlement of Fort William, in Bengal, of newspapers and of all magazines, registers, pamphlets, and other printed books and papers, in any language or character, published periodically, containing or purporting to contain public news, and intelligence or strictures on the acts, measures, and proceedings of Government, or any political events or transactions whatsoever."

The reasons of the East-India Company embrace the same facts and the consequent expediency and necessity of the regulation.

The first reason commences:—"Because the said rule, ordinance, and regulation was made by competent authority, and was rendered necessary by the abuses to which the unrestrained liberty of printing had given rise in Calcutta. The preamble of the said rule, ordinance, and regulation, states, that matters tending to bring the Government of Bengal, as by law established, into hatred and contempt, and to disturb the peace, harmony, and good order of society, had recently, before the making thereof, been printed and circulated in newspapers, and other papers published in Calcutta."

Again, in the second reason:—"That the restrictions imposed by the rule, ordinance, and regulation, which is the subject of appeal, were called for by the state of affairs in the settlement of Bengal, and were adapted to the exigency of the case."

Again, in the fourth reason:—"The reasonableness of ordinances must depend upon the circumstances and situation of the country to which they applied."

I need not go through the addresses of counsel to show that the whole of their arguments in favour of this regulation are founded upon the fact, as stated in the preamble, of their expediency and necessity from the local circumstances and the exigency of the state of affairs at Calcutta, and I respectfully presume that his Majesty in Council approved of the regulation for the same reasons, no others having been urged, and, in particular, upon the ground that the preamble of the regulation reciting such exigency was not traversable or questionable.

But what is the preamble to the regulation which is now proposed to be registered in the Supreme Court at Bombay? Is there any recital of matters "tending to

bring the Government of this country, as by law established, into hatred and contempt, having been printed and circulated in newspapers and other papers published in Bombay?" Nothing of the kind—the preamble merely recites, that a certain regulation had been passed in Calcutta for the prevention of the publication of such matters. Is it the fact that such matters have been published in the Bombay papers? Can a single passage, or a single word, "tending to bring the Government of Bombay into hatred and contempt;" can a single stricture, or comment, or word, respecting any of the measures of Government, be pointed out in any Bombay paper?

How, then, without such necessity, as is stated in the preamble to the Calcutta regulation, can it be expected that, even were the Supreme Court to consent to register it, and an appeal were preferred, it would be confirmed by his Majesty in Council?—Where would be the reasons of the Court of Directors in favour of it?—where would be the arguments of counsel in support of it?

Suppose an act of parliament passed to suspend the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland, on account of treasonable practices in that country; in such case, evidence of such practices would be laid before committees of the two Houses of Parliament before the Act was passed, and the Act would also recite them, as the Calcutta regulation recites the evils which it was intended to remedy. But would the fact of such act having been passed for Ireland justify a motion to extend it also to England, without any evidence of any such treasonable practices, nay, when it was well known that there were no such, or any circumstances to call for it, and with a mere recital of the Habeas Corpus Act having been suspended in Ireland, as the present proposed regulation merely recites, that the same regulation had been passed at Calcutta?

I am of opinion that this proposed regulation should not be registered.

Mr. Justice Rice.—I have read the case of the press of India before the King in Council; but still I think the clause as to the change in the proposed rule is repugnant to the law of England, and that policy did not, and does not require it. It is argued, I think, too much as if the natives had been at all affected by the licentiousness of the press; the mischief in Calcutta was wholly, I think, confined to the English, and would, I am persuaded, have remedied itself.

Considering, as I do, that the liberties of England are part of the law of the land, and that they depend on the freedom of the press, I cannot conceive how a license, which is to stop its mouth and

stifle its voice, can be consistent with, and not repugnant to, the law of England.

Though I entertain this opinion, I shall not object to the registry, because, as regards the repugnancy, I defer to the appellate authority, as I should on any point of law which they had decided contrary to my judgment; and with regard to the policy and the expediency, I do not think the Legislature intended to leave them so much to the consideration of the court as to the Government; which ought to be the better judge of such subjects, and which must now be presumed to have formed a proper judgment. It is not desirable that the judicial should ever be mixed with the executive, or combined with the legislative; and Parliament having legislated so much for British India, it is a pity, I think, that a question of such vital importance, with analogy to England, should not have emanated in, and had the sanction of Parliament.

I feel further justified in acquiescing in the registry (now that I have stated publicly my opinion), because the decision of the council must be known to Parliament, and if Parliament should object, it was easy to propose a bill to limit and more accurately define the local authority; and when one considers of whom the Privy Council consists, and who were the advocates for Mr. Buckingham, men all eminent in Parliament as well as the profession, one cannot avoid feeling, that ulterior measures would have been adopted in England, if the opinion which I unsharply entertain, as to the repugnancy and the necessity of this rule, had been current and general.

Mr. Justice Chambers.—In order to explain clearly the grounds of my opinion on the present occasion, I think it necessary to advert in a cursory way to the circumstances under which this regulation is presented to us. In consequence of the recent decision of the Privy-Council against Mr. Buckingham's appeal, it has, I believe, been recommended by the Court of Directors to the local governments of Bombay and Madras, to propose that the Bengal regulation regarding the press should, *totidem verbis*, be registered, and become a part of the local law of each of these presidencies; and the Government of Bombay so far acquiesces in the views of the Court of Directors, as to propose it for our registration, according to their recommendation. It appears to have been thought, that the decision in that particular case is tantamount to a legislative declaration, that the same, or similar regulations, are so consonant with the general policy of the Indian Government, that they need but to be proposed in order to be adopted. If, indeed, that decision bore in any way directly upon the general question of the expediency of such regulations,

lations, there is no man in the situation of a Judge, who would not feel great diffidence for such authority. But unless it could be shown that such a decision bound us with the force of an act of parliament, even then, I conceive, a Judge would, on the present occasion, feel it to be his duty to consider *de novo* the general principles, and exercise most conscientiously the discretion the legislature had vested in him. But when grounds may readily be suggested for that decision, wide of the principle upon which we are called upon, prospectively, to consider the expediency of the present regulation, I am at a loss to imagine what necessary and immediate connection there is between the decision of the Privy Council and the proposal of it for our adoption. The decision of the Privy Council, stripped as it is of all the grounds upon which it was formed, presents to my mind merely a confirmation, retrospectively, of a solemn act of the Supreme Government in Bengal, in conjunction with the Supreme Court, upon a subject-matter expressly within their authority, under circumstances which, if true, might justify that act, and of the truth of which circumstances they alone were the competent judges. What bearing, or what material influence can such a decision have on our minds, who are called upon at another place, under totally different circumstances, to consider, prospectively, the expediency of introducing the same regulation, not as a remedy for any existing or imminent evil, but as a general and permanent act of legislation? The preamble, it may be said, was not proved, nor required to be proved, to be true before the council; but that, I conceive, could no more be done than the Court of King's Bench could require the proof of any special finding of a jury on a special case brought before them; and it does not therefore follow, that the preamble is mere waste paper, and unnecessary to form a ground-work for such restrictive regulations.

All such regulations being confessedly restrictive of natural liberty, to a much greater extent than it has ever been thought necessary to carry matters in our own country (I mean in the best time, or in the way of permanent enactment), whatever distinctions may be made by the terms *contra legem* and *præter legem* to common understandings, they are as much opposed to the ordinary notions of English law as light is to darkness; and necessity alone, and that of a very obvious and permanent kind, can justify, in my judgment, their registration. In all such cases of imperfect definition of legal rights, it is impossible not to see that the situation of the different places may require different legislative enactments, and what may be necessary at one place, may be perfectly

superfluous in another. In the same way, even in the same place, it may be premature to introduce strong measures at one time, which, at a riper period of society, may be deemed highly beneficial. There is no subject, indeed, the consideration of which is acknowledged to require a sounder discretion, with reference to local circumstances, or in which local circumstances have so direct an operation in determining the legality or illegality of particular measures. In every separate jurisdiction, therefore, it must be matter purely of discretion how far and when it is expedient to introduce restrictive regulations of this nature.

Without, therefore, considering very minutely the particular tendency of the regulation proposed, although I have no hesitation in saying, that if registered, its general tendency would, in my opinion, be most prejudicial to the independence and good spirit of the community; with respect to the necessity of introducing any such regulation at all at the present moment, I conceive there cannot be two opinions. In a time of perfect tranquillity—with a small community of Europeans, and a native population subservient even to servility—the only effect would be imposing new shackles to restrain no evil, and, by leading to by-paths of favour and influence, to create, perhaps, a greater practical evil than any it can ever obviate. Indeed, nothing can exhibit in a stronger light the difference of circumstances in which this presidency is placed, than the total omission of the preamble of the Bengal regulation in that now presented to the Court for registration; a preamble, the conviction of the truth of which would alone induce me to countenance any such measure. Nothing more is necessary to show how perfectly inapplicable the state of things here is to such restrictive measures, than the perusal of that preamble; not one word of which has, or is likely to have, I trust, for a long period of time, any force as applied to this presidency. The disposition and character of the people is not the greatest difference of circumstances to be attended to; the weighty and important difference between the situation of the two places consists in the enactment in this presidency of an intermediate set of regulations, in conformity with the well-known act of the 37th Geo. III, which were registered in the course of the last year, by which, in my humble judgment, every rational object of government is strained, consistently with perfect liberty, both social and particular. When it shall be shown by experience, that this Court, administering a law which has been found completely effectual in England to restrain licentiousness, and, during a period of thirty years, has operated on society with the most beneficial effect,

effect, and has found no revilers even amongst those whom it has brought to justice, shall be found not sufficient to ensure peace and order in society, and stability to the government, it will be then time enough to listen to suggestions which I consider so objectionable in principle as this regulation.

It seems to have been argued that the only question for the judges to consider is, whether the regulations proposed are or are not repugnant to the existing mode of governing British India? It is true, that in this mode of arguing, scarcely any regulations would be inconsistent with law, which fell short of unlimited and arbitrary power. But upon the principle which I have before stated, namely, that legality or illegality, as applied to such a subject, depends entirely upon the apparent necessity of the case; I conceive that the full legislative discretion, which the Parliament of Great-Britain exercises in all cases affecting the liberty of the subject, is intended to be delegated to the judges of this court, in conjunction with the Government, in registering and making local regulations, restrictive of the usual and ordinary rights of individuals. In the exercise of such a discretion, I am of opinion, that ten thousand deviations from the law of England, in particular cases, would form no argument for adding one more to the catalogue, nor would the circumstance of so many previous anomalies make one fresh one consistent with it.

Another argument which has had some influence with me. The effect of the actual state of things has been forcibly represented with regard to British subjects residing in India, with or without license; the principles of government of the British and native population without the limits of the seat of Government are also stated; and then it is asked, whether the small portion of the native population residing in Calcutta, or the other presidencies, were intended to be governed in a different manner? To which I answer, that by the establishment of the Supreme Courts at the presidencies, I conceive that it was the in-

tention of the Legislature that both British and native inhabitants, within the ordinary limits of the presidencies and the jurisdiction of these courts, should enjoy the full benefit of English law, and consequently should be governed in a different manner from those in the provinces. It may be said that the power of sending British subjects home extends to those residing in the presidencies as well as to others; but it must be remarked, that this power, as it has been exercised over the press, has probably never been in the contemplation of the Legislature at all. It is a consequence of the discretionary power vested in the Government for general purposes, and the particular acts of the Government regarding the press have been confirmed by the courts of law; because it would be difficult for any mind to form a distinction between this and other cases in which individuals became obnoxious to the Government. But whether this, or any other government, under existing circumstances, would deem it expedient to frame any regulation relating to British subjects, restrictive of the press (nakedly considered) is another question, and which is deserving very serious consideration. Both in Bengal and elsewhere, it has been thrown out, that nothing short of the present proposed regulation would be effectual to restrain even British subjects from writing inflammatory publications. Because, if the editor and proprietors were all Asiatics, and could be indemnified from the consequences of prosecution, British subjects might, under their names, write and publish things offensive to the ruling power. Whenever the period shall come when such a state of things is possible, and when all legal modes of repressing the evil shall have been tried in vain, it will be time enough to attach some weight to any argument which may be derived from such a source. Till that time arrives, I am of opinion that the proposed regulation is not expedient, and I decline giving my voice in favour of its being registered.

Judgment of the court—Regulation disallowed.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

LAW.

ADMIRALTY COURT, Nov. 29, 1826.

The Minstrel.—This was originally a suit for wages, brought by a mariner named Allick, against the owner of the ship, for a voyage from London to New South Wales, thence to Batavia and back, and thence to London. In the ship's articles was inserted a clause, which stipu-

lated that no mariner should be entitled to his discharge, until the vessel returned to the port of London, and was safely moored there; and that no mariner should be entitled to his wages until the cargo was discharged, or within twenty days after the vessel's return. Allick, however, quitted the vessel the day after her return to London, and on the tenth day arrested the ship for his wages; which the owner, being

being dissatisfied with his conduct on the voyage, refused to pay before the period stipulated in the articles. The cargo was not wholly discharged till the nineteenth day after the ship's arrival, when the balance of wages was tendered to Allick's proctor, who accepted it, reserving the question of costs, which now came on for argument.

Dr. Lushington, on behalf of the owner, contended that, agreeably to the contract, the mariner was not entitled to his wages before the period when they were actually paid to him, and therefore prayed the Court to condemn the mariner in costs.

Dr. Jenner, on the part of the mariner, argued that the conditions of the articles were unreasonable, inasmuch as they gave to the owner the power of carrying the seamen with the vessel to all parts of the globe, making an hour's absence from the ship a ground of forfeiture of wages. He contended that the mariner could not have understood the extent of his contract, and as the other seamen had received their wages, it was natural for his party to conceive himself equally entitled to his.

The Court was of opinion that, under all the circumstances of the case, the mariner was justified in the line of conduct he had adopted, and condemned the owner in costs.

Dec. 18.

The Lady Campbell.—This was an action brought by William Augustus Barton, purser of the *Lady Campbell*, against the owner of that ship for wages, at a rate contracted for by Capt. Betham, for a voyage from Calcutta to London. The services were admitted, as well as the amount of wages claimed; but it appears that Mrs. Barton had been conveyed to England as a passenger on board the ship, at a sum stipulated for, which had not been paid; and the owners claimed to set off this sum against that claimed, which was about the same amount.

Dr. Lushington contended that it was contrary to the first principles of justice, and to the practice of every other court, to debar the owners from setting off one sum against the other. It was also the practice of this Court to allow deductions for slops and advances. If the mariner gained his point in this Court, the owners would be driven to the Court of Chancery in order to recover their claim.

Dr. Jenner, for the mariner, maintained that the Court had no jurisdiction over contracts respecting claims for passage-money. The present claim might be established, he conceived, in a court of law.

Lord Stowell. This Court cannot entertain the question. It has no jurisdiction. There is no instance in which the jurisdiction of this Court, in regard to

wages, has been extended to claims of another kind. Its jurisdiction must stand on established principles. If an easy remedy in such a case as this was not to be found, it arose from the general state of the law in this country.

Wages pronounced for, with costs.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, Jan. 19, 1827.

Calvin and Others, v. Newbury.—This was an action by the plaintiffs to recover from the defendant, one of the owners of the ship *Benson*, the value of 1651 bags of sugar and twelve chests of indigo, which had, in the month of March 1817, been shipped at Calcutta, to be conveyed to London on board that ship.

It appeared that originally 2171 bags of sugar and 231 chests of indigo had been shipped in the *Benson* to be conveyed to England. In consequence of the captain having taken on board a considerable quantity of wheat, which had fermented, the vessel became so disabled that at the Mauritius she was sold and broken up: 500 bags of the sugar, and 179 chests of the indigo, had been transhipped in the *Cadmus* and *Elizabeth*, and delivered in London; it was therefore the value of the residue of the original shipment that the plaintiffs now sought to recover. For the defendant it was contended, that having chartered the ship to the commander, Captain Betham—a fact that the plaintiffs were aware of—he was discharged from all liability, and Captain Betham was alone answerable for any breach of contract between him and the plaintiffs. Several witnesses were then called to prove the state of the vessel on her departure from England, and during her passage home; and the charter-party between the defendant and Captain Betham having been put in and read,

It was agreed by the counsel on both sides, that a verdict should be taken for the defendant, subject to the opinion of the Court on the following case: that the goods in question had been shipped on board the *Benson* at Calcutta, but had not been delivered in London pursuant to the bills of lading; but the delivery thereof was not prevented by any accident therein named; that a contract had been entered into between the defendant and the captain, of which the plaintiffs had notice at the time of the shipment; and if the Court shall be of opinion, that by reason of that contract, and the notice thereof which the plaintiff had received, the defendant was not by law liable for the non-delivery of the goods, then the verdict to stand; but, if the Court should be of opinion that the contract and knowledge thereof by the plaintiff did not in law release the defendant from his liability, then the verdict to be for the plaintiff, with

with such damages as on reference he should be found entitled to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.

The Annual General Meeting of this Company was held Friday, Jan. 26, at their office, King's Arms-yard.—John Smith, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

In stating the objects of the meeting, the governor observed, that it was assembled in compliance with the provisions of the act of parliament, rather than in consequence of the directors having any thing unusual to communicate. He had the satisfaction to inform the court, that the prosperity of the company had kept pace with every rational expectation, and that that prosperity was now rapidly advancing. He had further much pleasure in assuring the proprietors, that the strict inquiry which the court of directors had thought it their duty to institute into the character of Mr. Dawson, their agent, was such as proved highly creditable to that gentleman; and fully justified the directors in placing in him, as they did, the most unbounded confidence.

The annual report from the court of directors was then read. It recapitulated the substance of last year's report, and went on to say the communications received from Mr. Dawson were such as promised the speedy realization of the company's views. He had visited several places in New South Wales, with the purpose of selecting a tract of land of one million acres in extent, suitable to the objects of the company. It appeared that the stores, the cattle, and the servants, sent out by the company, had arrived in safety. The natives had manifested every amicable disposition towards the new settlers, and had given every assistance and facility to their location. The report then proceeded with several details respecting the description of cattle sent out, and the varieties of sheep transmitted, with a view to the production of the finest kinds of wool. It also noticed the late depreciation of the wages of labour, though disadvantageous in several respects, as likely to promote the objects of the company. Amongst a variety of other matter, the report contained a statement to shew that the expense of freight from New South Wales would not prove so considerable as the charges on importing wool from Germany, as had hitherto been so much the practice with respect to the finer kinds. The directors then went on to state the necessity for a further call of two pounds per share, and concluded by advertising to their project for working coal-mines in New South Wales. Negotiations had been entered into with Earl Bathurst, acting on the part of his

Majesty's government, for a lease of certain mines, which it was proposed the servants of the company should work. To a lease a legal objection arose, owing to the act of parliament under which the company had been formed; and, thereupon, the advice of the highest law authorities was, that the grounds in which the coal-mines were should be granted in fee to the company, and so avoid the legal difficulty. This mode of obtaining a title was carried into effect, and steam-engines, and all the other necessary apparatus, sent out.

It was then moved by Mr. Hart Davis, M.P., and agreed to, that the report be printed.

An abstract of the company's accounts, from its formation to the end of last year, was then read, whence it appeared that there had been originally 9,392 shares; that 608 additional shares were disposed of; that the second instalment amounted to £46,810, the third to £4,330, both of which, added to the first, made a total of £62,592. 5s. 7d., including office fees £581. 13s. 4d.; the sum expended on sheep was £20,899. 12s.; on horses, &c. &c., £1,702. 16s. 10d.; and on horned cattle £894.; that the total disbursements were £59,162. 1s. 6d. leaving a balance of £3,430. 4s. 1d.

In reference to the accounts the governor, Mr. Smith, observed that the office fees were sums usually charged in such companies, and that the money derived from them went to form a fund for the payment of salaries. He then observed, that Mr. Dawson had showed a becoming caution in not too hastily fixing upon a tract of land until he had full opportunity of estimating every material circumstance. It would, of course, be extremely desirable that the million of acres should all be together; but, on the other hand, considerable advantages might accrue from their lying in separate districts, for a rich alluvial soil would not be likely to produce fine wool. He concluded by saying, that there was nothing more with which the directors thought it necessary to trouble the proprietors.

Thanks were then voted to the governor and directors.

Mr. John Smith expressed his sense of the honour thus conferred on him and his brother directors. He assured the meeting that they would continue, as they had done, to labour most assiduously for the advantage of the company, even though, unlike some other companies, the directors had neither salary nor any pecuniary advantage connected with their office.

The meeting then separated after several proprietors had expressed their satisfaction with the management of the company's concerns, and their hopes from the promising condition of its affairs.

THE DUKE OF YORK.

Whitehall, Jan. 5, 1827.—This evening, at twenty minutes past nine o'clock, departed this life, after a painful and protracted illness, his Royal Highness Frederick, Duke of York and Albany, his Majesty's next brother, to the great grief of his Majesty and of all the royal family.—[*Land. Gaz.*]

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

Whitehall, Jan. 22, 1827.—The King has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the great seal, constituting and appointing Field Marshal Arthur Duke of Wellington Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's land forces, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.—[*ibid.*]

MR. LUSHINGTON.

Mr. Lushington, at present one of the secretaries of the Treasury, is appointed Governor of Madras, but will not take his departure for India until July next, when it is expected that he will take his passage thither on board the *Herald* yacht. It is expected that Mr. Platts, of the Foreign-office, will succeed Mr. Lushington at the Treasury.—[*Daily Paper.*]

SIR JOHN MALCOLM.

Sir John Malcolm is appointed Governor of Bombay; he proceeds upon some important mission to St. Petersburg and Persia, previously to his assuming the authority of governor.

PRINCIPAL MILL.

The University of Cambridge conferred, Dec. 22, the degree of D.D., by royal mandate, on Mr. Mill, principal of Bishop's College, Calcutta.

SCHOLARSHIPS AT BISHOP'S COLLEGE.

Two theological scholarships, to be designated "Bishop Eleber's Church Missionary Scholarships," are to be founded at Bishop's College, Calcutta, by the desire and at the expense of the Church Missionary Society.

BURMESE STAIR CARRIAGE.

This splendid specimen of eastern magnificence, which during the last season was exhibited at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, has been sold by auction for the sum of 1,000 guineas.

STORM ON THE DUTCH COAST.

Brussels papers mention the melancholy fact of the loss of the *Wassenaar*, Dutch *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. XXIII. No. 134.

man-of-war, of seventy-four guns, Capt. Spengler, with upwards of 1,000 troops on board, bound to Batavia, under Major Cox Van Spengler. The *Wassenaar* sailed from the Texel on the 12th Jan., and was stranded in the storm of the 13th, 14th, and 15th, off Egmond, on the coast of Holland.

The following particulars of the loss are given in a letter dated Haarlem, January 19:—

"After having suffered great damage, especially the falling of the main-mast, and in vain endeavoured to come to an anchor, all the cables having broken, the ship seems to have drifted at the mercy of the waves, and struck on the third bank, north of Egmond. The first shocks were so violent, that the hold was in an instant filled with water, and a number of persons, supposed to be about sixty or seventy, were drowned. When they approached the coast, and were in sight of the light-houses, they fired guns as signals of distress, and took measures to carry a rope on shore. They believe that a hog-head, to which a rope was fastened, did get on shore, but fell into wrong hands. Lieutenant Muntz made a fruitless attempt to get on shore with some men, and it is feared he perished. Some other persons got on shore in the barge and a couple of boats, but without being able to fix a rope from the ship to the shore. The safety-boat could not get through the breakers, but saved some men who had fallen overboard from the barge. During the whole of Tuesday the people on board hoped in vain that one of the fishing-boats, of which there were numbers at Egmond, would come out, and it was not till Tuesday night that an attempt was made by Mr. Krapp, Hellingman, receiver of taxes, with a pink belonging to M. Medebrink, and with his permission. He had the good fortune to reach the wreck, and to save as many persons as his vessel would hold.

"The governor of North Holland has taken every practicable means to maintain order, and to relieve those who are saved, and who are in the most deplorable condition. Several vessels were sent as soon as possible from the Texel, which in the course of Wednesday brought off the remainder of the people. The weather being favourable, the wreck has kept together longer than was expected, so that boats got to it yesterday, and succeeded, as we hear, in saving some goods. It is hoped, that the number of those who have lost their lives does not much exceed a hundred; that Lieutenant Muntz is the only naval officer who has perished; and that all the officers of the troops have got on shore."

A fine new ship, the *Schedt*, built at Antwerp, has been stranded, during the storm, on the shoal at Kaloot. It seems that it arrived at Flushing to take troops on board for Batavia, but was driven from its anchorage by the tempest of the 14th Jan., and carried as far as Terneuzen, where it stranded. The troops had not embarked.

HONORARY DISTINCTIONS TO OFFICERS.

Whitehall, Dec. 26, 1826.

His Majesty has been pleased to nominate and appoint Maj. Gen. Sir ARCH. CAMPBELL, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, to be a Knight Grand Cross of the said Most Honourable Military Order.

His Majesty has further been pleased to nominate and appoint Maj. Gen. THOMAS REYNELL, Maj. Gen. JASPER NICOLLS, and Maj. Gen. Sir SAMUEL F. WHITTINGHAM, Knt. (Quarter Master General), Companions of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, to be Knights Commanders of the said Order.

His Majesty has also been pleased to nominate and appoint the undermentioned officers, belonging to His Majesty's naval and military forces, to be Companions of the said Order :

Colonel John M'Combe, 14th Foot.

Colonel Willoughby Cotton, 47th Foot.

Lieut. Col. George M'Gregor, 59th Foot (Acting Adj. Gen.)

Lieut. Col. R. George Elrington, 47th Foot.

Lieut. Col. J. W. Mallett, 86th (late 89th) Foot.

Lieut. Col. William Smelt, 41st Foot.

Lieut. Col. Michael Childers, 11th Drags.

Lieut. Col. John Wm. O'Donaghue, 47th Foot.

Lieut. Col. Henry Godwin, 41st Foot.

Lieut. Col. Hon. John Finch, h. p. unattached.

Lieut. Col. Robert H. Sale, 13th Foot.

Capt. Henry Ducie Chads, Royal Navy.

Capt. Fred. Marryatt, Royal Navy.

Lieut. Col. William Frith, 38th Foot.

Lieut. Col. Francis Fuller, 59th Foot.

Lieut. Col. Mathias Everard, 14th Foot.

Lieut. Col. Cecil Bishopp, 14th Foot.

Major James L. Baaden, 89th Foot.

Major Peter L. Chambers, 41st Foot.

Major George Thornhill, 13th Foot.

Major William H. Dennie, 13th Foot.

Commander G. F. Ryves, Royal Navy.

His Majesty has been pleased to nominate and appoint the undermentioned officers, in the service of the East-India Company, to be Companions of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath :

Lieut. Col. R. Stevenson, 1st Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. Wm. Richards, Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. Jas. Brodie, 18th Madras N.I.

Lieut. Col. T. Whitehead, 41st N.I.

Lieut. Col. Alex. Fair, 10th Madras N.I.

Lieut. Col. Clements Browne, Bengal Artl.

Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow, 23d Madras N.I.

Lieut. Col. C. S. Fagan, 44th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. Alfred Richards, 34th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. S. Nation, 23d Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. B. B. Parby, 30th Madras N.I.

Lieut. Col. C. Hopkinson, Madras Artl.

Lieut. Col. J. Delamain, 58th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. T. Wilson, 28th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. G. Pollock, Bengal Artl.

Lieut. Col. H. S. Pepper, 6th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. W. C. Baddeley, 29th Bengal N.I.

Lieut. Col. Jas. Wahab, Madras N.I.

Lieut. Col. J. Skinner, Bengal Irreg. Cav.

Major C. Bowyer, 60th Bengal N.I.

Major R. L. Evans, 22d Madras N.I.

Major W. L. Watson, 43d Bengal N.I.

Major G. Hunter, 41st Bengal N.I.

Whitehall, Jan. 18, 1827.

His Majesty has been pleased to nominate and appoint Major Gen. Sir THOS. M'MAHON, Bart., to be a Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath.

His Majesty has been pleased to nominate and appoint the undermentioned officers of the East-India Company's service, viz. Lieut. Gen. Thos. Bowser, and Major Gen. JOHN ARNOLD, Companions of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, to be Knights Commanders of the said Most Honourable Military Order.

HONORARY DISTINCTIONS TO CORPS.

War Office, Dec. 28, 1826.

His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 84th Foot bearing on its colours and appointments, in addition to any other badges or devices which may have heretofore been granted to that regiment, the word "*India*," in commemoration of its services in that part of the world, from the year 1796 to 1819.

His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the undermentioned regiments bearing on their colours and appointments, in addition to any other badges or devices which may have heretofore been granted to these regiments, the word "*Ava*," in commemoration of their services during the late Burmese war:—1st Foot, 2d bat.; 13th Foot; 38th Foot; 41st Foot; 44th Foot; 45th Foot; 47th Foot; 54th Foot; 87th Foot; 89th Foot.

His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the regiments undermentioned bearing on their colours and appointments, in addition to any other badges or devices which have been heretofore granted to those regiments, the word "*Bhurtpore*," in commemoration of their services in the assault and capture of the fortified town and citadel of Bhurtpore, in the month of January 1826:—11th Light Drags; 16th ditto; 14th Foot; 59th Foot.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

46th L. Dr. Lieut. J. Robinson to be capt. by purch., v. Nepean prom.; C. B. N. Ogle to be lieut. by purch., v. Robinson (both 14 Dec.); E. Scott to be corn. by purch., v. Harvey prom. (28 Dec.)

11th L. Dr. Assist. surg. F. Siewwright, from 59th F., to be assist. surg., v. Campbell app. to Staff (21 Dec.)

13th L. Dr. R. Miller to be corn. by purch., v. Hooper app. to 6th Dr. (21 Dec.); R. Hume to be corn. by purch., v. Hodge app. to 6th Dr. Gu. (30 Dec.)

16th L. Dr. H. Brooks to be corn. by purch., v. Van prom. (28 Dec.)

3d Foot. Lieut. G. R. Carnac to be capt. by purch., v. Wright, who rets. (14 Dec.); Lieut. B. H. Burchell to be capt. by purch., v. Munro, who rets.; 2d-Lieut. A. Irvine, from Ceyl. Regt., to be ens., v. De Blaquiere prom. in 46th F. (both 30 Dec.)

6th Foot. J. M. Schnell to be ens. by purch., v. Connor prom. (14 Dec.)

16th Foot. J. W. P. Audain to be ens., v. Smith dec. (14 Dec.)

20th Foot. Maj. H. Barrington, from h. p. 100th F., to be maj., v. Cust prom.; Capt. T. King, from h. p. 35th F., to be capt., v. F. Champagne, who exch. (both 16th Dec.)

41st Foot. Lieut. A. Guinness to be capt. by purch., v. Crole prom.; R. W. D. Flamstead to be ens. by purch., v. Vaughan prom. (both 30 Dec.)

44th Foot. Ens. E. Chambers, from 14th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Dalway, who rets. (30 Dec.)

45th Foot. Lieut. J. Grant to be capt., v. Anderson dec. (14 Dec.)

46th Foot. Ens. J. Davies to be lieut. by purch., v. Parker prom.; W. C. Fisher to be ens. by purch., v. Davies (both 14 Dec.); Ens. P. T. de Blaquiere, from 3d F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Taylor prom.; R. J. Edmonds to be ens. by purch., v. Wall prom. (both 30 Dec.)

48th Foot. Paym. J. O'Keefe, from 12th F., to be paym., v. T. Murray, ret. on h. p. (28 Dec.)

54th Foot. Lieut. Hon. A. Harley, from 32d F., to be lieut., v. E. Nugent, who rets. on h. p.; J. R. Turner to be ens. by purch., v. Johnson prom. (both 14 Dec.); Lieut. J. G. Hall, from h. p., to be lieut., v. H. R. Clarke, who exch. (25 Dec.)

78th Foot. Ens. E. Pawsey to be lieut. by purch., v. Hawley prom.; F. Smith to be ens. by purch., v. Pawsey (both 30th Dec.)

83d Foot. Ens. W. Bell to be lieut. by purch., v. Hodgson prom.; G. Blakeney to be ens. by purch., v. Bell (both 30 Dec.)

97th Foot. Capt. T. Lynch to be maj. by purch., v. Giles, who rets. (30 Dec.); Capt. W. Snow, from h. p. 3d F., to be capt., v. Reeves, whose app. has not taken place (21 Dec.)

Ceylon Regt. Lieut. P. B. Reyne to be capt. by purch., v. Parker, who rets. (21 Dec.); 2d-Lieut. E. M'Vicar to be 1st-lieut., v. Fellowes dec. (10 Apr.); B. E. Layard to be 2d-lieut., v. M'Vicar (21 Dec.); J. B. Thomas to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Irvine app. to 3d F. (30 Dec.)

Brevet. Maj. J. J. Snodgrass, upon h. p., mil. sec. to Maj. Gen. Sir Arch. Campbell, to be lieut. col. in army (25 Dec.); Maj. H. Dwyer, upon h. p. unattached, late aide-de-camp to late Marquis of Hastings, to be lieut. col. in army (10 Jan. 27.)

Allowed to dispose of their half-pay. Lieut. C. Munro, 45th F. (26 Dec.); Lieut. R. Fitz Gibbon, 3d F.; Capt. St. J. W. Lucas, 97th F. (30 Dec.)

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Jan. 13. *Darius*, Brown, from Bombay 7th Aug.; at Deal.—15. *Jessie*, Winter, from Cape of Good Hope 7th Nov.; off Margate—also *Arctusa*, Hamilton, from Singapore 20th Aug.; at Deal.—21. *Eliza Jane*, from the Mauritius 6th Oct.; off Plymouth.

Departures.

Jan. 2. *Harvey*, Peach, for N. S. Wales; from Deal.—3. *Indian Chief*, Gill, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—4. *Bridgewater*, Manderson, and *Loe-ther Castle*, Baker, both for Bombay and China; from Deal.—15. *Mariner*, Norworthy, for N. S. Wales; from Cove of Cork.—17. *Atlas*, Hine, for Bombay and China; *Thames*, Warring, for Bengal; *Cesar*, Watt, for Madras and Bengal; *Harriet*, Kindley, for Bengal; *Sir Edward Paget*, Geary, for Madras and Bengal; *Countess of Harr-court*, Harrison, for N. S. Wales; *Denmark Hill*, Foreman, for ditto, and *Madeleine*, Coghlan, for the Mauritius; all from Portsmouth—also *Marcelly*, Crews, for Bengal; and *Craigievar*, Ray, for the Cape and Mauritius; both from Deal.—20. *Herefordshire*, Whiteman, for Bengal and China; *Repulse*, Gribble, for ditto; and *Triumph*, Green, for Rio, Cape, and Bombay; all from Deal.—21. *Duke of York*, Locke, for Bengal and China; from Deal—also *General Palmer*, Truscott, for Madras; from Portsmouth.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per *Nimrod*, from Penang: Master T. G. Williams.

Per *Jessie*, from the Cape: Jas. Carfrae, Esq.; Capt. Thos. T. Harrington; Dr. Tedley, 96th Regt.; Mrs. Pugh; Miss Hart; Mr. Wyke; Mr. Dennis; two steerage passengers; three servants.

Per *Eliza Jane*, from the Mauritius: Capt. Kilgour, late of the *Venus*; Mr. Beddard; Mr. Stephens.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per *Atlas*, for Bombay: Mrs. Norris; Miss Hine; Mrs. Stirling; Mr. E. Luke, solicitor; Lieut. Stirling; Ens. C. T. S. Bond; Messrs. P. Shaw, F. Chrystal, W. S. Nettleford, and J. W. Hockin, cadets; Messrs. J. Wood, K. D. Swan, and C. W. Down, for the H.C.'s marine.—For St. Helena: The Rev. R. Boys, chaplain; Mr. A. Beale; Mr. J. W. Hoar, organist.

Per *Bridgewater*, for Bombay: Mrs. B. M. Allen (wife of Lieut. Allen) and son; Mrs. A. Kingsbury (wife of Lieut. Kingsbury) and three daughters; Ens. C. St. Thomas, returning to Bombay; Mr. H. W. Morris, solicitor; Mr. A. Arnott, assist. surg.; Messrs. H. S. Gunter; C. Andrews, R. D. Stuart, and W. Baker, cadets; Capt. Bonamy, Lieut. Allen, Lieut. Hill, Ens. Curtis, Ens. Lumley,

ley, and Ens. Johnson, H.M.'s 6th Foot; Lieut. Kingsbury, H.M.'s 3d Foot; 294 soldiers, H.M.'s service; 34 soldiers' wives; 19 children.

Per Louther Castle, for Bombay: Mrs. Whish (wife of Lieut. Col. Whish); Capt. and Mrs. John Saunders, returning to Bombay; Lieut. Col. Whish, Maj. G. Tweedy, and Capt. Hurlie, returning to their duty; Rev. H. Jefferys, chaplain, and lady; Miss Eliza Jury; Mr. D. B. Smith, solicitor; Mr. J. Black, assist. surg.; Mr. J. Turner, veterinary surg.; Messrs. Carne, Macan, and Bate, cadets; Messrs. Nott and Jenkins, volunteers, H. C.'s marine; 300 soldiers, H.C.'s service; 19 soldiers' wives.

Per Herefordshire, for Bengal and China: Mrs. Norman; Lieut. L. Hull, H.C.'s service; Messrs. J. Hoppe and T. O'Berne, cadets; Capt. Temple, and Ensigns Fenwick and Chambers, of H.M.'s 14th Foot; Ensigns Norman and Stock, of H.M.'s 31st Foot; 173 soldiers of H.M.'s 14th, 31st, and 30th regts. of Foot; 22 females, wives of ditto; 15 children.

Per Duke of York, for Bengal and China: Sir Edward Ryan, recently appointed judge of the Supreme Court, Calcutta; Lady Ryan; Miss E. Whitmore; Mr. R. Bird; Mrs. Eliza Little; Messrs. C. Taylor, T. Scott, R. Trotter, and A. Udney, writers; Messrs. T. Ramsay and J. M. Morgan, cadets; Capt. Linlett, Lieut. Meredith, and Ensigns Greeson and Rawlius, of H.M.'s 13th Foot; Cornets Toone and Reynolds, of H.M.'s 11th L. Dr.; 175 soldiers of H.M.'s 13th Foot, 11th L. Dr., and 16th Lancers; 22 females, wives of ditto; 8 children.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The *Sir Godfrey Webster*, late *Rennoldson*, from Singapore to London, was condemned at the Mauritius on 15th Oct.

The *Mercury* (whaler), M'Nally, has been condemned at the Mauritius as unseaworthy.

The *Arethusa* and *Manilla Packet* were lost in Torres Straits previous to the 18th of August.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 30. In Manchester Street, the lady of Capt. J. C. Whiteman, Hon. Company's service, of a daughter.

Jan. 1. At the Principal's Lodge, East-India College, Haileybury, Herts, the lady of the Rev. Dr. Batten, of a son.

— At Barina Place, near Exeter, the lady of G. Vignon, Esq., late of Calcutta, of a son.

3. At Chatham, the lady of Maj. Somerville, Hon. E. I. Company's service, of a son.

27. The lady of George Owen, Esq., of the Secretary's Office, East-India House, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 19. At Naughton-House, Flitshire, W. Burnett, Esq., of the Bombay army, to Isabella Morison, only daughter of A. Pitcairn, Esq., of Pitcullo.

28. At Clapham, Surrey, William Bruce, jun., son of Joseph Bruce, Esq., of Ghazepore, East-

Indies, to Harriet, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Terry, of Clapham.

Jan. 1. At Edinburgh, F. Suter, Esq., of Bhm-lipitan, East-Indies, to Eliza, second daughter of the late Mr. M'Lean, of Forres.

3. At Southampton, Capt. G. Paris, of the Madras Cavalry, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Mr. R. Buckland, of that place.

— At Edinburgh, C. F. Hunter, Esq., of Calcutta, to Jane Napier, only daughter of the late W. A. Kellett, Esq., of Cork.

9. At Oxted, near Godstone, Surrey, Mr. Clayton, of Gray's-Inn Square, solicitor, to Emily, eldest daughter of the late Lieut. Col. F. W. Bellis, of the Hon. East-India Company's service.

13. C. Davidson, of Brabant Court, to Caroline Frances, eldest daughter of Maj. Haswell, formerly of the 3d Foot.

DEATHS.

Dec. 31. In James Street, Buckingham Gate, William Gifford, Esq., late editor of the *Quarterly Review*, in his 71st year.

Jan. 1. Mrs. Bunn, of Webb's County Terrace, Kent Road, relict of the late Capt. Bunn, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

2. At Shepperton, Middlesex, Dr. John Mason Good, M.D., F.R.S., &c., after a few days' illness.

4. At Davenport, Maj. Gen. Sir Charles Halloway, late of the Royal Engineers, aged 77.

9. In Warren Street, Fitzroy Square, Miss Elizabeth O. Benger, well known in the literary world by the publication of many biographical and historical works.

10. In Great Coram Street, Dr. John Jones, author of the *Greek Lexicon*, and other learned works.

15. At Walworth, Mr. Gilbert Jerdan, second son of the late John Jerdan, Esq., of Kelsor, and brother of the late Lieut. Col. Jerdan, of Bombay.

17. Johanna Catherine, the wife of Capt. T. D. Burrows, 4th Light Drags.

21. At Hoddesdon, General Adolphus Harris, aged 82.

22. At his house, in Rockingham Row, Capt. Wm. Clark, of the East-India ship *George*, aged 30.

23. In York Terrace, Regent's Park, Mrs. Grant, widow of Chas. Grant, Esq., late one of the Directors of the East-India Company.

— At Lovel Hill Cottage, Berks, James Cumming, Esq., F.S.A., and late of the office of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, in his 50th year.

25. At Islington, the Rev. John Evans, LL.D., author of the "Sketch of the Denominations of the Christian World," and of numerous other works.

26. In Cadogan Place, Frederick, the son of Lieut. Gen. Sir Herbert Taylor.

— In Bryanstone Square, James Allan, the infant son of Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P.

Lately. In London, on his way to Ireland, Capt. E. A. Evanson, of the 54th Foot, son of Alderman Evanson, of Cork.

— At sea, homeward-bound from Bombay, R. A. Walker, assist. surg. in the H.C.'s ship *Edinburgh*.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 7 February—Prompt 11 May.

Company's.—Mocha Coffee—Sugar.
Licensed.—Coffee—Sugar—Rice.

For Sale 13 February—Prompt 4 May.

Company's.—Saltpetre—Pepper.
Licensed.—Saltpetre—Pepper—White Pepper—Cinnamon—Mace—Nutmegs—Cassia Lignea—Cassia Buds—Sago—Arrow Root.

For Sale 15 February—Prompt 4 May.

Licensed and Private Trade.—Aloes—Rhubarb—Myrrh—Camphor—Gum Anhol—Gum Babool—Gum Copal—Gum Benjamin—Gum Ammoniac—Olibanum—Borax—Terra Japonica—Senna—Senna Leaves—Cardamoms—Galangals—Betel Nuts—Bees' Wax—Citrate of Lime—Shellac—Castor Oil—Oil of Cassia—Oil of Mace.

For Sale 16 February—Prompt 4 May.

Licensed.—Annatto Seeds—Barilla—Cochineal—Safflower—Turmeric—Gum Arabic—Lac Dye—Seed Lac—Galls—Munjeet—Sapan Wood.

For Sale 19 February—Prompt 8 June.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.
Private Trade.—China, Bengal, and Persian Raw Silk.

For Sale 20 February—Prompt 4 May.

Licensed.—Ivory—Elephants' Teeth—Tortoise-shell—Faddy Bird Feathers—Cane Floor Mats—Bamboo Cane—Rattans—Wood—Ebony—Sandal Wood—Hemp—Jute Hemp—Soy.

For Sale 6 March—Prompt 1 June.

Ted.—Bohea, 750,000 lb.; Congou, Peckoe, and Soucheong, 5,380,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson Skin, 1,200,000 lb.; Hyson, 400,000 lb.—Total, including Private Trade, 7,600,000 lb.

For Sale 14 March—Prompt 8 June.

Company's.—Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.
Private Trade.—Longcloths—Blue Sallampores—Baftaes—Nankeens—Bundannoes—Neckcloths—Shawls—Shawl Handkerchiefs—Scarfs—Crape Scarfs—Crape Gown Pieces.

The Court of Directors have given notice, That the Goods to be put up at the Quarterly Sale in February next, will be arranged in the following order:—

On Tuesday, the 13th February.—Saltpetre, also Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, Cassia, Cassia Buds, Ginger, Arrow Root, Sago, and the like Groceries.

On Thursday, the 15th February.—Aloes, Aniseed, Arsenic, Asafoetida, Bark, Bees' Wax, Betel Nuts, Borax and Tincal, Camphogium, Camphire, Cardamoms, Castor Beans, Castor Oil, Cayenne Pepper, Chillies, China Root, Cinnamon or Vermilion, Coculus Indicus, Columbo Root, Cubebs, Curmin Seed, Dragon's Blood, Frankincense, Galanga Root, Galbanum, Gum Ammoniac, Gum Anhol or Copal, Gum Benjamin, Gum Kino, Gum Mastich, Gum Myrrh, Gum Olibanum, Gum Tragacanth, Gum Unrated, Lichen or Moss, Long Pepper, Musk, Nux Vomica, Oils Chemical, Oil of Cocoa Nut, Opium, Rhubarb, Sal Ammoniac, Sealing Wax, Seeds of all kinds, Senna, Shellac, Tamarinds, Terra Japonica, Utkramarine, and Zedouria, and the like Drugs.

On Friday, the 16th February.—Alum, Annatto, Cochineal, Galls, Gum Arabic, Gum Senega, Lac Lake, Lac Dye, Munjeet, Myrabolanes, Pures, Red Saunders Wood, Safflower, Sapan Wood, Seedlac, Sticklac, Soap, Kelp, Barilla, Akall and Soda, Turmeric, all Woods for Dyeing, and the like Dry Salteries.

On Tuesday, the 20th February.—Hemp and Sunn, Canes and Sticks, China Ware, Coque-de-perle, Fans, Ink, Mats, Lacquered Ware, Feathers, Mother-o'-Pearl Ware, Paper, Soy, Cornelian, Agates, Arrangoes Stones, Beads and Manufactures of ditto, also Coral Beads, Cowries, Elephants' Teeth and Sea Horse Teeth, Hides, Buffalo Horns and Tips, Mother-o'-Pearl Shells, Rattans, Sandal Wood, Skins, Talc or Ubruc, Tin, Tortoise-shell, Tutenague, Ebony Wood, and all Woods not used by Dyers, and the like kinds of general Merchandise.

The same order will be observed in all future Quarterly Sales.

LONDON MARKETS—Jan. 26.

SUGAR.—The demand for Muscovades has rather increased, but there is no alteration in the currency—the market is exceedingly firm.

In foreign or East-India Sugars there is nothing new to report. The public sale of nearly 6,000 bags of Mauritius went off freely at full prices (54s. for brown, up to 61s. 6d. for grey) except the Sugars about 56s. and 57s. which went rather lower.

A private contract for 500 chests white

Havannah, a middling parcel, took place to day at 45s.

INDIGO.—The indigo sale is approaching to a conclusion; 6,018 chests are this night gone through, and the report may now be satisfactorily given. The low Oude is 4d. to 9d higher than last sale, the fine 1s. a 1s. 6d. higher; the Bengal mid. is 2s. a 2s. 6d. per lb. higher; the fine 1s. 6d. to 2s. advanced on the prices of last sale.

COTTON.—The Cotton Market is very languid;

languid; the purchases for the week ending last night inclusive consist of

160 Surat.....5^d a 5^d.

300 Madras.....5^d a 5^d.

50 Bengal at.....5^d a 5^d.

130 Egyptian...7^d. Duty paid.

TEA.—Boheas very heavy; Congous and Twankays not so brisk as last week; low Hysons much in demand and fetching 5d. advance.

SALTPETRE.—The prices of Saltpetre continue to fluctuate considerably as the reports of peace or war prevail, or rather as the price of English Stocks rise or fall, the variation of which have always been attended with the exactly opposite effect on the prices of Saltpetre. There has been some business at the highest rate inserted, and the market was exceedingly firm.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ship's Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captain.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras & Bengal	1827.						
	Graves, Feb. 17.	Protector	511	Henry Blanchard	George Waugh	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun., Birchin-lane.
	Ports, Feb. 24.	Grecian	250	Thos. Richardson	Andrew Smith	Lon. Docks	Arnold and Woollett, Clement's-lane.
	25	George	488	Johnston and Meaburn	W. A. Bowen	W. I. Docks	Small, Lane, and Co., Old Jewry.
	30	Kingdon	504	William A. Bowen	George Deeny	E. I. Docks	Cockrell, Trail, and Co., Austin-friars
Bengal	April 5	Rochester Castle	590	W. G. G. and Green	William Faith	Blackwall	John Pirle and Co.
	Graves, Feb. 23.	Lady Mac-Naghten	600	William Faith	Wm. W. West	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-sq.
	Ports, Feb. 29.	Childe Harold	463	Robert Granger	J. A. Cumberlege	E. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	Graves, Feb. 29.	Neptune	710	John Cumberlege, jun.	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co.
	May 1	Eliza	682	David Sutton	Andrew Talbert	E. I. Docks	Lysall and Greig, London-street. [jun.
Bombay	Feb. 10	Belzoni	300	Andrew Talbert	Bernard Fenn	W. I. Docks	D. & A. Wilkinson, & W. Redhead,
	Feb. 15	Rosaura	345	T. and A. Dixon	Adam Dixon	City Canal	Thos. Dennis, Langbourn Chambers.
	20	Lady Roseana	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	18	St. David	352	John Leslie	J. Richardson	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	25	Lady Nugent	355	John Campbell	George J. Redman	City Canal	William Redhead, jun.
Ceylon	March 31	Mary	300	W. Beachcroft	W. Beachcroft	Lon. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	April 30	Kath. Stewart	350	John Pirle and Co.	John Brodie	City Canal	John Pirle and Co.
	Feb. 12	Comptroller	457	Aaron Chapman	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman, and Co., Leadenhall-street.
	March 28	Epignone	600	M. Andrew	John Clarkson	W. I. Docks	Bazett and Co., Broad-street.
	Feb. 12	Morning Star	423	Howden and Gardner	Jas. Jackson	Depford	Joseph Lachlan, Alle-street.
Batavia and Singapore	March 28	Prince Regent	300	William Tindell	Thos. Gibbs	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	Feb. 20	Eliza Jane	350	Buckles and Co.	Thomas Sanders	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	Feb. 10	Albion	400	Jas Carrae	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	Feb. 10	Mary and Jane	220	Joseph Horsley and Co.	R. L. Hare	Lon. Docks	Cookes and Long, Mark-lane.
	Feb. 10	Orinthia	250	John Matches	John Chambers	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
Penang and Singapore	Feb. 10	Princess Victoria	240	Andrew Henderson	William Rixon	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	Feb. 10	Intrepid Packet	160	Arnold and Woollett	Philip Sleeman	City Canal	Edm. Read, Riches-court, Lime-str.
	Feb. 10	Vittoria	160	Jas H. Southam	Jas H. Southam	Lon. Docks	Henderson and Graham, Mark-lane.
	Feb. 10	Nimrod	290	Thomas Harvie	Thos. Harvie	W. I. Docks	Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	Feb. 10	Alcidity	300	Robert Granger	John Findlay	Lon. Docks	Robt. Brooks, Old Broad-street.
New South Wales	Feb. 10	Metway	268	Robert Granger	Borthwick Wright	Lon. Docks	John Pirle and Co.
	Feb. 10	Lang	357	John Blinner	John Lusk	Lon. Docks	J. Blinner, Church-row, Fenchurch-st.
	Feb. 10	Lion	275	John Lumsden	Alexander Kenn	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	Feb. 10	Orion	365	William Hudson	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Anstie and Stubbs, Great St. Helen's.
	Feb. 10	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.

31st Jan. 1827.

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS, of the Season 1826-27, with their Managing Owners, Commanders, &c.

Forward.	Ships.	Tons.	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Third Officers.	Fourth Officers.	Surgeons.	Purser.	Consignments.	To be Afford.	To sail to Gravesend.	To be in the Month.	When Sailed.
8	Bridgewater	1276	James Sims	J. R. Manderson	W. H. Walker	C. Pennington	David Home.	John Hayward	W. Spry	Joseph Cragg	Bombay & China	1826.	1826.	1827.	1827.
9	Lothian Castle	1427	Matthew Isacke	Thomas Baker	G. K. Bathie	J. Wilkinson	G. J. Thompson	C. Hawkins	J. H. Blen-	Benj. B. Lord	(St. Helena, Bom-	14 Nov 29	Nov 4 Jan.	4 Jan.	4 Jan.
8	Atlas	1267	Charles O. Mayne	John Hine	Hen. Bristow	T. G. Adams	John Vaux	John Domett	Robt. Murray	Jos. W. Cragg	bay, & China.	20 do.	14 Dec 19 do.	17 do.	17 do.
4	Repulse	1334	John F. Timins	C. B. Gribble	Edw. Foord	A. C. Watling	F. Walwright	Godfr. S. Hirst	Wm. Scott	Nich. G. Glass	Bengal & China	14 Dec 23 do.	3 Feb.		
6	Duke of York	1327	S. Marjoribanks	Robert Locke	Geo. Ireland	F. Mac Neill	B. J. Thomson	J. R. Lancaster	Richard Boyes	Edw. Crowfoot					
7	Herefordshire	1290	John Locke	J. C. Whiteman	Robert Card	Wm. Robson	A. H. Crawford	Henry Denny	J. W. Wilson	Rich. Rawes					
6	Fenesterra	1300	Joseph Hare	W. H. Ladd	Hen. Edmunds	John Rickett	James Crozier	Henry Cayley	A. Johnstone	R. G. Lancaster					
6	Buckinghamshire	1369	Company's Ship	Rich. Glasspool	W. Longcroft	Alex. Bell	Thos. Alchin	T. Packman	Wm. Hayland	Wm. Bruce					
11	Sussex	1242	Company's Ship	David R. Newall	John Hillman	Peter Pitcher	C. Hen. Leaver	Arthur Burnell	Robt. Strange	Fred. Palmer					
9	Charles Grant	1346	William Moffat	William Hay	Joseph Coates	C. A. Eastmure	Jacks. Sparrow	C. Johnstone	R. Alexander	G. R. Griffiths	Bombay & China				
4	Hythe	1353	S. Marjoribanks	John P. Wilson	R. Lindsay	R. Jobling	James Mowat	John Garnar	John Lawson	R. Middleton	Bengal & China	1827.			
8	Ingis	1298	R. Borradaile	Samuel Serle	J. Dudman	Wm. B. Coles	Mark Clayton	R. E. Warner	Joseph Docker	Jas. Thomson					
5	Windsor	1332	George Clay	Amb. F. Proctor	Wm. MacNair	Thos. Thoms	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick	St. Helena, Pe-	28 do.	12 Jan 17 do.		
4	Furquharson	1336	John C. Lochner	W. Cruickshank	Henry Cowan	George Lloyd	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick	hang, Singapore, and China				
9	Bombay	1342	Henry Templer	John Charrette	H. Clement	George Wise	H. S. Isaacson	Thos. Foss	Wm. Westcott	Robert Miles		1827.			
7	General Kgd.	1290	James Walker	Alex. Nalme	Richard Applin	H. Thomson	A. C. Barclay	Wm. Mackenzie	F. P. Alleyne	David Clark	Madras & China	12 Jan 26 do.	3 Mar.		
7	Waterloo	1325	Company's Ship	Wm. Manning	W. R. Blakeley	G. T. Calvely	Fred. Hedges	John Tate	Jas. Halliday	John Benfield					
5	Duke of Sussex	1300	S. Marjoribanks	W. H. Whitehead	John D. Orr	G. Carbutnot	Bazil W. Mure	C. Mac Rae	John Sim	C. D. Morson	China	25 Feb.	13 Mar 18 Apr.		
5	Kellie Castle	1329	Geo. Reed	W. H. Ladd	R. Patullo	J. Sercombe	Francis West	W. S. Stockley	John Cullen	J. C. Sinclair					
7	Minerva	1329	Geo. Palmer	George Probyn	Jas. Drayner	C. W. Ingram	A. Tudor	Nath. A. Knox	Wm. Toller	Chas. Reynell	Madras & Bengal.	27 Mar	11 Apr. 14 May		
9	P. Chart. of Wales	1773	C. B. Gribble	Chr at ph. Biden	Henry Gribble	C. H. Sawtree	Nath. A. Knox	Wm. Toller	C. H. Barnes	Wm. Hunt					
9	Warren Hastings	1800	John L. Minet	George Mason	T. A. Davis	John Sparke	C. H. Wimbolt	John Duncan	Wm. Winton	Fran. Jenkins	Bengal.	25 Apr.	10 May 13 Jun		
10	Thomas Grenville	866	Company's Ship	Alfred Chapman	—	Robt. Robson	Wm. Lidderdale	John Duncan	Adam Elliot	Joseph Adams					

PRICE CURRENT, Jan. 26.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.				Galls, Blue.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Coffee, Javacwt	2	3	0	Indigo, Fine Bluelb	5	0	0
— Cheribon	2	2	0	— Fine Purple and Violet			
— Sumatra	2	2	0	— Good do. do.			
— Bourbon				— Mid. do. do.			
— Mocha	3	0	0	— Fine Copper			
Cotton, Suratlb	0	0	5	— Good do. do.			
— Madras	0	0	5	— Mid. do. do.			
— Bengal	0	0	5	— Ord. Violet and Copper			
— Bourbon	0	0	9	— Oude and Gd. ord. dk. vlt			
Drugs & for Dyeing.				— Mid. and ord. sandy do.			
Aloes, Epaticacwt.	15	0	0	— Gd. ord. hard dark Cop.			
Aniseeds, Star	0	3	10	— Ord. hvy. hd. sndy. do.			
Borax, Refined	2	6	0	Rice, Bengal Whitecwt.	0	15	0
— Unrefined, or Tincal	2	6	0	— Patna	0	18	0
Camphire	9	0	0	Safflower	2	0	0
Cardamoms, Malabar. lb	0	8	0	— Sago	0	15	0
— Ceylon	0	1	0	Saltpetre	1	3	6
Cassia Budscwt.	8	0	0	Silk, Bengal Skeinlb	0	8	1
— Lignea	5	10	0	— Novi	0	11	1
Castor Oillb	0	0	6	— Ditto White	0	11	0
China Rootcwt.	1	10	0	— China	0	14	9
Coculus Indicus	3	0	0	Spices, Cinnamonlb	0	4	0
Dragon's Blood	5	0	0	— Cloves	0	2	2
Gum Ammoniac, lump.	3	0	0	— Mace	0	4	0
— Arabic	1	0	0	— Nutmegs	0	2	6
— Assafoetida	1	0	0	— Ginger	0	15	0
— Benjamin	2	0	0	— Pepper, Blacklb	0	0	4
— Aniini	3	0	0	— White	0	2	10
— Gambogium	10	0	0	Sugar, Bengalcwt.	1	13	0
— Myrrh	3	0	0	— Siam and China	1	11	0
— Olibanum	2	0	0	— Mauritius	1	6	0
Kino	14	0	0	Tea, Bohealb	0	1	6
Lac Lakelb	0	1	0	— Congou	0	2	2
— Dye	0	4	4	— Souchang	0	3	3
— Shell	2	10	0	— Campol	0	3	0
— Stick	2	0	0	— Twankay	0	3	0
Musk, Chinaoz.	0	9	0	Pekoe	0	2	10
Oil, Cassiaoz.	0	0	5	— Hyson Skin	0	4	9
— Cinnamon	0	9	0	— Hyson	0	4	9
— Cloveslb	0	1	6	— Young Hyson	0	4	0
— Mace	0	0	3	— Gunpowder	0	4	10
— Nutmegs	0	2	6	Tortoise shell	1	5	0
Opium	0	1	6	Wood, Sanders Redton	8	0	0
Rhubarb	0	1	6				
Sal Ammoniaccwt.	3	0	0	AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.			
Sennalb	0	0	11	Oil, Southernton	80	0	0
Turneric, Javacwt.	1	15	0	— Sperin	65	0	0
— Bengal	1	0	0	— Head Matter	74	0	0
— China	1	10	0	Wool			
Galls, in Sorts	4	0	0	Wood, Blue Gumton	0	7	10
				— Cedar	0	0	4

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,

From the 26th of December 1826, to the 25th of January 1827.

Dec.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct.	3 Pr. Ct.	3 Pr. Ct.	3 Pr. Ct.	N4 Pr. Ct.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.
26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	199	79	—	—	86	85	18 9-16	—	38 40p	17 20p	80 4
30	199	79	—	—	—	85	18 9-16	—	38p	17 20p	80 4
31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1827	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jan. 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	201	79	—	—	87	86	18 7-8	—	40 43p	20 24p	80 4
3	201	79	—	—	87	86	18 13-16 19	—	42 45p	22 25p	80 4
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	18 15-16 7-8	—	43 46p	24 26p	80 4
5	201	79	—	—	87	86	18 18-16	—	46p	25 29p	80 4
6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	—	79	2	79	—	86	18 7-8 19 1-16	23 4	46p	26 27p	80 4
9	—	79	2	79	—	87	19 1-16	—	—	23 26p	80 4
10	202	79	80	79	—	87	19	23 4	46 47p	25 27p	80 4
11	—	79	—	79	—	87	18 15-16 19 1-16	—	—	25 26p	80 4
12	201	79	—	79	—	86	18 7-8 19	—	44p	24 26p	79 80 4
13	—	79	—	79	—	86	18 15-16 19	—	46p	24 26p	80 4
14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	79	—	79	—	85	18 13-16 7-8	23 4	43 45p	23 25p	79 80
16	202	79	79	79	—	86	18 3-4 7-8	—	38 41p	22 24p	79 80
17	201	78	—	78	—	86	18 5-8 3-4	—	—	19 23p	79 5-8
18	—	78	—	78	—	85	18 5-8 3-4	—	36 39p	21 23p	79 3-8
19	200	77	78	77	—	86	18 5-8 11-16	—	37 40p	20 22p	78 79
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	—	79	—	79	—	85	18 7-8 15-16	—	—	21 24p	80 3-4
23	—	79	—	79	—	85	18 15-16 7-8	23 4	43 46p	23 26p	79 80
24	201	79	—	79	—	87	18 13-16 19	23 4	45p	25 27p	79 80
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

E. Errox, Stock Broker, 2, Cornhill and Lombard Street.

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

MARCH, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

THE BOMBAY PRESS.

THE refusal of the Supreme Court of Bombay to register a rule or ordinance passed by the local government for the regulation of the press at that presidency has given birth to sundry exaggerated reflexions, expressed in tumid and magniloquent terms, calculated to excite a belief that some flagrant act of despotism had been attempted by the government, which the firmness of the judges had defeated. A few observations seem, therefore, necessary to put the subject upon its proper footing.

It appears that the home government (*i.e.* the Court of Directors and Board of Control), conceiving it to be convenient and proper that the same regulations which had been applied to the press in Bengal, the expediency of which had been fully recognized by a solemn decision of the Privy Council, should be extended to publications at the other presidencies, recommended that the aforesaid regulation should be adopted, and proposed for registration in the Supreme Court of Bombay, in order that it might have the effect of law. Two of the three judges refused to allow its registration, conceiving that it was uncalled for by the existing state of the Bombay press. The preamble of the Calcutta regulation sets forth, as the ground upon which that regulation was introduced, the state of the press at that presidency, whereby matters tending to bring the government, as by law established, into hatred and contempt, and to disturb the peace, harmony and good order of society, were frequently printed and circulated. No such circumstances are considered by the judges to exist in Bombay at the present time; the Chief Justice maintains that not a single passage or a single word, tending to bring the government of Bombay into hatred and contempt—not a single stricture or comment or word respecting any of the measures of government, can be pointed out, in any Bombay paper.

Holding, therefore, the opinion which these learned personages entertain that the adoption of the regulation can only be authorized by the facts stated

in the preamble of the Calcutta regulation; that they are not justified in sanctioning a measure which forms a part of the local law of another presidency, merely upon the ground of its possible prospective necessity, they were no doubt conscientiously bound to refuse their assent to it.

The Chief Justice (Sir Edward West), premising that the court have a right, or are rather bound, to consider the expediency of the measure proposed, is of opinion that the ordinance is unnecessary; and further, that should any appeal be made on the subject to his Majesty in Council, the arguments upon which the Calcutta regulation were defended, and (he presumes) approved, would be totally inapplicable to the present.

Sir Ralph Rice, one of the two puisne judges, thinks that the proposed regulation is repugnant to the law of England, and that policy does not require it. He, notwithstanding, would not object to the registry of it, because the decision of the Privy Council, in respect to the Calcutta regulation, had decided as to the former point; and with regard to policy and expediency, the government was the proper judge of such subjects, which the legislature had left more to the judgment of the government than of the court.

Mr. Justice Chambers concurs with the Chief Justice in thinking that the regulation ought not to be allowed. He conceived that the decision of the Privy Council on the Calcutta regulation did not go the length of deciding that it was consonant with the general policy of the Indian government. After premising that restrictions upon natural liberty can be justified only by an obvious and permanent necessity; and that local circumstances constitute a material consideration in determining the expediency of such matters: he proceeds to observe, that the regulation, which he conceives to be unnecessary at the present moment, would in its effects be most prejudicial to the independence and good spirit of the community.

Both of the judges who refused their assent to the registry laid great stress upon the fact of the regulation of 1825, passed by the local government, at the suggestion of the court, as being adequate to the purposes of the present measure, and as making a remarkable distinction between the case of the Bombay press, and that of Calcutta when the regulation was introduced there. The ordinance of 1825 is copied from the acts of 37 and 38 Geo. III. passed for regulating publication in England.

No ground whatever is afforded, either by the decision or in the arguments of the judges, for the extravagant remarks made upon the subject, as if the effect of rejecting the rule was to invalidate the Calcutta press-regulation. No such effect follows: for aught that appears to the contrary, the judges of Bombay (except Mr. Justice Rice, who, notwithstanding, was in favour of the registration) would have decided, in similar circumstances, precisely as those of the Supreme Court at Calcutta.

Much additional importance has probably been given to this affair from the manner in which the elaborate judgments on the subject have been published in England. The channel chosen for their conveyance to the public is a work professedly hostile to the existing form of government in India, and which is perpetually indulging in loud and indecorous vituperations of every tribunal by which the Calcutta regulation has been approved. We do not conclude that the judges are answerable for this selection: they are not probably unacquainted with the manner in which they have been treated (in common with other respectable personages) in that work; and they would not surely condescend to become candidates for its praise. True it is, that these judges are *now* eulogized in the publication referred to with as little moderation as they were formerly abused.

Although

Although judges ought never to be indifferent to public opinion, they should studiously avoid every temptation to court popularity. The moment that a judicial personage becomes covetous of vulgar praise, and

— *sumit aut ponit secures*

Arbitrio popularis auræ,

he becomes more dangerously warped and biassed in his decisions than if he studied to win the smiles of a court.

The notice of that portion of the English public (a very small portion, it must be confessed) to whom Indian affairs are at all interesting, must have been drawn, during the last few years, to the judicial functionaries of Bombay, in a more particular manner than to those of the other presidencies, owing to the collisions which have strangely happened between the court and other parties. In 1823, before the conversion of the Recorder's Court into a Supreme Court of Justice, and the advancement of Sir Edward West to the post of Chief Justice, a serious dispute arose betwixt that learned judge and the barristers of the court, by an order of which five of the barristers (including Mr. Norton) were suspended from practice. In 1824, the case of Mr. Fair occurred, in which, at the instance of the judges, that individual was deported from Bombay for misrepresenting (as the judges alleged) what took place in the Supreme Court, in a matter wherein a civil servant of the government was stated to have been guilty of a breach of respect towards the court in his behaviour to a chopdar. In 1825, we were astonished at the publication of Sir Edward West's charge to the Grand Jury at the Bombay Quarter Sessions, wherein the police system of the presidency and the proceedings of the magistrates are exposed without mercy to public condemnation, and stigmatized in the severest terms, although the regulations, by virtue of which most of the enormities were perpetrated, had been registered in the King's Court; and it is singular enough, that in the judgment delivered by Sir Edward West on the subject of the regulation proposed for the press, he labours with great diligence to prove that the court by registering, necessarily *approved* and *sanctioned* whatever regulations were offered to it. In 1826 occurred the collision now under consideration; so that every year since the establishment of the Supreme Court has been marked by some event which seems indicative of a want of harmony between the judicial and executive branches of the government. We do not attribute this circumstance to the fault of either,—to captiousness in the judges, or to an arbitrary temper in the executive: we merely remark a singular fact.

One word as to the assertion that the influence of government excluded the proceedings from the Bombay papers: this is not the fact. It is surprising that those who make the assertion should overlook the statement of the judges, in the proceedings themselves, that the Bombay press is precisely in the same condition as the English press; the restrictions in one case being exactly the same as in the other. The reason why these proceedings have not been reported in the Bombay papers is, that the editors are naturally apprehensive of publishing what passes in the Supreme Court since the fate of Mr. Fair, who was transmitted to England owing to the complaint of the judges that he admitted an inaccurate report (inaccurate in the most trifling particulars) of the proceedings of the court. If the judges feel any mortification at their speeches and decisions being omitted in the Bombay papers, they have only themselves to blame.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : I fervently hope that Capt. Badenach's recent publication "On the State of the Indian Army," which does honour to his zeal for the service and the interests of the state, has received the attention which the importance of the subject demands.

There is an observation in pages 147-8 of that work, which seems, in justice to my superiors, my colleagues, and myself, to call for explanation. The sentence I allude to is as follows : "From 1806 to 1813, as is usual in India in time of peace with the native states, the affairs of the Bengal army were much neglected, and indifferently administered." This imputation of negligent and indifferent administration, expressed in such unqualified terms, would seem to apply generally to the Local Government, and more especially to the Commanders-in-Chief, and their responsible staff, during the extensive portion of time specified. I, therefore, Sir, as a party concerned, feel it incumbent on me to offer some reply, not merely by counter-assertion, or protesting generally against the justice of such imputation, but by briefly recapitulating various beneficial arrangements, which were adopted during the time specified.

The commencement of the period of time alluded to immediately succeeded the most arduous and extensive war in which the Presidency of Bengal had ever been engaged; and was consequently followed by the disheartening, and unpopular measures of reduction, retrenchment, and reform, necessarily attendant on a return to peace and peace-establishments.

Those irksome and invidious labours performed, it became no less the duty, than it was the anxious desire, of all parties concerned in the army administration, to avail themselves of the season of comparative repose, in order to revise the various branches and departments of the service, and to alter, improve, or originate, such measures of beneficial arrangement as the experience acquired of existing defects and deficiencies, during the war, pointed out to be important and necessary; as well with the view to the interior economy and comfort of the troops, as to the better efficiency of the army, in its public establishments and departments for service in the field.

Accordingly, the noble Commander-in-Chief, Lord Lake, previous to his departure for Europe in the spring of 1807, brought under the notice of Government, or left measures in train in communication with the Military Board, for the following important arrangements to be submitted to Government, with the view to revision or enactment.

First, the Clothing of the Army,—which, under a defective and fraudulent contract, left the troops during the war, in rags; often without sleeves, or that and other parts of their coats tied on them piece-meal, owing to evasion and delay in the preparation and delivery of clothing when due. After much conflicting discussion, combined with legal and other difficulties to get rid of the rotten contract, a system of agency, under officers of the army, was at length established in 1809; which has admirably answered the object of rendering perfect justice and comfort to the soldier, whilst the off-reckoning fund (though a secondary consideration) was greatly improved.

Secondly, the Hospitals for Native Corps.—The Commander-in-Chief, during his tour and sojourn in the upper provinces, had often been grieved to observe the

the very inadequate accommodation afforded to the sick of the Native corps of the army, owing to the very contracted scale of the hospitals, calculated to contain perhaps 20 or 30 patients; whilst, during sickly periods of the year, from 70 to 100, or more, of each corps, were laid low with fevers, and agues, and fluxes. On his Lordship's return to the Presidency, at the close of the war, this subject was early brought under notice. The humanity and liberality of Government were not appealed to in vain; and in January 1807, hospitals, on an enlarged scale and improved construction, with good verandahs and screens all round, were ordered to be constructed for every Native corps in the service. At the same time an additional Native doctor was added to each Native corps, and hospitals for bazar-women were extended to all the new stations of the army.*

Thirdly, Camp Equipage and Carriage-Cattle.—During the campaigns of 1803-4-5, the Commander-in-Chief had witnessed the very insufficient shelter against sun and rain, afforded by the private tents for the European troops of his Majesty's and the Hon. Company's service. A tent of a larger and better construction, with an outer fly, was therefore, on his Excellency's suggestion, prepared by the military board; which was approved and established by the orders of Government in 1809. In connexion with this branch of the service, a revision also took place of the public army-cattle establishment to which a material addition was made, and a new disposition, consequent to the extension of territory and military posts and stations, in 1808-9-10.

Doolies, Hospital Waggons, and Dooly-Bearers.—Similar observation and experience of the miserably defective dooly, for the conveyance of the sick and wounded, during the war, led to the suggestion and adoption of doolies of a superior and more comfortable construction, which were introduced accordingly throughout the army in 1807. The proportion thereof was also revised, and in connexion therewith, a pattern hospital-waggon, in aid of the doolies, for the conveyance of sick and wounded, was made up under the direction of that invaluable officer, the late Major Gen. Sir John Horsford, of the Bengal Artillery; which was approved and sanctioned by Government, and a proportion was allotted to the several corps of the army in 1810. The proportion of dooly-bearers was increased, as was also the pay of that very useful class of public servants.

Pioneers.—Until the year 1803, the Bengal army never had the advantage of any pioneer corps. On the prospect of the war which then took place, three companies of pioneers were raised, and the essential services which that gallant little band rendered during the war, and afterwards at Comona, impressed the Commander-in-chief with the conviction that the best interests of the service required an increased efficient corps of that description; and accordingly, in 1808, a regular corps of pioneers, sappers, and miners, of eight or ten companies, was organized and became a permanent and highly important branch of the regular establishment: with the exception, however, of the European officers, who were, under the want of authority from England, only borrowed from other corps of the line for the duties of the pioneers.†

Horse-

* It was observed by some, that the new hospitals were unnecessarily large and expensive, and often nearly empty. So much the better, when such was the case: but they were also sometimes filled. And with reference to such a scene as that which occurred in the rainy season of 1805, (and many other instances) when, from the extensive sickness, scores of men, with fevers and fluxes, were seen lying around the hospital walls without any shelter whatsoever; or exposed in that inclement season, to the temporary expedient of the slight tents in use with Native corps; it need hardly be asked, if it did not behove the Government to provide against the recurrence of such a deplorable condition. For my own part, I consider the share I had in that measure, as the most gratifying action of my life.

† If my voice could be of any avail I would strenuously urge the formation of at least three corps, of 1,000 men each, of pioneers, sappers, and miners, for the Bengal Presidency. During the late Ava war, pioneers were called from Agra and Dehly, for service in Sylhet and Cachahr!

Horse-Artillery.—This most essential branch of the service, which had hitherto existed on the smallest possible scale, as an experimental corps, was, in 1809, increased and organized into an efficient corps, yielding effective force for service, and an adequate foundation for the further augmentation that has since been made to it.

Ordnance-Drivers.—Strange as it may seem, it is no less true, that, up to the period of time in question, the people employed for that most responsible and important duty, were hired as occasion required from among the inhabitants of the country, and discharged as soon as they were no longer wanted.

The injurious consequences experienced during the war from such a state of things, led to the formation of a regularly organized corps of ordnance-drivers, consisting of 29 or 30 companies, which was accordingly added to the establishment in 1809-10; and the men composing it were regularly clothed and paid, according to the rules of the service, and admitted to the benefit of the invalid and pension establishment, when disabled by wounds, age, or infirmity.

Light Infantry.—In 1808, a light infantry company was, for the first time, established in every Native corps; and during the same and following years, those companies were called out, and temporarily formed into battalions, for training and performing the system and duties prescribed for light infantry.

Regimental Bazaars.—The difficulties experienced by corps in the field and on distant desultory service during war, in regard to supplies, as well as in time of peace even, in many situations, induced the Commander-in-chief to press on the consideration of Government the expediency and necessity of having recourse to the re-establishment of bazaars with corps respectively. The comfort to individuals, and the efficiency of the public service, had in time past been essentially promoted under such a system; and after much discussion, and consequent delay, the beneficial measure of regimental bazaars was established throughout the army, and finally carried into effect in 1810-11.

Commissariat.—Within the period of time in question, the highly important establishment of the army-commissariat was for the first time planned and organized, and finally carried into effect in the year 1809.

Ship-Board Regulations.—for the due supply and comfort of the troops, European and Native, proceeding on foreign service by sea, received much attention, and were beneficially revised and improved.

Medical Regulations and relative Establishments.—New regulations on this head had been planned and approved from England, prior, I believe, to the war of 1803-4-5; but their promulgation was suspended during the war. In 1807, those regulations were ordered to be carried into effect. They proved, however, on trial, to be very insufficient, and inapplicable to the new order of things, by the vast extension of territory, and increase of military posts and stations, which resulted from the terms of peace. It thence became an object of anxious solicitude with the Commander-in-chief and staff at head-quarters, to remedy the defects in that most important branch, and it was accordingly determined to frame a new code of regulations for the medical department, to be submitted for the approbation of Government, and that of the Hon. the Court of Directors. That measure was accordingly proceeded in with as much laborious and anxious attention as the current duties of the service and the means of collecting information and opinions allowed; and although, from various causes of unavoidable delay, the new code of regulations was not finally sanctioned and carried into effect until 1816, they were actually prepared

pared and arranged within the period of time impugned, and the several parties who had contributed to bring them to maturity, received through the Supreme Government the special approbation of the Hon. Court of Directors, for the performance of that intricate, but interesting duty.

Ordnance Department, Magazines, &c.—The wants and the deficiencies felt during the war, in these departments, whilst operations were carrying on 800 and 1,000 miles from the main source of supply, (the arsenal of Fort William) led, on the return of peace, to a revised and extensive arrangement. A grand dépôt for every requisite for sieges and field service was established at Agra, as the principal frontier magazine. New proportions of ordnance, military stores, ammunition, &c. were adopted throughout the magazines and dépôts under the Bengal Presidency, aided by the suggestions and labours of the excellent officer before mentioned, who was at the head of the artillery,* and which were progressively carried into effect through the several departments of the Commander-in-chief, the Military Board, and the Government, within the period alluded to.

Barrack and Buildings Departments.—The system in regard to these departments was also revised, and officers were specially appointed, whose duty it was to prepare, and submit for approbation, plans, estimates, &c. for all public buildings; which, as well as the repairs of barracks, stables, &c. were constructed under their superintendence, with a fixed staff-allowance, submitting their accounts of expenditure, on honour, through the Military Board, to Government.

Widows and Orphans.—No regulation or scale of provision, in the way of pension, for the widows or orphans of the Native soldiery, had been established in Bengal; but cases, in which the favourable consideration of Government was deemed necessary, were never brought to the notice of the Commander-in-chief without being specially recommended, and always obtained the liberal attention of Government.

But I must not trespass unreasonably on your valuable pages. I trust, Sir, enough has been said, to prove that the affairs of the army were neither negligently nor indifferently administered, when it is considered, that the various important arrangements above briefly noticed, were adopted during the period of time in question, and carried into effect, in conjunction with the performance of the current duties of the service, which were enormously increased by the results of the preceding war; and devolved on the offices and officers of Government a degree of laborious exertion and assiduity, greatly surpassing, in that respect, any other offices under the British crown.†

In the discharge of those duties, the crying evil and defect in the military system, owing to the want of established provision, and means for the conveyance of the baggage and necessities of the native troops, when on service or marching, was not overlooked. That evil had, of course, progressively increased, as our possessions and scope of military operations were extended; and although no general regulation was brought to maturity in that respect, the attention of officers commanding divisions was directed to the subject, with the view of devising means, according to local circumstances of country, &c., for the adoption of a permanent arrangement; and I have reason to know

* The late Major-Gen. Sir John Horsford.

† This was emphatically expressed by the illustrious and now lamented nobleman, the late Lord Hastings, whose general experience and personal devotion to the duties of his station well entitled him to pronounce such an opinion.

know that had the distinguished and lamented officer (the late Lieut.-Col. George Ball) who succeeded me in the office of Adjutant-General, been spared to benefit the army and government by his eminent talents and zeal, the long practical experience he had acquired through all the stages of the service, from the year 1778 up to the command of an important frontier division, during several preceding years,—would not have lost sight of that essential object until a regular permanent system was established.

Such an arrangement however, I fear, yet remains a *desideratum* in the service; but it is fervently to be hoped, that a late lamentable catastrophe will not fail to convince the authorities at home and abroad of the indispensable necessity for its adoption, which, I am satisfied, could be carried into effect by means to be mutually contributed, between government and the troops, at a trifling expense of no consideration to any party compared with the incalculable benefits, in regard to individual comfort and public efficiency, which could not fail to result from it.

The occasion of carrying such a measure into effect would be very suitable for revising the tent-allowance regulations for the European officers.—Those now in force were, I believe, first adopted in 1781, and have not since been altered. The vast extension of territory since that period, the consequent additional wear and tear and loss of cattle, together with the enhanced price of cattle, of grain, and camp-equipage materials, calls for some addition to that scale of allowances;—and at the same time the regulations for the monthly muster and inspection of the camp-equipage so provided for, should be duly enforced, and in like manner the marching establishment for the baggage of the troops should be regularly mustered and inspected.

At the same time small uniform tents should be prescribed for the Native commissioned officers, which would add to their own comfort, and obviate the objectionable resource of their mixing with the privates, and robbing them of a portion of their scanty accommodation.

It is not my purpose, Sir, to discuss the several topics in the work in question:—its contents are of great interest and importance; and many of the suggestions it contains are well deserving the best consideration of the constituted authorities presiding over the affairs of our great oriental empire.

I cannot, however, conclude without offering the tribute of my hearty concurrence in the author's just appreciation of the character and merits of the native soldiery: it does equal honour to his professional discrimination and the goodness of his heart.

I entirely agree with the opinion expressed, that the native troops are not that description of people for whom corporeal punishment is suitable or necessary; but instead of its total abolition, I should rather suggest, that it should still remain, as at present, optional with courts-martial to award such punishment on the score of the disgrace it is calculated to entail; but that it be considered a standing regulation of the service, that whenever such sentence may be pronounced, it should be commuted into dismissal from the service:—Thus would the pride and feelings of the troops be cherished, whilst every end of discipline would be attained, by ridding the army of every bad subject.

I am, &c.

HENRY WORSLEY,
Col. Bengal Army.

Feb. 2d, 1827.

LEGEND OF THE HINDOO TEMPLE AT TRITCHENDOOR.

[Concluded from p. 206.]

Soobramonier, smiling at the Reshee's report of the Asurauls' intention, ordered Veerabawgoo and the other Ettoo Verauls, with their respective forces, to be prepared, and detached them to oppose Agnimogum's march. They found his army considerably stronger than their own; notwithstanding which they engaged with undaunted courage. In the onset they attacked the two sons of Banoogapen and their force, and destroyed the whole of them with the sword and arrows; they then attacked Agnimogum and his party; but, soon after, finding themselves unequal to him, retreated. He singly attacked four of the Ettoo Verauls (considering their disabled force beneath his notice), and after a short conflict with them, he caused the appearance of an enchanted cord (since he was well versed in the art of magic), which, by his orders, bound them together, and transported them to the Sea of Milk, into which they were plunged. But the moment Veerabawgoo missed his brothers, and knew what had happened to them, he drew an arrow from his quiver, and, after a short prayer, darted it with such force that it flew to the Sea of Milk with inconceivable swiftness, cut the magical cord which bound the four Verauls, and enabled them to fly back through the ætherial region and join him in camp.

Veerabawgoo was so extremely irritated at the action of Agnimogum, that he ordered his brothers to withdraw, and leave the punishment of Agnimogum exclusively to him. He then challenged him and his whole force, calling on him to face him if he had any spirit. They both fought the whole day with swords, without intermission, and in so desperate a manner, that Agnimogum was at length disabled by the wounds he received, and fell senseless on the ground. The remains of his army fled to their capital, and Veerabawgoo, after having caused the head of Agnimogum to be severed from the body, collected his army, and returned triumphantly to Soobramonier.

The news of the fall of Agnimogum enraged the tyrant Soorapurpana to the highest degree; and, declaring that he would no longer bear with Soobramonier, he ordered the best part of his formidable force to be in readiness: but his fourth and youngest son, named Errennien, observed that Soobramonier and his host were unworthy his notice; that he might therefore remain in his capital, and send him to fight them. Though the tyrant thought more seriously of Soobramonier's powers, yet he was so confident of his own superiority, and so blinded by the adulations of his court, that he permitted his son Errennien to take the command of a new and stronger army.

Veerabawgoo advanced with his whole force, and meeting Errennien, a very smart engagement took place, and the greatest part of Errennien's force were slain by the showers of arrows.

The giant then attacked Veerabawgoo, and for some time fought with great fury; but Veerabawgoo, with the greatest dexterity, parried his attempts. Errennien, having received many wounds, found himself incapable of continuing the combat any longer; he therefore invoked Buttra Cauley* to come to his

* Buttra Cauley, or Kaully, is regarded as a goddess, because she is said to have been once the wife of Seeven; she bears a most horrid and terrific appearance. Human sacrifices were anciently offered to her, in order to preserve mankind from her vengeance. The Pagans are to this day in great dread of her; consequently sanguinary offerings are generally made to her.

his assistance. She instantly appeared with her female force, and encountered Veerabawgoo; the Amazons displayed the greatest prowess at the onset, but the powerful arrows darted at them by the Ettoo Veerauls soon disabled them, and they were defeated. Buttra Cauley herself now engaged Veerabawgoo in great wrath; upon approaching him, he took hold of her hair, and giving her a terrible shake, lifted up his lance to slay her: but her petition for pardon, and assurance of her ignorance of his quality, procured her release. She was commanded to quit the field of battle, and never to make a similar attempt in future, which she promised to do, and vanished. Errennien then took the form of a fish, and plunging into the sea, made his escape. He never afterwards made his appearance, but is supposed to exist unto this day.

The news of the defeat of Errennien and his army having reached Soorapurpana, he deputed his brother, Singamoga Sooren,* to take the field. This terrible monster mounted his armed ruddum, drawn by a great number of elephants, *yaulies*, and horses, and marched at the head of a formidable army, accompanied by his ministers, who were also great warriors.

Veerabawgoo remained encamped on the field of battle, and having learnt of Singamoga Sooren's march against him, he ordered a part of the Boothaganumguls to meet his van; they did so, and a warm combat having ensued, they were routed by the Boothaganumguls; but the main body of the army arriving soon after, a general battle took place, and the enemy was compelled to retreat; whereupon Singamoga Sooren, with a select force, attacked the Ettoo Veerauls and Boothaganumguls with such fury, as compelled them to retreat in turn. He then darted eight ustroms at once against them, and made them fall into a swoon. Veerabawgoo thereupon attacked the monster Singamoga Sooren, and both from their armed ruddums despatched numerous arrows and other weapons at each other. Veerabawgoo darted an arrow at the prodigious flag fixed on the summit of his adversary's ruddum, and made it fall. This incensed him so, that he sent a magical cord, which, having disabled Veerabawgoo, bound him and the Ettoo Veerauls together, and in instant transported them beyond the Seventh Sea, and left them in that part of the earth where reigns impenetrable darkness.

Naraden Reshee reported this circumstance to Soobramonier, who immediately commanded the *Suttee-Veloydom* (a lance given to him by Easuren, the Almighty) to fly with all speed to the Land of Darkness, and having cut the magical cord, to convey the Nava Veerauls safely over to him.

Within a few minutes the Suttee appeared escorting them. On their arrival, Soobramonier observed to Veerabawgoo that he might now remain quiet, since Singamoga Sooren was too valiant, and in every respect their superior, and therefore that he would himself engage him. They intreated Soobramonier to suffer them to engage the monster once more; but he assured them of their inequality, and desired that the office of subduing Singamoga Sooren might be left to him. So ardent, however, was their desire to punish the monster, and to slay him with their own hands, that they persisted in their request, and appeared affronted at Soobramonier's opinion of their incapacity to contend with him. Soobramonier therefore complied with their earnest desire; but no sooner did they renew the combat with Singamoga Sooren, than he despatched another magical cord, which bound them all together, and transported them in the twinkling of an eye to *Othiagurry Puroadom*.†

The

* Singamoga Sooren is the second brother of Soorapurpana. He was born with a thousand lion's faces and two thousand hands, and wore a thousand crowns of inestimable value. The breadth of his breast is said to have been thirty miles, or rather the distance from one shoulder to the other.

† The name of a mountain from whence the sun rises.

The report of this second transportation of the Nava Vēraula provoked Soobramonier greatly. He marched immediately at the head of his army, and having joined that of the Nava Veraula on the field, commenced a battle with Singamoga Sooren with inexpressible fury. Many millions of arrows and other destructive weapons were darted by Soobramonier against the Asuraula, every one of which destroyed thousands of them, and though opposed with equal fury by the Asuraula, yet not a single individual of Soobramonier's host was slain, because the whole were celestial beings: on the contrary, the army of Singamoga Sooren sustained considerable loss. Finding himself on the point of being subdued, he, by the power of magic, drew the whole of Soobramonier's Boothaganumguls towards him, and lifting them with his two thousand monstrous hands, threw them into his mouths and swallowed them. Soobramonier and the immortal gods remained untouched. Singamoga Sooren now congratulated himself on his certain victory, and blew the chank with such force, in token of his joy, that the whole of the upper and lower worlds resounded with the noise. This circumstance put the Deverguls into the greatest consternation, and many of them retired from the scene of battle to escape from the pursuit of the Asuraula.

Soobramonier was exceedingly exasperated at the action of Singamoga Sooren; but before he proceeded to punish him for his presumption, he questioned the monster whether he could prevent his arrow from hurting him; and being answered with defiance, Soobramonier darted an ustrom, which split his breast, and as he covered it with one of his hands, to prevent the Boothaganumguls from flying out, Soobramonier sent a second ustrom, which hit his forehead and caused him to fall. As he insensibly took off his hand from his torn breast, the whole of the Boothaganumguls flew out from his breast, nostrils, and ears; and having thus disabled him, Soobramonier sent a shower of arrows, and destroyed the residue of his army.

Vistnoo and the other gods who had absconded now made their appearance, and blew the chank in token of Soobramonier's victory; who thereupon made use of the ustra jebom, and sent two arrows to the aforementioned Othiagurry Purvadam, which relieved the Nava Veraula, and brought them safe over the seas to camp.

Singamoga Sooren soon after recovered from his swoon, and finding the whole of his force destroyed, he roared out dreadfully, and with inexpressible rage attacked Soobramonier, darting arrows and other weapons with his two thousand hands: but he despatched a number of drawn swords, with commands to cut off the heads and hands of Singamoga Sooren; no sooner, however, were they cut off, than they instantly grew again. The whole of them were a second time cut off, and finding them grow a second time, he commanded them to stop, and they stopped accordingly. Singamoga Sooren remained with a single head and two hands; and Soobramonier sent his lance, and severed them from his body.

Soorapurpana having now no other chief to send, left his capital, at the head of a most formidable gigantic force, and attacked the host of Soobramonier in so furious a manner, that they found it impracticable to resist, and retreated in great confusion.

Veerabawgoo then opposed the giants, and slew a great part of them; but finding himself beset by fresh troops, and becoming much fatigued by the battle, he fell back, and informed Soobramonier of his inability to continue the engagement any longer. Whereupon Soobramonier advanced, and by darting arrows and other formidable arms, which showered upon the Asuraula,

slew the whole of them. Soorapurpana then commanded all his adherents in the 1,008 undoms to assemble on the field of battle.

Those from the first undom appeared instantly, and attacked Soobramonier with the utmost fury, but were soon subdued; Soobramonier, in order to prevent them from being reanimated by the tyrant, made use of the *Agni Jebom* (a prayer invoking the god of fire to obey his commands), and darted an arrow, which, as it flew, ejected an innumerable quantity of fiery darts, which showered upon them and consumed the whole of the tyrant's force.

Soorapurpana then commanded the Asurauls from a second undom, and upon their attempt to attack Soobramonier, the latter destroyed them with his arrows; they were succeeded by a fresh reinforcement from the third undom, upon whose appearance in battle, Soobramonier passionately opened *the eye on his forehead*, and they were burnt and reduced to ashes.

At the attack of the Asurauls from the fourth undom, Soobramonier, having laughed with rage, they were consumed. He then, in order to accelerate the destruction of the Asurauls, darted his powerful arrows, commanding them to shut the gates of the different undoms, and to slay all those who might attempt to join Soorapurpana; and this order was accordingly obeyed.

Finding that the Asurauls were prevented from coming to his assistance, Soorapurpana personally engaged Soobramonier with the greatest rage, and cut down the flag from the top of the Swamy's ruddum; at which exploit the tyrant having joyfully blown the chank, Soobramonier, with a single arrow, not only brought his flag to the ground, but also destroyed the sixty horses which drew his ruddum. At this Vistnoo blew the chank in return. Soorapurpana, having summoned another armed ruddum, renewed his combat with Soobramonier with redoubled energy, and flying to the different undoms with the utmost speed, he forced open the gates; but before the Asurauls could get out, Soobramonier despatched the radiant *chuckrom*, the *vegerayoudom*, a short handspike, an iron pestle, and a *goondon tondy*,* which five instruments flew, and having completely destroyed the Asurauls throughout the 1,008 undoms, returned to Soobramonier.

Soobramonier pursued the tyrant into the different undoms, but could not find him. Upon entering one of them, finding that impervious darkness reigned throughout, Soobramonier had recourse to the *agni jebom*, and having shot an arrow, the magical obscurity vanished, and Soorapurpana was discovered.

He then attacked Soobramonier, and after a smart single combat, he fled into all the undoms pursued by Soobramonier, fighting with him in every one of the 1,008; but finding that he could not conceal himself in them, he descended to *Jemboothewoo*,† and opposed Soobramonier, who then shot a fiery arrow and destroyed the tyrant's ruddum. He then transformed himself into the shape of a monstrous bird, and flew about picking up the Deverguls; whereupon Soobramonier commanded Deventhren, their king, to come to him in the form of a peacock, which he mounted, and pursuing the tyrant in his æthereal flight, destroyed him by his *vegerayoudom*. Soorapurpana then took his own gigantic form, and having flown to *Mahanira Purvadam*,‡ brought from thence two sorts of green leaves, which possessed the virtue of reanimating the dead. No sooner did the wind from these leaves touch the dead Asurauls, than they arose, and vigorously attacked Soobramonier, but he instantly

* Probably a truncheon, said to be broad and ponderous at the extremity, but tapering where the hand holds it.

† Probably the island of Ceylon.

‡ The lofty and sacred mountain of entire gold before-mentioned.

instantly destroyed them by his fiery arrows. The tyrant then caused an impervious darkness throughout this Jemboothewoo, and taking advantage thereof, annoyed Vistnoo and Bruma, and the other lesser divinities, to such a degree, that they called upon Soobramonier to protect them : who thereupon took the suttee veloydom (the destroying lance) in his hand, with the intention of commanding it to crush the tyrant at once, but as the mystic, or delusive obscurity, which he caused, had instantly vanished, Soobramonier chased him, and induced him to return to the field of battle, where he suddenly appeared in the shape of Bruma, with four heads and eight hands, to circumvent Soobramonier, and thereby prevent him from encountering him ; but Soobramonier, having readily known him, shot an arrow at him (after invoking Bruma), which deprived the tyrant of his false shape, and caused him to stand before Soobramonier in his real and natural form. After a short and severe engagement, the tyrant suddenly assumed the form of Vistnoo, mounted on his favourite garuden ; but no sooner did Soobramonier think of Vistnoo (the preserver), than the fictitious form vanished. He then assumed the form of Seeven, and appeared mounted on his bull ; but upon grasping a weapon, called *sheva-ustrom*, the fictitious form of Seeven also vanished. Soobramonier suddenly saw a lofty mangoe tree standing before him, and knowing it to be the tyrant, drew his sword and advanced towards the tree to cut it down ; but it also vanished. The tyrant Soorapurpana then appeared in his original form, and having attacked the Sawmy Soobramonier, the combat lasted six days, during which time Soobramonier having chased Soorapurpana throughout the seven upper and seven lower logums, the Deverguls, and all the celestial host of Soobramonier, were under the greatest consternation, not knowing where he was. On the sixth day the two combatants re-appeared on the field of battle, when Soobramonier, with the suttee veloydom, gave him a decisive blow on the breast, and split him in two. The monster fell, but the parts of his torn body took the form of a cock and peacock. Soobramonier then, with the view of convincing the tyrant who he was (he being a ray, or essence, of the most infinite and eternal God), suddenly rose and exhibited his godlike form in such a manner, that he filled the universe with his immensity, and having thereby manifested himself to be the immediate essence of the omnipotent and omnipresent supreme Creator, and in so brilliant a manner as far exceeded the meridian sun, the tyrant was immediately shocked at the idea of his having so ignorantly attempted to encounter with the son of the Almighty Seeven, and becoming at that moment filled with wisdom, he approached in the form he assumed, to prostrate himself and petition for pardon. But Soobramonier immediately changed himself into his former shape, as a mighty warrior ; this caused a change of sentiment in the breast of Soorapurpana, who, considering Soobramonier as an impostor, flew with amazing swiftness all over the field of battle, and picked the Deverguls and other subordinate divinities ; whereupon Soobramonier having shot an ustrom, commanding it to seize the cock and peacock, it did so, and brought them both to the presence of Soobramonier, who upon drawing the suttee veloydom to destroy them, Soorapurpana roared, and having submissively declared his ignorance, and confessed his criminality, entreated that his life might be preserved, and that he might be kept as a vehicle for him to ride upon. Soobramonier complied with his earnest desire, and having mounted the peacock, fastened the cock to the flag on the summit of his ruddum, and rode triumphantly into camp. The Trimoorthy and other immortal gods, at this joyful event, accompanied by the holy Reeshees, appeared aloft in the ætherial regions in refulgent majesty, and causing a shower

shower of all manner of scented flowers to fall on the mighty conqueror of the Asurauls, they displayed much joy on the occasion, since the heavens resounded with all manner of music, and the heavenly beauties danced in unison before them.

Soobramonier having thus vanquished Soorapurpana, and subverted his gigantic tyranny, commanded the King of the Seas to fly to the capital of Soorapurpana; and having released the thirty-three crores of Deverguls from slavery and imprisonment, to destroy the whole dominion by an inundation.

The moment Soobramonier was joined by the enslaved Deverguls, he returned triumphantly with all his celestial host (which consisted of 330,000,000 of Daivers) to Sriyenteeporam (Tritchendoor), from whence he sent Deventhren to take possession of his dominion.

Vistnoo, the preserver, then created two most beautiful and radiant females, whom he married to Soobramonier; and after the marriage was over, the gods, and Reshees were permitted to return to their respective places of abode.

Soobramonier was so much delighted with this spot, on account of its being situated on the sea-shore, on account of the Tambrawaney river being close at hand, and on account of its disemboгуing within five miles of it, that he fixed upon this spot for his residence. The Trimoorly, and most of the demi-gods, also expressed themselves much pleased with this spot, and promised to remain also and adore him here; but upon observing to Soobramonier that this place was destitute of Brahmins to perform the various poojehs for him, he sent for 2,000 families from Ayotee,* established them at Sriyenteeporam, and enjoining them to believe in him, and to perform at all times the poojehs with fidelity and scrupulous attention, promised to grant their wishes, to preserve and prosper them and their generation, and when they finished their earthly probation, to receive their souls into his paradise.

In the month of Arpasi (October) a feast is annually observed and celebrated in commemoration of Soobramonier's successful war with Soorapurpana, the great giant, once the king of the fourteen *worlds*, and of his defeat and the extirpation of the whole race.

* Far to the north, beyond Benares, which was afterwards the birth-place of Ramah.

S O N N E T.

I DREAMED I saw the human heart expand,
 Like to a hall which opes its portals wide;
 From whence there issued forth a motley band,
 Of various hues and habits. I descried
 Rage, stalking like a lion in his pride,
 With glaring demon-eye: Pity, her hand
 Aye to her cheek upturned, with aspect bland:
 Joy frisking to the lute, as mad with wine;
 Whilst Melancholy seemed to droop and pine
 To see his frolic. Hope tripped blithe along,
 Chaunting aloud a soft responsive song,
 Pointing where pearls and rosy garlands line
 Her sweet seductive path; whilst pale Despair
 Gazed at the way she led, but durst not follow there.

H.

PROJECTS FOR THE INVASION OF INDIA.

THE rupture between Russia and Persia, by inciting public attention in Europe towards the British interests in the East, has revived the question as to the practicability of invading India by a land expedition from Europe. Some journalists in England have recently adverted to this scheme, rather, indeed, for the purpose of exposing its folly: but the writer of the following remarkable article, which has lately appeared in a French paper,* maintains the feasibility of the project, and considers our vulnerableness in that remote quarter as affording the means of keeping us in check in Europe:—

A great deal was said, at one period, of a military expedition to India, of which Buonaparte had conceived the idea, and in which Russia and Persia were to concur. Some persons have been inclined to cast doubts upon the project. It is, notwithstanding, certain that the man who found the boundaries of Europe too narrow for him, entered, during the time of his highest power, into secret plans, which proved, beyond a doubt, the he had conceived the idea of striking England at the heart, by overturning her commercial establishments on the Ganges, and throughout the peninsula of India. Whatever doubts may be entertained of the practicability of his bold project, there are none entertained at present of its having been contemplated. We ourselves saw, in 1815, a memorial at that time deposited in the State Paper Office of the Minister of War, entitled "The Campaign of Indostan." We are rather inclined to believe that the declaration of war made in 1812 by Buonaparte against Russia, principally arose from the refusal of the Emperor Alexander to participate in an enterprize, the object of which was, the ruin of the power which, at that time, formed the sole counterpoise to the great empire. If there was any necessity for recurring to proofs which attest the reality of this project, we should find, at least, one in the mission with which General Gardanne was charged to the sovereign of Persia. That ambassador went to Teheran, accompanied by a great number of officers, intended, without doubt, to organize and discipline the Persian army. But the most authentic proof is to be found in the memorial which we have just mentioned, which is probably the same that was recently published, and which contains, not only the plan of the expedition, but the route of the forces that were to carry it into execution, the means of providing for their subsistence, &c.; all of which are detailed with a military precision, the merit of which soldiers only can appreciate. According to this memorial, the expedition was to set out from Asterabad, a city situated at the southern extremity of the Caspian Sea. This point of departure is nearly the same as that formerly chosen by Alexander, and in our time by the last conqueror of India, Tamas-Kouli-Khan. It was intended to take the same route which was followed by the Macedonians and the Persians, namely, that of Candahar and Kaboul, and thus to reach the banks of the Indus. The memorial affirms that, once arrived at that river, the expedition would find that it had surmounted the sole difficulties which space, climate, and deserts, oppose to such an enterprize. Without affecting to undervalue the dangers of so long a march through uninhabited countries, traversed by mountains and rivers difficult to cross, we are compelled to admit, that since these obstacles have been surmounted by a Greek army, at a time when military discipline had not attained all its perfection, it is not impossible that a European army in our days should do as much. At the same time, we know that England believes in the possibility of such an enterprize, and that, for the preservation of her establishments, she does not trust entirely to her army of sepoys. In this respect we look upon the publication of the memorial as useful. It is of some consequence that the British cabinet should know how possible it is to raise against it the discontented population of India; it is good that it should know that, if its policy should create uneasiness in Europe, the latter has merely to frame the wish, in order to

* The *Quotidienne*, a Paris journal of violent character.

to snatch from Great Britain those possessions whence her commerce derives all its prosperity, and her policy all its arrogance.

Schemes for wresting from England her Eastern possessions have been entertained at various periods since those possessions began to assume the importance they have now acquired in the estimation of European powers. In the reign of Catherine II. of Russia, a plan for the invasion of India was projected, when a rupture between England and Russia was expected. The Emperor Paul seemed seriously (as far as he could be serious) bent upon trying the experiment; and he actually made some arrangements, *upon paper*, with the existing government of France for a conjoint expedition to India. That Buonaparte meditated such a scheme we have ample authority for believing: a writer* who has given us particulars of the confessions of that extraordinary man, at a period when he had no rational motive to disguise his past designs, tells us enough to shew that the scheme had engrossed a large share of his attention, and that he was as firmly convinced of its practicability, as he was of that which was ultimately the cause of his downfall.

The march of Alexander the Great to the western provinces of India, under circumstances which cannot concur again to facilitate the progress of a chief even so peculiarly adapted for conquest as he, proves merely that the scheme of invading India by land from Europe is not physically impossible. It furnishes nothing more in the way of encouragement to a modern general, whose entire arrangements and whose route would probably be altogether different from that of the Macedonian monarch. The composition of the invading army, the nature of the country, the mode of procuring supplies, the species of warfare, the character of the inhabitants of the intervening countries, even the climate and other physical circumstances, in many places, would be totally different (owing to the operation of various causes during the long interval) from what they were at the time when the Macedonian army forced its way from Thrace to the Punjab.

According to the "Memorial" referred to in the passage quoted from the French paper, the joint expedition of French and Russians was to assemble at Asterabad, on the Caspian sea, and to follow the route of Alexander by Candahar and Cabul to the banks of the Indus: *after which*, the obstacles opposed by space, climate, and deserts, it is asserted, would be overcome. The French editor seems to be sensible that such a succinct manner of treating the subject is somewhat ridiculous.

After the difficulties experienced by the ablest geographers in fixing the route of Alexander from Hyrcania (the modern Mazunderan) to the Indus, it is folly to pretend to adopt the line of march of that conqueror as a criterion for succeeding generals. The meagre, superficial, and often erroneous reports of the ancient geographers respecting these regions, have so bewildered the ablest modern writers, that every attempt to delineate the course of the Macedonian conqueror has failed. Major Rennell confesses that it is impossible to follow the line of Alexander's routes on the west of the Indus for want of such unequivocal marks as are to be found in the courses and confluences of the Punjab rivers eastward of the Indus. The commonly received notion is, that he marched from a place in Hyrcania, situate on the southern shore of the Caspian, and passing the Elbourz range of mountains, through Aria (supposed to be Herat), entered Drangiana, and occupied Zarang, the capital of that province, which was situated on the river Etymandrus, or Heel-mund, and

* See Mr. O'Meara's "Voice from St. Helena."

and is supposed to be Jellallabad. After some marches and counter-marches in this quarter, occasioned by conflicts with native tribes, he is supposed to have turned off nearly at right angles with his former route, which was southward, in an easterly direction, to Arachosia, respecting which province and its capital, Arachotus, placed by Ptolemy on a river derived from a lake, no modern geographer can give any probable account. After founding a city, named after himself, in Arachosia, Alexander is conjectured by Major Rennell to have crossed a range of mountains covered with snow, to the valley of Candahar, marching in a north-easterly direction till he reached the cold and level plains of Ghizni. He thence entered the modern Cabul, proceeding northwards through the Paropamisian mountains to the foot of the Indian Caucasus, or Koosh, which some writers suppose he crossed. It is certain that he entered the modern province of Balkh, on the northern side of the mountains. He crossed the Oxus, or Amoo; and after traversing Bactriana and Sogdiana, directed his march to the southward and eastward, and finally arrived on the banks of the river Cophrenes, the western boundary of India, the modern name of which it is fruitless to inquire.

It is unnecessary to trouble our readers with the grounds of our belief that it would be impracticable for an European army at the present time to pursue this course in order to reach Hindoostan. Let those who entertain the fragment of a doubt upon the subject, consult the intelligent travellers, especially Mr. Elphinstone, who have made us acquainted with the existing physical and moral condition of the countries through which the conqueror is conjectured to have marched.

This is the only example upon record which could serve in the way of warrant for indulging a scheme of conquering India by land from Europe; the other instances are those of Oriental princes, who have taken advantage of favourable circumstances, to make irruptions into Hindoostan with armies composed of men adapted by physical habit to its climate and peculiarities. These cases afford no parallel even to that of Alexander, and prove, as before observed, merely that to enter India with an hostile army from a distant country is not physically impossible.

It is extremely difficult for persons who consider the question of the practicability of the invasion, without personal observation of the countries through which an European army will have to pass in its progress to India, and who found their hypotheses upon the reports of travellers alone, to avoid being misled into errors. Col. Macdonald Kinneir, the present envoy at the court of Tehran, who, in the course of his various travels, has had abundant opportunity for reflecting upon the points of consideration in this question, which, he tells us, often employed his attention, has appended to one of his works* a dissertation upon "the invasion of India."

Of all the various plans which have been proposed at different periods for the accomplishment of this bold undertaking, two only, the writer thinks, offer even a distant prospect of success: one is, to follow the track of Alexander and Nadir Shah; the other, to advance through Russia and Bokhara. Before, however, an European leader can tread in the footsteps of the Macedonian and Persian conquerors, the intervening empires of Turkey and Persia must be overthrown; or their governments rendered subservient to the interests of the invaders, either of which preparatory measures would be sufficient to exercise the talents of an Alexander. Supposing the point to be

attained,

* Journey through Asia Minor, Armenia, Koordistan, &c. in 1813 and 1814.

attained, there are three ways, the writer states, by which an army might be transported from Europe into Persia; the first, by conveying the troops up the Mediterranean, and landing them on the coast of Syria or Cilicia; the second, by crossing the Bosphorus or Dardanelles, and advancing through Anatolia and Armenia; and the third by navigating the Euxine from Constantinople, the Crimea, or the mouths of the Danube, to Trebisond, or some other port on the shore of Mingrelia.

In the first case, the army, when disembarked at Scanderoon or Latakia, might choose one of three routes: first, they might follow the track of the Emperor Julian by crossing the Euphrates (about 286 miles distant) at Bir or Membgiz, and follow the course of that river for about 500 miles, across a dry and barren plain, destitute of corn, cattle, and provisions of any kind, to the vicinity of Bagdad, from whence (crossing the Tigris) the road is open to Hamadan (the ancient Ecbatana) by the pass of Kurend, and thence into Persia, provided the Turks, Koords, and Persians contribute all in their power towards the aid of the army, which must otherwise encounter all the horrors of famine: secondly, the troops might march from Cilicia by Orfa, the ancient Edessa, Merdin, Mosul and the pass of Derbund in Koordistan (about 400 miles), through a country once happy and flourishing, now desert and, generally speaking, uncultivated; the advance of the army from Mosul must depend upon the Koords and Persians: thirdly, the troops may be marched through Cappadocia, Diarbekr, and Armenia; for 340 miles the road, or rather footpath, lies across the rugged steepes of Mount Taurus, at all times impassable for cannon, or any wheel-carriage, and frequently in winter completely blocked up with snow, and impassable in spring from the torrents; from Diarbekr to Erzeroum the distance is 220 miles, the road bad, the country mountainous.

By the second mode of conveyance, through Asia Minor, the troops would have to march 723 miles from Constantinople to Tocat in Anatolia, the country, as well as the climate, the finest in the world, but thinly peopled and badly cultivated, vast tracts of land either lying waste, or being covered with morasses and impervious forests. From Tocat to Erzeroum is about 200 miles, the country mountainous and difficult of passage, particularly by troops encumbered with baggage. The road continues the same from thence to Erivan, twelve days' march for a caravan; from Erivan to Tabreez is fifty-three fursungs, or about 200 miles. Here provisions would be abundant, as Azerbaijan is one of the most productive provinces in Persia.

The third is the most expeditious, convenient, and least expensive mode of conveying an army from Europe into Persia, namely, by embarking at Constantinople and disembarking at Trebisond, marching from thence to Erzeroum, which might be reached in eight or ten days. This journey, which Col. Macdonald Kimeir performed in the month of June, led, he says, over stupendous and rugged mountains covered even then with snow.

All these routes are only practicable by an army unembarrassed by artillery, ammunition, warlike stores, &c.; the transportation of such unwieldy articles over burning plains, steep and rugged cliffs, forests and morasses, it would be madness to attempt.

If it were granted, however, that, by some means or other, an army of 30,000 or 40,000 men,* furnished with artillery, military stores and equipments

* According to the alleged statement of Buonaparte, the plan concerted between the French and Russian governments was, that each was to supply 30,000 troops, and Russia was to provide an additional force of 40,000 Cossacks, as well as camels and other requisites for crossing the desert.

ments of all kinds, were assembled on the eastern frontiers of Irak, and that jealousies and animosities amongst the various tribes throughout that empire were hushed into peace, or absorbed in the contemplation of the mighty project; suppose every province of Persia was exhausted to provide provisions, horses, camels, mules, and other beasts absolutely necessary to convey the baggage, cannon, stores, and even water; there would lie before the army a journey of about 1,200 miles, over vast tracts of uninhabited deserts, and countries destitute in many places of water, corn, pasturage, and forage.

Col. Macdonald thinks it is proved by the surveys of several travellers, that it is impossible for even a small caravan to penetrate to India through the southern parts of Kerman, or through Mekran: the march of the army must therefore lie through Khorasan or Seistan.

The direct route through Khorasan is by Turshish and Herat to Candahar, probably the same followed by Alexander; another is by Meshid and Muro Shahjehan, to Balkh. The former is about 900 miles, leading through a perfectly disorganized country, for the greater part waste and uninhabited. From Herat to Candahar, the country is described as sterile, without wood, corn, or habitation, and in many places destitute even of fresh water. From Candahar to Cabul is 176 miles, from thence to Peshawer 180, and from Peshawer to Attock on the Indus, 50. The other route by Meshed lies through districts for the most part parched and dreary, without food or fuel, and sometimes water, to Muro Shahjehan, upwards of 200 miles, and then for the same distance, and through a similar country, possessed by Tartar tribes inimical alike to Russians and Persians, as far as Balkh. To reach Peshawer, a distance of 500 miles, the Hindoo Coosh must be crossed, through districts occupied by Usbeks and Affghans, who must be either conciliated or conquered. Or instead of advancing from Muro Shahjehan to Balkh, the army might proceed to Cabul, about 550 miles; it would then have to pass through a mountainous though productive country, inhabited by savage and powerful nomade tribes, from thence to the Indus.

The Seistan route is from Yezd to Dizuc, by Bost to Candahar, along the banks of the Heel-mund. The distance is upwards of 700 miles, and the country, from Yezd to Dizuc, a space of 360 miles, has not been traversed by any European for centuries, and is represented by native travellers as a perfect desert. The country between Dizuc and Candahar is in a somewhat better condition.

The invading army might advance from Candahar towards the north of Guzerat, and cross the Indus below Moultan, instead of crossing at Attock, and entering India by the Punjab. The distance is about 350 miles, and the country, which is inhabited by different tribes of Affghans and Baloochees, is flat, intersected by low hills and forests of coppice-wood. The whole of this part is at present the scene of fierce contentions between various chieftains, amongst whom Runjeet Singh, the king of the Punjab, exerts a powerful influence, and would oppose a formidable obstacle to an invading army, of whatever nation it was composed.

There has been another mode projected for conveying an army from Russia to India, namely, to embark the troops on the Caspian, and crossing it, advance to the Oxus, and sail up that river, which is navigable to within three or four days' journey of Balkh; then to march through Bokhara to the Indus. The obstacles in this route are numberless: the Caspian Sea is dangerous at all seasons, without harbours, and so full of shoals, that small vessels only can navigate it. The independent tribes on the eastern shores of that sea, on

the banks of the Oxus, and in the steppes which intervene, would offer a determined resistance to the advance of an army; and the present rulers of Bokhara, Koondooz, and Oorgunj (the former of whom can bring into the field 100,000 horse) would be little likely to co-operate with European invaders. The state of this portion of Asia may be seen from the communication of Mr. Moorcroft published in this journal;* the reports of that lamented traveller afford satisfactory reasons for believing that the progress of an invading army in this direction would be effectually stopped. The whole of these warlike tribes are particularly hostile to the Russian name and nation; vast multitudes of Russians are now slaves in Oorgunj, Bokhara, &c., many of whom are seized even on the shores of the Caspian.

The recent published "*Memoirs of Baber*" throw considerable light upon the geographical character of the countries last mentioned. It is impossible to read the able "Introduction" to that work, without being struck with the extraordinary impediments which nature there opposes to the passage of troops. The changes which have taken place since Baber's time must be for the worse; yet he, "one of the most illustrious men of his age, and one of the most eminent and accomplished princes that ever adorned an Asiatic throne," possessed of advantages which no modern warrior, Oriental or European, can hope to possess, almost despaired, at one period, of succeeding in his project of subduing India. He confessed to his chiefs, when they began to lose heart and to prepare for returning, that "by the labours of many years, after undergoing great hardships, measuring many a toilsome journey, and raising various armies; after exposing himself and his troops to circumstances of great danger, to battle and bloodshed, by the divine favour," he had reached so far on his way.

Let any person ever so little familiar with the details of military operations, consider the obvious difficulties which an army from Europe must encounter on either of these routes, and say whether the project of invading India be practicable: infinite varieties of climate, noxious atmosphere, privations the most intolerable, fatigue and hardship of the severest kind, frequent conflicts—these are the certain perils which will beset the troops. Add to them the contingencies which an army is every where exposed to, diseases, mutiny, defeat, with no hope of succour or reinforcement, and the project will appear calculated to engage only the wildest and most chimerical brain.

Yet have we enumerated but a part of the obstacles to be surmounted before the prize is secured. Suppose an army of Europeans to have reached the Western provinces of India, battered, reduced in individual strength as well as numbers, the conflict for empire is then to commence. An army of 250,000 men, well appointed, well disciplined, commanded by British officers, under whose eye and direction the native troops have combatted successfully even against Europeans, await their approach, fresh and full of spirits. It is not a single victory, nor ten victories, that will overturn the well-compacted power which Great Britain has established in Hindoostan.

It is needless to press the subject further: if any faith is due to the prediction of Buonaparte, that Russia, sooner or later, will deprive us of India, we may wait unconcernedly until some previous changes take place, which time may possibly produce, changes too vast and important to escape our observation, and without which even Europe combined would scarcely succeed in any project for invading India.

* *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xxi, pp. 699, 709.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN THE DECCAN.*

THE authorities by whom civil justice was administered were the following: In the country the Potail, over him the Mamlutdar† and Sirsoobadar,‡ and above all the Peishwa or his minister. Jagheerdars administered justice in their own land; the great ones with little or no interference on the part of the Government. In some towns there was a judicial officer, called the Nyae-daish, who tried causes under the Peishwa's authority; and any person whom the Peishwa pleased to authorize might conduct an investigation, subject to his Highness's confirmation.

If a complaint was made to a Potail, he would send for the person complained of, and if he admitted the debt, would interfere partly as a friend to settle the mode and time of payment. If the debt were disputed, and he and his Koolkurnee could not, by their own influence or sagacity, effect a settlement to the satisfaction of both parties, the Potail assembled a punchayet of inhabitants of the village, who inquired into the matter with very little form, and decided as they thought best; but this decision could not take place without the previous consent of the parties.

If the complainant were refused a punchayet, or disapproved of the decision, or if he thought proper not to apply to the Potail, he went to the Mamlutdar, who proceeded nearly in the same manner as the Potail; with this addition, that he could compel the party complained of to submit to a punchayet, or else make satisfaction to the complainant. When there was a Sirsoobadar, the same process might be repeated with him, or at court, but in all this there was no regular appeal. The superior authority would not revise the decision of the inferior, unless there had been some gross injustice, or reason to suspect corruption; in cases of less purity, that is in almost all cases, the superior was influenced in receiving the appeal by the consideration of the profit promised as a compensation for the trouble.

Though the Government officer endeavoured himself to settle the dispute, and though it rested with him to decide whether or not the case required a punchayet, yet it was reckoned gross injustice to refuse one on a question at all doubtful, and it was always reckoned a sufficient ground for ordering a new investigation when there had been no punchayet.

The punchayet may therefore be considered as the great instrument in the administration of justice, and it is of consequence to determine how the assembly was constituted, what were its powers, and what its method of proceeding, and enforcing or procuring the enforcement of its decrees.

The members of a punchayet were generally selected by the officer of Government, by whom it was granted, with the approbation of the parties, and often at their suggestion; sometimes the parties chose an equal number each, and the officer named an umpire. A person on the part of Government not unfrequently presided at punchayets, especially at Poona, and directed their operations: this officer must, however, be objectionable(?) to the parties. In affairs where Government was concerned, it ordered some of its own officers to investigate the matter, but they were expected to be people not objected to by

* From a Report of the Hon. M. Elphinstone, dated 25th October 1819.

† An officer appointed by Government to superintend the revenue of a large district: in a small district, he was called a Camavadar.

‡ An officer placed between the Government and the Mamlutdar. His functions related to the revenue, but they differed in different provinces.

by the other party. The members were people of the same situation in life as the parties, or people likely to understand the subject of discussion: as bankers in a matter of account; Daismooks and Daispandees, when the suit was about land. Their number was never less than five, but it has been known to be as great as fifty. The number was required to be odd. It generally met at the house of the officer who summoned it.

In villages, the Potal got some of the most intelligent and impartial Ryots to sit under a tree, or in the temple or choultry: nobody attended on the part of the Government; and as the submission of the parties was voluntary, their wishes were, of course, more attended to than elsewhere. The consent of the members, however, was every way reckoned essential to a punchayet, and the first act of the meeting was to take a razeenamah, or acknowledgment, of such a consent. Security was also not unfrequently taken for the parties complying with the award of the punchayet. In petty disputes in villages, the parties gave two straws in token of submission, instead of a written razeenamah.

It might be expected that so burdensome a duty would not be willingly undertaken, especially as there was no authorized fee to be gained by it; but, besides the compliment of being selected by the parties, there was the hope of presents from one or both, which it was not disgraceful to take, unless to promote injustice. The parties likewise entreated the persons they wished to accept the office, and the officer of Government added his authority. It was, moreover, reckoned disgracefully selfish to refuse to serve on a punchayet, and as the man who was asked to be a member to-day might be a suitor to-morrow, he was obliged to afford the assistance which he was likely to require. It was rare, therefore, for people to refuse to serve unless they had a good excuse.

It was more difficult to procure their regular attendance when appointed, and this was generally effected by the entreaties of the party interested. The magistrates also sent Peons and injunctions to compel the presence of a person who had once agreed to become a member, and although he would receive a reasonable excuse, yet if he were really anxious for the speedy decision of the cause, he seldom failed in procuring attendance; besides, there was no precision about the number of members required to attend, as long as the parties were satisfied, all was thought to be regular enough. When an absent member returned, the past proceedings could be explained to him, and any further inquiry he desired carried on.

When the punchayet was assembled, if the defendant failed to attend, the punchayet applied to the officer, under whose authority it sat, to summon him, unless a Carcoon or a Peon had already been attached to it to perform such duties, on the part of the Government; or the plaintiff, by constant demands and other modes of importunity, wearied him into a submission. When the officer of Government had to compel his attendance, he sent a summons, or if that failed, placed a Peon over him, whom he was obliged to maintain, and imposed a fine of a certain sum a day till he appeared. The plaintiff's complaint was then read, and the defendant's answer received; a replication and a rejoinder were sometimes added, and the parties were cross-questioned by the punchayet as long as they thought it necessary. At that time the parties were kept at a distance from their friends, but afterwards they might assist them as much as they chose. A man might, if it were inconvenient for him to attend, send a Carcoon in his service, or a relation; but the trade of a Vakeel is not known. Accounts, and other written evidence, were called for after the examination

examination of the parties, and likewise oral evidence, when written failed; but a great preference was given to the evidence of written documents. The witnesses seem to have been examined and cross-examined with great care; but the substance only of their evidence was taken down briefly without the questions, and generally in their own hand, if they could write. The natives have not the same deference for testimony that we have; they allow a witness no more credit than his situation and character and connexion with the case entitle him to; they also lay great stress on his manner and appearance while giving his testimony. Oaths were seldom imposed, unless there were reason to suspect the veracity of the witness, and then great pains were taken to make them solemn.

When this examination was concluded, the punchayet, after debating on the case, drew up an award (which was termed *sarounsh* or summary), in which they gave the substance of the complaint and answer, an abstract of each of the documents presented on either side, a summary of the oral evidence on either side, with their own decision on the whole. A copy of the award was given to the successful party, and to the loser, if he required it; another copy was deposited with the officer of Government. In villages there was much less form; the punchayet was often conducted in the way of conversation, and nothing was written but the decision, and sometimes not even that. In important cases, however, all the usual writing was performed by the Koolkurnee.

Throughout the whole proceedings, the punchayets appear to have been guided by their own notions of justice, founded, no doubt, on the Hindoo law, and modified by the custom of the country. They consulted no books, and it was only on particular points immediately connected with the Hindoo law, such as marriage or succession, that they referred to a Shastree for his opinion.

On the report of the punchayet the officer of Government proceeded to confirm and enforce its decree, the punchayet having no executive power of its own. From this cause frequent references to the Magistrate were required, and he was given a considerable influence on the progress of the trial.

If either party objected at this stage, and shewed good reasons why the award should be set aside, the officer under whose authority it sat might require it to revise its sentence, or even grant a new punchayet; but this was not reckoned proper unless corruption were strongly suspected.

No other notice was taken of corruption; unless in such cases the decision of a punchayet was always respected, as the proverbial expression of *punch prumaihur* (a punchayet is God Almighty) fully testifies.

Even after an award was confirmed, an appeal lay to a higher authority, and a new punchayet might be granted; even a new Mamlutdar might revise the proceedings under his predecessor. This was probably a stretch of power, but every thing under the Mahrattas was so irregular and arbitrary that the limits of just authority can with difficulty be traced.

In enforcing the decision, much of course depended on the power of the Magistrate. If a Pottail found the party who gained the cause could not recover his due by the modes of private compulsion hereafter described, he applied to the Mamlutdar to interpose his authority; and in cases where that was insufficient, the Mamlutdar applied to the Government.

It was in this manner that ordinary disputes were settled. Those about boundaries, which are extremely frequent (except in Candeish), were settled by a punchayet composed of Daismooks, Daispandies, Pottails, and Koolkurnees, assisted by the Mhows of the disputing villages, who are the established guardians of land-marks and boundaries. They are also very frequently adjusted

adjusted by ordeal, one mode of which is, for the Potail to walk along the disputed boundary, bearing on his head a clod composed of the soil of both villages kneaded up with various strange ingredients, and consecrated by many superstitious ceremonies; if it hold together, the justice of his claims is established, and if it break, he loses his cause. Many other sorts of ordeal are also performed; with boiling oil, or by taking an oath and imprecating certain curses, if it should be false. If no evil occur within a fixed time, the Gods are conceived to have decided in the swearer's favour.

These ordeals were not uncommon in all cases as well as in boundary disputes, but chiefly when other means of ascertaining the truth had failed.

Disputes about caste were settled by the caste, unless when a complaint of unjust expulsion took place, when the Government ordered a punchayet of respectable persons of the caste from an unprejudiced part of the country.

As it has been shewn that punchayets had no powers of their own, and were moreover somewhat inert, it is necessary to examine the machinery by which they were kept in motion, and their resolutions carried into effect. It has been observed that in the country the Mamlutdars, and the Potails under their authority, performed that duty. In some few towns there also were officers of justice called Nyaeedaish. The proceedings of all these officers were, of course, very irregular; but the model may be learned by observing the proceedings of the Nyaeedaish at Poona, during the long period when Ram Shastree was at the head of that court, and when Nana Furnavees was minister and regent; this was confessedly the period when the Mahratta Government was in the highest perfection, and Ram Shastree is to this day celebrated for his talents and integrity. A full account of that court is given by Mr. Lumsden, in his report of January 24th, from which much of what follows is extracted. Ram Shastree had several deputies, two of whom were almost as famous as himself, and it was by their assistance chiefly that his business was conducted.

On receiving a complaint, a Peon or a Carcoon from Ram Shastree, or from Nana Furnavees, according to the consequence of the person, was sent to summon, or to invite him to attend at Ram Shastree's. If this was refused, positive orders were repeated by Nana Furnavees, and in the event of obstinate non-attendance, the house or lands of the defendant would be sequestered till he appeared.

In case of non-appearance from absence, trial, after many indulgent delays, went on, and the absence of the party was recorded, that he might have a new trial on his return if he accounted for his absence; in cases of land no decision was final in a man's absence. Evidence was summoned in the same form as the defendant, and if the witness were poor the person who summoned him paid his expenses. If the witness lived at a distance, or if attendance were inconvenient, a deputation from the court with some person from the parties was sent to take his evidence, and the Mamlutdar gave his aid to the process; or, if the witness lived very far off, a letter was written requesting him to state the facts required. When the witness was a man of rank, a deputation would be sent to him from the Government, accompanied by parties who went as supplicants for his aid, rather than as checks on his misstatement, and he was solicited to relate what he knew, which was repeated in the court. Even if the witness were not of such rank as to prevent his coming to the court, still if he were a man of any consequence, he was received as a visitor, and the questions were put to him in the way of conversation, and with all the usual forms of civility.

The

The punchayets were more frequently named by the parties than the Judge; but Ram Shastree and his deputies seem frequently to have presided at the trial, the punchayet performing nearly the same functions as a jury in England. A good deal of the investigation seems to have been intrusted to Ram Shastree's Carcoons, who reported to him and the punchayet, and in the decree the names of the members of the punchayet are not mentioned, even when it is merely a repetition of their award. The decision was always in the Peishwa's name, and in all cases of magnitude required his signature; all cases relating to land were of this description, and the same holds all over the country where claims to land are considered more immediately under the superintendence of Government. It was not unusual in the country, as well as in Poona, for a Government officer to receive the complaint and answer, with the documents and the written evidence of witnesses, and lay the whole in this shape before the punchayet, who could call for more evidence if they required it. Much time must have been saved by this arrangement; but it gave the officer of Government considerable opportunities of imposing on the punchayet. The members of the punchayet received no fee; but when they had much trouble the winner of the suit made them openly a present for their pains.

A sum of money was likewise levied for the Government from the winner, under the name of Kerkee, which I believe means congratulatory offering, and from the loser under the name of gonagharry, or fine. These gonagharries varied with the means of litigants; but in revenue accounts, I observe, that one-fourth of the property is always put down as the price paid for justice by the plaintiff when he wins his cause.

The plaintiff losing his cause was obliged to pay the expenses of the defendant, if the latter were poor.

No regular monthly or other returns of causes decided were made out.

When a cause was decided against the defendant the court settled the mode of payment, with reference to his circumstances, either ordering immediate payment or directing payment by instalments, or granting the debtor, if entirely destitute of the means of payment, an exemption from the demands of his creditor for a certain number of years.

When a matter had once come to a trial, it was always expected that Government should enforce the decision; but with the irregularity so characteristic of the Mahrattas, the plaintiff was often permitted to enforce them himself: and this was effected by means of the system called tukkaza, which though it strictly means only dunning, is here employed for every thing, from simple importunity up to placing a guard over a man, preventing his eating, tying him neck and heels, or making him stand on one leg with a heavy stone on his head under a vertical sun.

It is remarkable that in all claims (except for land), when the plaintiff has the power, this tukkaza is the first step in the suit, and it is not until the person who suffers by it complains of excessive or unjust tukkaza that the Government takes any concern in the cause. This in some measure accounts for the ready acquiescence of defendants in the nomination of punchayets, &c., and it is, indeed, employed intentionally as a means of accomplishing that end. When Government enforced the debt, it used nearly the same severities as individuals; it also seized and sold the property of the debtor, but generally spared his house, and took care not to reduce him entirely to ruin. It likewise often fixed instalments, by which his debt was gradually to be liquidated.

People were never put in any public prison for private debt, though sometimes confined or tormented by the creditor at his house, or in that of his patron, and in rare cases, when agreed on in the bond, made to serve him till the amount of their nominal wages equalled the debt.

Fair bankrupts seem to have been let off pretty nearly as with us; fraudulent ones were made to pay when discovered, notwithstanding previous release.

The great subjects of litigation are stated in the replies of the local officers to my queries to be, boundary disputes; division of property in the separation of families; inheritance to land, which is perhaps the greatest source of litigation throughout the whole country, even in Candeish, where waste land is so abundant. Debts to bankers are also frequent subjects for suits.

The Judicial system that has just been described is evidently liable to great objection, and accordingly, in the best of times, its success seems to have been very imperfect. There was no regular administration of justice; no certain means of filing a suit, and no fixed rules of proceeding after it had been filed. It vested the officer of Government applied to, to receive a complaint or to neglect it altogether. The reception of an appeal from his injustice equally depended on the arbitrary will of his superior. The other occupations of these officers rendered it difficult for them to attend to judicial affairs, even if well disposed, and these occupations increasing with the rank of the officer, the Peishwa (or the minister), who was the main spring of the whole machine, must have been nearly inaccessible to all men, and entirely so to the poor. The power of the local officer must also have had a tendency to check appeals, and even to restrain the demand for punchayets, in cases where he was desirous of deciding in person, and this desire would chiefly be felt in cases where he had an inclination to befriend one party, or where he hoped to make something by selling his favour to both. In short, there can be little doubt of the difficulty of getting justice unless by means of bribery or of powerful friends.

The punchayets themselves were open to corruption and to partiality, and when free from those stains, they were still slow and feeble in their motions, and uncertain in their resolutions. When the punchayet was assembled, which from its interference with the pursuits and interests of the members must have been a matter of difficult and rare occurrence, it had not sufficient powers to seize the defendant, to summon the witnesses, or to compel the production of documents; in the event of any opposition it must apply to the officer of Government, and thus, besides unavoidable delay, it was exposed to constant obstruction from his indolence and want of leisure, and even from his corruption. If a deputy of the Government officer sat with it to execute those duties, it was still liable to be obstructed from corruption, and was besides exposed to the influence of the Carcoon who presided. When it had got possession of the evidence, the members were not calculated to decide on nice or intricate causes, and if they were perplexed, they met without coming to a decision, or allowed the matter to lie over until some circumstance prevented the necessity of meeting any more. Very great delay took place from these causes, and trials were often left entirely unfinished. When members were chosen by the parties and interested in their cause, they were rather advocates than judges, and their disputes produced as much delay as the neglect of the others. When they were impartial they were indifferent and irresolute, unless some member, and very likely one who was stimulated into activity by a bribe, took the trouble of deciding off the hands of his colleagues, and procured their consent to a decision of his own. When their award was signed,

signed, the punchayet dissolved, and their decree remained with the local officer to enforce or neglect, as he chose. Where so much was left arbitrary, there was, of course, much corruption, and it is very frequent now to have a complaint from a man who has a decision of old standing (even from the Nyaedaish at Poona), which he has not been able to get enforced. Even when the decree of a punchayet was past and executed, one would think it must, from the way in which the assembly was constituted, have had little good effect beyond the case it had tried; for as there were no written laws, and as punchayets were composed of men of different habits and condition, their awards must be supposed to have varied, so as to afford no great certainty beforehand as to the decision to which any punchayet would come, and this uncertainty must have led unceasingly to new litigation. All accounts, it must be owned, agree in representing the knowledge of the common people in the customary law of their country, and consequently the uniformity of their decisions when formed into punchayets is far beyond what could be expected; but the inconvenience alluded to must still, to a certain extent, have existed. The want of principle in the rulers was another cause of uncertainty and litigation. No decision was final; a new Mamlutdar or a new minister might take up a cause his predecessor had decided; the same man might revise his own decisions from corrupt motives, and there was as much difficulty in being exempt from an unjust revision as it has already been shewn there was in obtaining a just one.

But with all these defects the Mahratta country flourished, and the people seem to have been exempt from some of the evils which exist under our more perfect government; there must, therefore, have been some advantages in the system to counterbalance its obvious defects, and most of them appear to me to have originated in one fact, that the Government, although it did little to obtain justice for the people, left them the means of procuring it for themselves. The advantage of this was particularly felt among the lower orders, who were most out of reach of their rulers, and most apt to be neglected under all governments. By means of the punchayet they were enabled to effect a tolerable dispensation of justice among themselves, and it happens that most of the objections above stated to that institution do not apply in their case.

A Potail was restrained from exercising oppression both by the fear of the Mamlutdar and by the inconvenience of offending the society in which he lived, and when both parties were disposed to a punchayet, he had no interest in refusing his assistance to assemble one. A punchayet can scarcely be perverted in the simple causes that arise under its own eyes, nor can it easily give a corrupt decision when all the neighbourhood know the merits of the case. Defendants, witnesses, and members are all within the narrow compass of a village, and where all are kept from earning their daily bread during the discussion, there is not likely to be much needless complaint or affected delay.

This branch of the native system, therefore, is excellent for the settlement of the disputes of the Ryots among themselves, but it is of no use in protecting them from the oppression of their superiors, and it is evident that the plan of leaving the people to themselves could never have been sufficient for that purpose. But here another principle came into operation: the whole of the Government revenue being derived from the Ryot, it was the obvious interest of Government and its agents to protect him, and prevent his being exposed to any exactions but their own. The exactions of Government were limited in good times by the conviction, that the best way to enrich itself was

to spare the Ryots; and those of its agents, by the common interest of government and the Ryot, in restraining their depredations. By these principles, while the native Government was good, its Ryots were tolerably protected both from the injustice of their neighbours and tyranny of their superiors, and that class is the most numerous, most important, and most deserving portion of the community.

It was in the class above this that the defects of the judicial system were most felt, and even there they had some advantages. As the great fault of Government was its inertness, people were at least secure from its over-activity. A Government officer might be induced by a bribe to harass an individual under colour of justice, but he could not be compelled by the mere filing a petition to involve those under his jurisdiction in all the vexations of a lawsuit. Even when bribed he could not do much more than harass the individual; for the right to demand a punchayet was a bar to arbitrary decrees, and although he might reject or evade the demand, yet the frequent occurrence of a course so contrary to public opinion could not escape his superiors if at all inclined to do justice.

The inertness of Government was counteracted by various expedients which, though objectionable in themselves, supplied the place of better principles. These were private redress, patronage, and presents. The first occupies the same place in civil justice that private revenge does in criminal among still ruder nations. It is this which is called tukkaza by the Mahrattas, and which has already been mentioned as so important in bringing on a trial. If a man have a demand from his inferior or his equal, he places him under restraint, prevents his leaving his house or eating, and even compels him to sit in the sun until he comes to some accommodation. If the debtor were a superior, the creditors had first recourse to supplications, and appeals to the honour and sense of shame of the other party; he laid himself on his threshold, threw himself in his road, clamoured before his door, or he employed others to do all this for him; he would even sit down and fast before the debtor's door, during which time the other was compelled to fast also; or he would appeal to the gods and invoke their curses upon the person by whom he was injured. It was a point of honour with the natives not to disturb the authors of these importunities as long as they were just, and some satisfaction was generally procured by means of them. If they were unjust, the party thus harassed naturally concurred with the plaintiff in the wish of a punchayet, and thus an object was obtained which might not have been gained from the indolence of the Magistrate. Similar means were employed to extort justice from the ruling power; standing before the residence of the great man, assailing him with clamour, holding up a torch before him by daylight, pouring water without ceasing on the statues of the gods. These extreme measures when resorted to seldom failed to obtain a hearing even under Bajee Rao; and there was the still more powerful expedient both for recovering a debt or for obtaining justice, to get the whole caste, village, or trade, to join in performing the above ceremonies until the demand of one of its members were satisfied.

The next means of obtaining justice was by patronage. If a poor man had a master or landlord, a great neighbour, or any great connexion; or if he had a relation who had a similar claim on a great man, he could interest him in his favour, and procure his friendly intercession with the debtor; his application to the friends of the latter; or, finally, his interest with the public authority to obtain justice for his client. This principle was not so oppressive as it seems at first sight, or as it must have been if it had been partial; for it was so extended,

ed, that scarcely any man was without some guardian of his interests. Both sides in a cause were thus brought nearly equal, and the effect of the interference of their patrons was to stimulate the system, which might otherwise have stood still.

If this resource failed, a present, or the promise of a present, to the public authority, or those who had weight with him, would be efficacious: the fee of one-fourth of all property gained in law-suits was in fact a standing bribe, to invite the assistance of the Magistrate.

The number of persons who could grant punchayets also expedited business. Besides the Nyaeedaish, and the numerous Mamlutdars and Jagheerdars, many people of consequence could hold punchayets, under the express or implied authority of the Peishwa, and every chief settled the disputes of his own retainers, whether among themselves or with others of the lower and middle classes. A great number of disputes were also settled by private arbitration; and their proceedings in the event of an appeal were treated by the Government with the same considerations as those of punchayets held under its own authority.

Thus some sort of justice was obtained; and it was less impure than might be expected from the sources by which it was supplied, because public opinion, and the authority of the Magistrates, set bounds to tukkaza, and the institution of punchayets was a restraint on patronage and bribery.

The punchayet itself, although in all but village causes it had the defects before ascribed to it, possessed many advantages. Though each might be slow, the number that could sit at a time, even under the superintendence of one person, must have enabled them to decide many causes. The intimate acquaintance of the members with the subject in dispute, and in many cases with the characters of the parties, must have made their decisions frequently correct; and it was an advantage of incalculable value in that mode of trial that the judges, being drawn from the body of the people, could act on no principles that were not generally understood; a circumstance which, by preventing uncertainty and obscurity in the law, struck at the very root of litigation. The liability of punchayets to corruption was checked by the circumstance that it did not so frequently happen to one man to be a member as to make venality very profitable, while the parties and the members being of his own class, he was much exposed to detection and loss of character: accordingly, the punchayets appear, even after the corrupt reign of Bajee Rao, to have retained in a great degree the confidence of the people, and they do not appear to have been unworthy of their good opinion. All the answers to my queries (except those of the Collector of Ahmednuggur) give them a very favourable character; and Mr. Chaplin, in particular, is of opinion, that in most instances their statement of the evidence is succinct and clear, their reasoning on it solid and perspicuous, and their decision, in a plurality of cases, just and impartial.

Their grand defect was procrastination; and to counteract it the suitors had recourse to the same remedies as with people in power, importunity, intercession of patrons, and sometimes, no doubt, to promises, fees, and bribes.

It is impossible to form very clear notions on the general result of this administration, either as to its despatch of causes, the degree of justice actually administered by it, or its effect on the character of the people; but I should conjecture that simple causes were speedily decided, and complicated ones very slowly. The Nyaeedaish principally tried the latter description, and in twenty years is filed no less than 1,400 causes, of which it is believed that one half

half were never decided. Panchayets appear generally to have given just decisions; but men in power could obstruct a reference to those assemblies, and could prevent the execution of their decrees. That justice was often denied, or injustice committed, appears from the frequency of thullee, which is a term for robbery, arson, and even murder, committed to oblige a village or Government officer to satisfy the claims of the perpetrator. This crime is commonest to the southward of the Kistna, but murders on account of disputes about landed property are every where frequent. With regard to its effect on the character of the people, the Ryots seem in most respects simple and honest: but there is no regard for truth, or respect for an oath, throughout the whole community; and forgery, intrigue, and deceit are carried to the highest pitch among the Potails, Koolkurnees, and all who have much opportunity of practising those iniquities. There is no punishment for perjury or forgery. In an award of a panchayet, it appears that thirty-three persons entered into an engagement to swear to any thing that one of the parties might dictate, and for this complicated offence they were mildly reprimanded by the Nyaeedaish. Litigiousness does not seem to have been at all prevalent, unless the obstinacy with which people adhered to any claims to landed property can be brought under that head.

Such are the advantages and disadvantages of the native administration of justice which are to be weighed against those of the plan adopted in our provinces. If we were obliged to take them as they stood under the native government, the scale could probably soon be turned; but as it is possible to invigorate the system and to remove its worst abuses, the question is not so easily decided. The most striking advantages in our plan appear to be, that the laws are fixed, and that as means are taken to promulgate them, they may be known to every one; that the decisions of the Adawlut being always on fixed principles, may always be foreseen; that there is a regular and certain mode of obtaining redress; that the decision on each separate case is more speedy than in any native court, and that it is more certain of being enforced; that justice may be obtained by means of the Adawlut, even from officers of Government or from Government itself; that the Judges are pure, and their purity and correctness are guarded by appeals; and that the whole system is steady and uniform, and is not liable to be biassed in its motions by fear or affection, policy or respect.

On the other hand, it appears that, although the Regulations are promulgated, yet as they are entirely new to the people of India, a long time must pass before they can be generally known, and as both they and the decisions of the court are founded on European notions, a still longer period must elapse before their principles can be at all understood; that this obscurity of itself throws all questions relating to property into doubt and produces litigation, which is further promoted by the existence of a class of men rendered necessary by the numerous technical difficulties of our law, whose subsistence depends on the abundance of law-suits; that by these means an accumulation of suits takes place, which renders the speedy decision of the Adawlut of no avail; that the facility given to appeals takes away from the advantage of its rigour in enforcing decrees, and renders it on the whole, in many cases, more feeble and dilatory than even the panchayet, while in others it acts with a sternness and indifference to rank and circumstances, very grating to the feelings of the natives; that its control over the public officers lessens their power without removing the principle of despotism in the Government, or the habits engendered by that principle in the people, and that by weakening one part

part of the machine without altering the rest, it produces derangement and confusion throughout the whole; that the remoteness of the Adawlut prevents the access of the common people; and that if Moonsiffs, with fees, Vakeels, &c., be adopted to remedy this evil, they are not exempt from the corruption of the native system, while they occasion in a remarkable degree the litigious spirit peculiar to ours.

This view of the Adawlut is taken from the reports drawn up in Bengal, and it is possible that many of the defects described may originate in the revenue system, in the voluminousness of the Regulations, or in other extrinsic circumstances, a supposition which appears to be supported by the state of the courts under Bombay, where most of the evils alluded to are said to be still unfelt; but enough will remain to satisfy us that the chance of attaining or approaching to perfection, is as small under our own plan as under that of the natives; that on either plan we must submit to many inconveniences and many abuses, and that no very sudden improvement is to be looked for in the actual state of things. If this be the case, it becomes of the first consequence to cherish whatever there is good in the existing system, and to attempt no innovation that can injure the principle now in force, since it is so uncertain whether we can introduce better in their room.

THE EAST-INDIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent, "A Retired Surgeon," has not *fully* shewn the difference of the rates of remuneration to the clerical and medical establishments; nor has he fully stated the advantages of the civil servants. It may be said that there are situations of emolument open to the medical service, which is true, but open only to a few, and that through interest. The general advantages of the services, and the *fixed* sums for furloughs and retirement, are the criteria for judging of the relative advantages, and I feel convinced that the members of the medical establishment would rejoice to be put on the footing of the clerical establishment, as to period of service, rates of pay on furlough, and retirement; I am not aware of any just reason that can be offered why they should not.

Furlough.

Civilian's allowance on furlough, after ten years.....	£500	0
Chaplain's ditto, after seven years	300	0
Military or medical officer's ditto, after ten years	96	0

Retirement.

Civilians may retire after twenty-two years' service, on an annuity, receivable in rotation, of.....	1,000	0
A military officer may retire on sums from £300 a year to	1,200	0
A chaplain retires after fifteen years on an annuity of.....	300	0
A medical officer cannot attain the same pension in less than twenty-seven years, previous to which he may retire (after seventeen years' residence) on	192	12

Or he may, by remaining thirty-two years, obtain £500 a year, but he can *never* obtain more than this, which is less than half the sum received by a colonel of a regiment.

London,

February 8th, 1827.

A MEDICAL OFFICER ON FURLOUGH.

COLONIZATION IN THE EAST.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: So interesting is the subject of emigration at the present moment, that I beg to offer a few remarks upon that and other subjects in connexion with it.

Colonization of our Indian territories was recommended some short time back; but the idea of peopling a country swarming with 150 millions of inhabitants, appeared to me completely at variance with sense. I now perceive it is recommended to colonize Tenaserim, which is not so absurd a speculation as the former, on account of the scanty population; but still it is a hot climate, and, having myself had a spell in the tropics, I may, without presumption, mention a few facts concerning climate.

Let us suppose a colony of Britons arrived at some port in Tenaserim, taking it for granted that no rich emigrants are among them, but that they are all of the middling or labouring classes: they must of necessity clear ground and build houses themselves, for they could not afford to hire the natives to do it, even supposing there should be any natives at the spot fixed on. After this, the colonists would have to prepare ground for their farms or plantations; and here is the tug of war. Europeans are unequal to the fatigues and sufferings of downright continual daily hard labour in a hot climate; for, although our English soldiers undergo fatiguing marches and labour during harassing campaigns in India and Africa, yet their employment, with its occasional intervals of halts and rest, and their minds being continually kept alive with the interest inspired by the scenes of their profession, is widely different from that of poor agricultural labourers who emigrate, and who would have to earn their daily food by continual daily hard work, without a glimpse of relaxation; frequently dispirited with poor fare: besides they would soon sink into apathy and listlessness after the novelty of the change was worn off. I have dug, I have planted, and gardened, in India; and although I was a stronger man than many of the natives, yet I found I could neither cope with them in bearing the sun, in quantity of work performed, or in continuance at it: it is true I was not brought up to hard manual labour, but what I did, I did with the strength of a European, for a short period, as an amusement; but had I, or any other white man, gone out daily to work with a *mommatti* in the fields under a vertical sun, a violent fever would soon have terminated my mortal career; and this is the fate, I confidently predict, will attend most or all who emigrate to Tenaserim. However, there is nothing like trying the experiment, which I shall be glad to see attended with success: should it take place, I trust our people will act prudently, and avoid those occasions which cause fever; such as *inordinate fatigue, unless exposure to the mid-day sun and the heavy dews of night, sitting or lying in cool draughts of wind when exceedingly heated and fatigued*; owing to which I have known several of my friends attacked with a fever, of many months' continuance with some, and, I regret to say, fatal to others.

But a country the most nearly assimilating in climate to England is where emigration ought to have more encouragement than it does, and that country is Australia:* for, although a warm climate, its summer is milder than the heat

* It is astonishing how some people are blinded by their prejudices, how some of our great men cherish that darling of their hopes, Canada; in defiance of the most staring conclusions: Setting aside the severity of a six months' winter, we are imperceptibly adding to the wealth of a near and unfriendly nation,

heat of India, and its winter is milder than that of England; and were we to surround its coasts with new colonies, they could, being all members of one family, assist each other by means of small coasting vessels, which in process of time might grow into a trade of higher importance as well as a nursery for seamen.

But there exists a very natural prejudice among our poorer fellow-subjects against mixing with convicts. I would therefore suggest that no more convicts be sent to Sydney or Hobart Town, and that other penal settlements be established at a considerable distance from those ports.

It seems desirable to fix upon situations for new settlements about the 25th degree of S. latitude, say Shark's Bay, in the rear of Isle Dorre, and another bay in the rear of Dirk Hartog's island: these being at too great a distance from the old establishments to present any encouragement to convicts to desert. But here a new question presents itself; that part of New Holland being claimed by the Dutch, it would be necessary to obtain it from them, either by purchase or exchange. This subject was brought to the notice of His Majesty's government long since, as New Holland is locally more fit to belong exclusively to England than to be shared by different nations; for if ever there should be any foreign colonies intermixed with our own, it would be productive of endless broils; and it is morally certain they would fall an easy prey to us on the first breaking out of a war.

That part of New Holland claimed by the Dutch is not, and never will be, of any use to that nation, whose eastern possessions will always require their whole power to keep; in fact, the Dutch have got more colonies already in that quarter than they can well manage. Nor would new Holland benefit the French any more than the Dutch, for the purpose of colonization; as neither of those nations is so overburdened with population as England.

One more hint and I have done.—While private societies are prosecuting discoveries at a great expense among the savage nations and in the devouring climate of Africa, it seems surprising that that most interesting portion of the globe, New Holland, should remain an enigma in this enquiring and enterprising age; a country, too, in which there are few inhabitants, and those almost as simple and inoffensive as primitive nature can make them. If the French had had colonies there, that nation would have set us a better example. A new penal settlement on the western coast, and another at or near Encounter Bay in Bass's Straits (where it is conjectured by some scientific men the mouths of the Lachlan river are stopped up by bars*), would be safe and convenient points for fresh travellers to set out from for the interior; and a few months would lay open to us, not only the curious topography of that country, but a rich accession to natural history.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

T. J. M.

February 1827.

nation, by every individual whom we send out to Canada: as, in the common course of events, they will become alienated from the country of their birth in consequence of being so near a republican atmosphere, which can never be the case in Australia. Nothing can prevent a certain nation from arriving at a power which will, ere long, bid us defiance on that side the water; while on the other hand Canada is not a climate conducive to the increase of population in the same ratio. The future result must be palpable to the most benighted understanding.

* Travellers have proceeded in the direction of Encounter Bay to within forty miles of the sea, and reported that "the view from the top of a high hill sea-ward, presented an uninterrupted flat country, thickly covered with wood, in which they could see no traces of a river." But this cannot be received as any proof of there being no river, or that the Lachlan does not flow (having its course through the sandy and inundated country) in that direction after a very winding course; for I have myself come suddenly upon a fine river in the thickest woods in Travancore, where I least expected to see such a beautiful sight. The great height of the trees and their luxuriant tops, in tropical countries, almost bled the inequalities of the ground, and, to use the words of a Ceylon traveller, only present a bird's-eye view of "an ocean of wood."

THE ANCIENT HISTORY OF CEYLON.

THE observation, that the early history of all nations is enveloped in obscurity, is sufficiently trite: it applies, however, with peculiar force to those of Asia. In the East, the birth-place of fiction, history has not even yet disowned a connection with fable: the occurrences of early times especially are there incorporated with superstitious legends, or absurd romances, which, could we obtain a clue to their origin, would perhaps be found to be entitled to some degree of veneration even from the modern philosophers of the West, from their retaining and perpetuating remote facts which time must otherwise have effaced: as connoisseurs prize the precious *œrugo* which preserves, whilst it conceals, the impression and legend of a coin.

Various attempts have been made to penetrate the mystery which overhangs the ancient history of Ceylon: no satisfactory result has, however, yet been obtained, nor has any probable origin been assigned to the inhabitants of that island, founded upon authentic *data*. As every contribution, however small, to an end so desirable as the discovery of the ancient history of Ceylon, cannot but possess some interest, we rejoice at being enabled to insert an extract from an account of the island by Diego de Louta, writer to the King of Portugal at Goa, and one of the early Portuguese historians of Ceylon. We are indebted for this contribution to a gentleman who once filled a high post in that island, on the natives of which he conferred a valuable political boon, and who enjoyed facilities of acquiring information of every kind respecting its history, which he is ever ready to impart.

According to the modern tradition of the Candian Priests,* Ceylon was peopled from the continent. They state that, about 2,300 lunar years previous to the year 1769 (when these priests were interrogated upon the subject by the Dutch governor of the island), a prince called Wijaya Raja, eldest son of the Emperor Sinbaha, Emperor of Lala in Dambodiva, landed in Ceylon, then called Lanka or Lakdiwa, at the head of 700 giants, under the conduct of the all-perfect Buddhoo, and expelled the devils by whom the island was then inhabited. The prince founded a city named Tambraparnim, and his posterity reigned in Ceylon until the period above referred to, comprehending a series of 179 kings, including himself and the then reigning monarch. The place from which the expedition came is said to be Siam, from whence the priests of Ceylon deduce the origin of the Cingalese. The *Ramayana* relates that the conquest of this island was made by Rama, king of Oude, with an army of gigantic monkies!

The account given by Diego de Louta, who states that he derived it from histories written by Cingalese, in the possession of some of the princes of Ceylon, who came from that island to Goa, represents that, 500 years before Christ, it was peopled from Tenaserim, "a kingdom which was the greatest in all the East, extending from the Ganges to Cochin China, and through the mountains to the north." The king of this extensive empire, whose name was Ayota, had a son called Riga Rayah, or Affrigia Rayah, the heir to his crown, whose character was so dissolute, profligate, and cruel, that he excited discontent amongst his father's subjects, who complained of his multiplied acts of atrocity, and demanded justice. The King, finding his son incorrigible, notwithstanding his frequent admonitions, secretly collected a number of vessels, and ordered them to be furnished with provisions and necessities: when all was ready, he seized his son, and placed him on board one of the ships. It was a custom in this country for all the male children who were born

* Bertolaac's Account of Ceylon. Appendix.

born on the same day as the heir apparent to the throne, to be registered by name, and upon their attaining the age of seven years, for these youths to be brought to court, and educated with the prince, whose companions they then became: an expedient adopted, according to the Greek historians, by the father of Sesostris. The youths educated with the prince royal of Tenaserim partook of his dissipated character, and became his associates in crime. Although the number of male children born on the same day with the prince was immense, there were yet only 700 alive at this period, all of whom were, by order of the King, seized and conveyed on board the vessels. The King then directed his son to set sail with his fleet, and proceed to discover new countries and people them, forbidding him to return to his native soil on pain of being put to death with all his companions.

Prince Riga Rayah accordingly set sail, surrendering the direction of his fleet to the discretion of the winds, which, after twenty days' sail, brought them to an uninhabited island, which was Ceylon. The fleet entered a harbour between Trincomalee and Jaffnapatam Point, called Preatwie, where landing, the prince and his followers were delighted at the fragrance and temperateness of the air, the beauty of the trees and the gentleness of the streams, and they resolved to settle here. The first town they built was at Mantotte, opposite Manar. They found ample means of subsistence in the abundance of fish which the rivers furnished to them, and in the fruits which they collected from the trees, such as oranges, citrons, limes, &c. On account of the great fertility of the island, they called it *Lancaue*, which signified "terrestrial paradise." Before this period the island had no name.

Some months after the arrival of the strangers, some vessels arrived, from the other coasts, for the purpose of fishing pearls; upon inquiry, the prince learned that the people who came in them were the subjects of a king called the Cottah rayah, whose kingdom was on the opposite continent, one day's journey distant. The prince, after gaining the necessary information respecting his power and resources, endeavoured to form a connexion with him, and accordingly, on the return of the vessels, he despatched some of his people on a mission to the King of Cottah, desiring that, as they were neighbours, they might be connected by intermarriages; offering himself in marriage with the King's daughter, and requesting that the King would suffer the princes, his companions, to marry some of his female subjects.

The messengers, on their arrival at the other coast, were conducted to the King of Cottah, who gave them a cordial reception; and as the fame of their prince's father had reached his ears, he considered the offer of the prince advantageous, and forthwith accepted the proposal of connecting the two families and people by intermarriages. After mutual compliments and visits, the King sent his daughter to the prince, accompanied by a retinue of maidens of high rank, as wives to the prince's companions. The nuptials were celebrated with great pomp and splendour.

After this event, a close intercourse was kept up between the two people; many of the subjects of the King of Cottah went to settle on Ceylon, particularly handicraftsmen, and husbandmen, with ploughs, seeds, and other requisites for agriculture. Hereby the island became well-peopled and the mountains inhabited, and even strong fortresses were erected in various parts.

The posterity of the prince became, in process of time, sovereigns of Cottah, of which Ceylon was then a dependency; but, according to our author, it became extinct in his time, by the death of the last King of Cottah without male issue.

The account here given contains no improbable circumstances; on the contrary, it is a very plausible narrative, and is corroborated by its coincidence with the credible particulars in the traditionary legends of the Candian priests, and by the correspondence in religion and language between the Cingalese and the natives of Siam, of which Tenaserim once formed a part.

The author of the preceding account states that the Cingalese, with a view of enhancing the character and origin of their kings, invented a fiction by which they are represented to be descended from the sun. The fable, he says, is as follows:—Before the establishment of the great Tenaserim empire before-mentioned, the people of the countries now known under the names of Pegu, Tenaserim, Siam, Camboja, from the Ganges to the borders of China, lived on mountains in holes and caves (as some of the Burman tribes continue to do) without being ruled by any chief, or subject to any government whatsoever. They were ignorant of agriculture, and like savage animals lived upon roots and fruit. The natives of Tenaserim one morning observed the sun rise with uncommon splendour, and gazing upon the radiant face of this luminary, they saw it suddenly open, and a personage emerge from its bosom, who, in shape, differed from human creatures. Those who saw the prodigy ran up to this being when he descended, and, astonished at the miracle, asked who and what he was? To which he replied, in the Tenaserim language, that he was a child of the sun, and that the Almighty had sent him to rule over the kingdom. On this, his hearers prostrated themselves before him, and worshipped him, declaring that they were ready to accept him as their prince, and to obey his laws. He thereupon was placed on an elevated seat, and began to rule them.

The first thing he did was to remove the natives from the jungle, instruct them in building houses, and adapt them to the habits of civil society. After this, he framed a code of mild and equitable laws, greatly to the contentment of the people, who began to lead a life of happiness, compared with their past mode of existence. This King lived many years, and left behind many sons, amongst whom he divided his kingdom, and it was governed by his descendants for more than 2,000 years. They all called themselves *Suryavams*, that is, “descendants of the sun;” and from this family was directly descended Affrigia Raya, who was banished his country in order to people the island of Ceylon.

It is impossible not to be struck with the similarity which this fable bears to those invented by rude nations in general; for example, the Peruvian story of Mango Capac, and the Chinese tale of Kin Sh Jin, or the divine instructor of the first man, who fell to the earth from a star or blaze of light.

Our author has exerted his skill in endeavouring to trace the etymology of the names given to the island by the ancients and moderns. Taprobana, he says, corresponds with the name of no harbour, bay, fortress, village, fountain or river, and it is not found, he adds, in the Cingalese chronicles. He, therefore, concludes that it was invented by Ptolemy, or the Greeks, to denote some quality in the island, though the word has no specific meaning that we are aware of. The modern name of Ceylon he deduces in the following manner: “The name of *Ceylon* is given to the island on account of the shoals thereabouts, over which the Chinese sailed, and which afterwards became so generally known that the island was no longer called by its proper name, but by that signifying dryness, the Persians and Arabs always saying they were going to or coming from the *Cinlao*; or Chinese dry place. Thus in progress of time, by transposition of the letters, the name of the island became changed to *Ceylon*!”

The Portuguese author has also attempted to demonstrate that Ceylon was well-known to the Romans. To account for the apparent error in the dimensions which Pliny assigns to the island Taprobana, which is identified with Ceylon, the author says that the natives assert, being convinced from their writings, that their island once extended as far as the Maldives, till the sea made a breach through it and covered the greater part. The first meridian of the Hindus passes through the city of Oojein, of which the position is known; but as Lanca (which signifies the equinoctial point) falls therefore to the west of Ceylon, the Hindus believe, as well as the Cingalese, that the island had formerly a much larger extent.* Our author adds, that vestiges of Roman buildings were found in Ceylon, especially in Mantotte, "where," he says, "to this day are to be seen the remains of very spacious Roman works in marble." Amongst other relics, two pieces of copper coin were found at Mantotte, which exhibited a human figure, and the Roman letter C in one corner, and R. M. N. R., forming part of the inscription. These coins were lost in a vessel which perished at sea.

THEORY OF THE ATMOSPHERIC TIDES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Having observed, in the sixth volume of your Journal, a very interesting letter, communicating the observations made by Dr. John Davy on the temperature of the ocean and the atmosphere, republished from the *Transactions of the Royal Society*, and aware of the increasing attention now so generally given to such investigations, it occurs to me that it may possibly be not altogether unacceptable to offer you an extract from a register kept by me with great care, during my recent voyage from China to England, on board the Hon. Company's ship *Duchess of Athol*. My observations were made with one of those admirable instruments invented by Mr. Adie, of Edinburgh, the Sympiesometer, or air barometer; an instrument which, from its extreme delicacy in denoting the slightest variations in the atmosphere, requires, I apprehend, only to be better known to become more generally adopted. During our voyage, the sympiesometer gave warning of approaching change of weather much earlier than the mercurial barometer, and though its decrement occasionally excited apprehension of a greater degree of blowing weather than actually followed, its fall never failed to be attended with a decided change.

A principal object of my attention had reference to that interesting phenomenon, till lately so little attended to, the regularity of the *atmospheric tides*. That distinguished traveller, Humboldt, has distinctly noticed, in his observations, the diurnal flux and reflux of the atmosphere; and Capt. Horsburgh, to whom nautical science is so largely indebted, gave, some years ago, the most accurate practical illustration of this curious law of nature, in his letter to H. Cavendish, Esq., F.R.S., April 1804, published in the *Transactions of the Royal Society*. It will be seen how accurately the sympiesometer exhibited this periodical variation. It might not be without utility, if that letter of Capt. Horsburgh's, and an extract from Humboldt's work, were again given to the public through the medium of your useful publication. You will observe that,

although

* Hamilton's *Gazetteer*, p. 263.

although I kept a regular daily register, I have merely sent you an extract from the same, of every third or fifth day's observations. They were usually made four times during the day, viz. at 8 A.M., 12, 4 and 8 P.M.: but for one month, March, I extended them to eight different periods, with the view of more accurately noting the variations of the barometer.

Register of the daily Range of the Thermometer and Barometer, during a Voyage from China to England on Board the Hon. Company's Ship *Duchess of Athol*, between the 1st December 1824 and 5th April 1825. The Barometrical Observations made with one of Adie's Sympiesometers.

Date.	Latitude.	Longitude.	8 A.M.		12.		4 P.M.		8 P.M.	
			Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.
1824										
Dec. 10	2° 0'S	107° 0'E	83	29 88	83½	29 84	84½	29 74	84	29 80
11	2 32	—	81½	29 86	82½	29 78	83	29 74	84	29 80
13	3 42	106 39	81	29 90	80	29 86	83	29 78	81	29 94
18	5	—	80	29 84	81	29 72	81½	29 70	81½	29 80
22	6 42	104 20	82	29 78	83	29 76	83½	29 68	83	29 76
27	8 26	102 10	81	29 82	83	29 76	83½	29 72	82	29 74
31	11 37	98 0	81	29 82	81	29 78	81	29 76	80	29 86
1825										
Jan. 1	13 31	96 30	79½	29 88	80	29 84	80	29 80	79	29 86
5	16 54	84 50	77	29 86	79	29 84	79	29 78	77	29 84
10	20 44	72 33	79	29 88	80	29 86	79½	29 80	79	29 90
14	23 28	61 48	80	29 90	81	29 88	80½	29 86	79½	29 94
20	27 20	44 44	74	29 94	75	29 90	75	29 86	74	29 86
25	31 47	—	72½	29 76	70	29 78	70½	29 76	72	29 80
31	35 11	26 53	75	29 85	75½	29 84	76	29 90	75	29 80
Feb. 1	34 51	25 50	73	29 94	74½	29 88	74	29 86	74	29 84
3	35 40	22 18	68	29 82	68	29 89	69	29 88	68	29 92
19	26 58	8 45	72	29 94	71	29 94	72	29 86	72	29 88
23	20 4	00 27	72	29 95	73	29 90	73½	29 87	73	29 92
28	13 06	9 12	75	29 84	76	29 82	75	29 78	76	29 82
March 1	11 27	11 30	76	29 82	77	29 81	76	29 78	77	29 82
5	4 17	19 18	80	29 74	80	29 71	80	29 66	80	29 72
9	2 31	22 8	79	29 68	78	29 66	78	29 60	79	29 64
13	6 05½	—	78½	29 76	78	29 72	79	29 66	79	29 72
18	15 57	—	73½	29 98	72	29 97	73	29 92	74	29 96
23	27 04	—	70	30 20	71	30 22	61	30 16	66	30 20
28	38 38	32 16	60	29 74	58	29 72	60	29 64	61	29 62
30	40 41	—	60	29 84	60	29 86	63	29 90	64	29 90
April 1	45 15	21 4	63	29 94	63	30 0	63	30 0	63	30 0
3	48 8	17 10	55	30 34	55	30 34	56	30 22	56	30 22
5	50 0	12 30	54	30 22	54	30 23	54	30 23	53	30 24

N.B. The observations were registered daily, and four times during the twenty-four hours. The foregoing is abstracted from the register.

The observations here given were made with one of Adie's patent Sympiesometers, and the following shews the comparative measurement between it and an excellent marine barometer by Troughton.

Marine Barometer.	Sympiesometer.
29 80.....	29 60
29 90.....	29 74
29 95.....	29 80
29 88.....	29 70
29 91.....	29 68
29 75.....	29 56
29 80.....	29 64

OBSERVATIONS noted Eight Times in the Twenty-Four Hours, during the Month of March 1825.

Date.	Ship's Latitude.	6 A.M.		8 A.M.		10 A.M.		12 A.M.		2 P.M.		4 P.M.		8 P.M.		10 P.M.	
		Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.	Ther.	Barom.
10th	3° 27' N	79½	29.68	78½	29.67	80	29.65	81	29.66	82	29.60	82	29.63	81	29.68	81	29.90
11th	4 24	79½	29.68	80	29.71	80	29.71	81	29.68	81	29.66	81	29.64	81	29.70	81	29.72
12th	5 49	80	29.70	80	29.70	80	29.72	80	29.66	80	29.63	79	29.62	80	29.72	80	29.72
13th	6 05	78	29.72	78	29.76	78	29.76	78	29.72	79	29.68	79	29.66	79	29.72	79	29.75
15th	9 41	76	29.75	77	29.76	77	29.76	77	29.78	77	29.71	71	29.75	76	29.80	75	29.84
18th	15 57	73	29.98	73	29.98	73½	30.0	73	30.0	73	29.96	72	29.90	73	30.0	—	—
20th	20 48	72	29.92	71½	30.03	71	30.03	72	30.0	72	29.98	72	30.0	72	30.0	—	—
22d	24 46	70	30.12	71	30.14	71	30.15	71	30.15	71	30.11	72	30.10	72	30.20	—	—
25th	32 30	68	30.18	67	30.16	68	30.16	68	30.17	67	30.0	68	30.14	68	30.10	—	—
27th	36 58	64½	29.90	65	29.88	65	29.88	65	29.85	63	29.84	63	29.80	62	29.74	—	—
29th	40 30	58	29.64	58	29.64	58	29.64	58	29.64	58	29.62	60	29.56	59	29.58	—	—
31st	42	63	29.94	63	29.94	63	29.94	63½	30.0	63	30.0	63	30.0	63	30.0	—	—

As illustrative of the extreme delicacy, and susceptibility of being affected by minute changes in the atmosphere, of Adie's sympiesometer, I subjoin a sketch of its most marked variation during the voyage, which occurred on the 28th January, in lat. 32° 57', and 2d February in lat. 35°; long. 23° 6': wind S.S.E.

28th January.

At 7 A.M.	29.68
9	29.64
10	29.62
11½	29.58
12	29.55
1	29.54
1½	29.52
3	29.60
4	29.64
5	29.68
6	29.72
7	29.75
9½	29.79
12	29.86

29th January.

1 A.M.	29.86
6	29.94

2d February.

7 A.M.	29.66
8	29.62
11	29.60
12	29.60
1	29.56
2	29.60
3½	29.57
4	29.54
5	29.60
6	29.67
8	29.68

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.

J. MONCKTON COOMES.

THE CASE OF MR. JAMES HAY OF PURNEAH.

A printed "Memorial of Mr. James Hay, indigo planter, Purneah, to the Hon. East-India Company, appealing against the proceedings of Mr. William Wollen, Judge of Purneah," has been transmitted to us, accompanied by a letter from "A Friend of Mr. Hay, and of Public Justice," requesting that the subject may be noticed in this work, as a proof (superfluous, we should think) "that the Government of India at home will listen to appeals against the conduct of their servants abroad; and that individuals there, even when the local authorities turn a deaf ear to their complaints, are not shut out from all hope of redress."

We are so little inclined to tenderness towards oppression, and to assist in excluding a case of injustice from public attention, the excitement of which, in a free country like this, is often more efficacious in repairing the wrongs of an individual than an appeal to the constituted tribunals, that we do not hesitate to bring the matter under the notice of our readers. Had we been insincere in our professions, very plausible reasons might be assigned for declining, at present, to touch upon Mr. Hay's case: one reason is, that the statements laid before us are, in a great measure, *ex parte*; for although a letter from Mr. Wollen to the Judges of Appeal, in reply to the accusations of Mr. Hay, is printed in the Appendix to the "Memorial," yet the bulk of the matter contained in the papers, the notes, the comments, and finally the memorial itself, Mr. Wollen is not cognizant of; nor have we before us any of the grounds upon which the Bengal Government decided against Mr. Hay. Another reason which would fully justify us in observing silence is this, namely, that the question is *sub judice*; and that the Court of Directors have declared the investigation of the various circumstances noticed in Mr. Hay's "Memorial" to be impracticable (owing to its not having been transmitted through the prescribed channel of the Local Government) without a reference to Bengal, which has accordingly been made: we must be, *at least*, as incapable of forming a just conclusion on the subject, in its present state, as the Court of Directors.

Premising, therefore, that the allegations of Mr. Hay are, to a certain extent, *ex parte*; that the matter has been already investigated by the Local Government, which decided that, under the circumstances stated in a letter from the Acting Register of the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut (which is not printed by Mr. Hay), "no further inquiry on the subject appeared to Government to be necessary;" and lastly, that the matter is in a train of re-investigation by the Home Government:—we proceed to give an outline of the case.

Mr. Hay has been an indigo planter in the Purneah district, under the presidency of Fort William, for several years. The cultivation of indigo is carried on in the following manner: the planter makes certain pecuniary advances to the ryots, or cultivators, for the purchase of seed and other expenses, which advances are liquidated by the return of a quantity of plants (from which the indigo is extracted) at a stipulated rate. "Such an outlay of capital by European planters gives a new stimulus to native industry, multiplies the valuable products of the country, and enables the zumeendars to pay the public revenue, as well as greatly improves the condition of the people, who would be otherwise destitute of the means of employing their fields in such valuable cultivation, and left entirely in the hands of native money-lenders, who are in the habit of supplying their necessities on the most usurious terms." (*Mem.*)

These

These advances are the subject of contracts between the planter and the ryots, which the latter are often more ready to enter into than to fulfil: many of them, in bad years especially, when the produce is higher than the contract price, endeavour to escape from their obligations, which the Government regulations, however, expressly enforce.

In the year 1824, Mr. Hay purchased four new factories in the district, in order to extend his cultivation of indigo. Prior to this, namely, in the months of December 1823, and January and February 1824, many of the ryots connected with these new factories, owing to causes which do not appear (according to Mr. Hay's petition to the Judge of Moorsshedabad, "without any cause or reason, or any violence or oppression towards them") receded from their engagements, by depositing in the treasury of the Dewanny Court of Purneah zillah, the sums advanced to them by Mr. Hay. The cultivation of the indigo plant became hereby totally at a stand, to the grievous injury of the planter, who not only found his capital unproductive, but incurred heavy expenses for the wages of servants and other disbursements on account of the factories.

It is to be observed that the contracts with the ryots belonging to Mr. Hay's new factories were (most if not all) made, not by Mr. Hay, but by the parties from whom he purchased the property. Mr. Hay asserts (what seems reasonable enough) that this made no difference; that he acquired by the purchase the seller's right to the outstanding balances.

Recourse was had by Mr. Hay for redress to the judge of the district. This was a gentleman named Wollen, who had entered upon the office in January 1823. It is alleged by Mr. Hay, that the judge had no power to receive the balances of the ryots into the treasury, without the order of some one of the courts, and that by so doing he took upon himself the authority to annul the regulations as to contracts, and was thereby the primary cause of the memorialist's injury. To this gentleman Mr. Hay applied, in February 1824, for aid to compel the ryots to take back their balances and fulfil their contracts. The expressions in the letters of Mr. Hay would lead a reader to believe that Mr. Wollen had interposed, and issued his orders to the ryots, which the latter disregarded. The expressions to which we allude are these: "I need only tell you that they (the ryots) have set your orders and peons at defiance."—"Accept my best thanks for your kindness in assisting me in the manner you have."—"I am ashamed to ask you for further aid," &c. In his memorial, Mr. Hay says that his prayers and intreaties to the judge were of no avail; that whilst he flattered him with promises of redress, and adopted some measures apparently in his favour, they were completely nugatory, the official orders which he issued being merely empty words, from which the authority of the court was tacitly withheld by its subordinate officers; and he adds that he became convinced that the judge had formed a secret determination to ruin him. The motive which he assigns for this object is a wish, on the part of the judge, to obtain the factories for his brother-in-law; and Mr. Hay asserts that Mr. Wollen offered him (in February 1824), 18,000 rupees for the concern, for which Mr. Hay had given nearly 22,000. This assertion is supported by a letter from a gentleman named Blake, besides the testimony of six others (according to Mr. Hay) who heard the offer made.

Mr. Hay thereupon submitted his case (March 1824) to the Court of Appeal of Moorshedabad, which, according to a copy of the order before us, declared the receipt of the deposits in the treasury was unfit and improper; that the judge of the zillah should not receive as deposits any balance of advances for indigo; and that the monies having been received clearly in contravention of

the regulations of Government, the judge should forthwith return the deposits to the persons who made them.

Mr. Hay proceeds to allege that this order of the Court was not enforced, and the season for sowing indigo having been allowed to pass by, he was forced to close his factories.

He then appealed to the Supreme Government, through the Chief Secretary; in consequence of which the judge was called upon for his statement of the transaction, and for his remarks upon the allegations contained in Mr. Hay's representation.

Mr. Wollen begins by observing that when he took charge of the district he found that discontent prevailed amongst the indigo ryots, and which appeared to have existed during the time of his predecessor; that numerous complaints were filed in court by this class, "almost all of the same tendency;" that the preceding judge had, in some instances, ordered the advances made to the ryots from the factories to be deposited in court for the purpose of being returned to the parties from whom the ryots had received them, and that, soon after his arrival, he (Mr. Wollen) was applied to for the same purpose. He proceeds to state that the dissatisfaction of the ryots was augmented by the disastrous season of 1823, which destroyed the plants and occasioned great loss to the ryots, who, when the period arrived for making advances for the succeeding year, resolved, generally, to give up the cultivation of indigo altogether. In consequence of their importunity and clamour, the judge says he received the deposits of a certain number of ryots. Mr. Hay then requested that these deposits might be given back to them, which the judge endeavoured to prevail upon the ryots to take; but they refused, alleging their inability to cultivate indigo any longer, and persisted in their refusal after he had received and endeavoured to enforce the order of the Court of Appeal; so that it was not till the end of April and beginning of May that he succeeded in prevailing upon them to receive back their deposits, when they declared, one and all, that they would sooner leave the country than continue a cultivation which had entailed such heavy losses upon them.

With respect to his alleged wish to purchase the factories, from which Mr. Hay infers that the judge had an interest in seeking his ruin, Mr. Wollen denies the accusation "in the most solemn and decided manner;" observing that the factories had been the source of great and continued loss to every former proprietor, and that it would have been madness in him, if he had entertained the wish to purchase, first to bring about the ruin of a concern, and then to offer for it 18,000 rupees, a sum, too, quite beyond his power to command. Mr. Wollen refers to the letters of Mr. Hay, dated posterior to the act which he considers as the cause of his misfortune, in proof that he (the judge) had rendered him assistance; and pronounces his charge calumnious, founded in malicious and vindictive motives, &c.

As we before observed, the Supreme Government declined making further inquiry on the subject; whereupon Mr. Hay addressed another representation to the Government, denying the statements contained in Mr. Wollen's exculpatory letter (especially that in which he asserts that the money deposited consisted altogether of balances due by the ryots before Mr. Hay purchased the factories), and reiterating his charges. Receiving no answer to this representation, and being uneasy under the imputations conveyed in Mr. Wollen's vindication, Mr. Hay, after the lapse of about six weeks, repeated his application to Government, upon which occasion he was (we think) so ill-advised as to annex to his letter a copy of a "native petition," said to have been presented
to

to the Court of Circuit of Moorshedabad, respecting the conduct of Mr. Wollen in matters entirely unconnected with his own complaint. The allegations contained in that petition are of such a nature that, if proved, they would not only demonstrate Mr. Wollen to be "a corrupt judge and a degraded man," but must reflect disgrace upon the Government for suffering a person of his character to officiate as its minister. When we state, however, that the charges in this "native petition" are such as, if true, would be easily susceptible of proof, and that they were, or at least some of them were, according to the admission of Mr. Hay, investigated before the proper tribunal, few persons will think its re-introduction, in this irregular manner, is calculated to benefit the cause of Mr. Hay.

We have now given an outline of this case: we have abstained, as much as possible, from copying the acrimonious remarks which each party bestows upon the character and motives of the other; and we have avoided the reasonings upon the facts which Mr. Hay has introduced, and which certainly give a favourable colour to his case. The points of the question are not numerous or intricate: it seems admitted that Mr. Wollen was not justified by the letter of the law in receiving the deposits of the ryots; but whether his motive in doing so was to gratify any impulse dishonourable in a judge, or whether it was to defend the poor cultivators from oppression (a consideration which, it would seem, is sufficient to authorize such interference), we have not any evidence to enable us to decide. Mr. Hay has sustained a severe injury; of that there appears no room to doubt: how far that injury is to be ascribed to others, to himself, or to accidents for which no one is responsible, is the essence of the question to be considered by the Court to which he has appealed.

LINES,

WRITTEN BY MOONLIGHT ON A PILLAR OF THE RUINS OF RAJMAHAL.*

"The city of Rajmahal, which is now a heap of miserable ruins, is situated on the south-western bank of the Ganges. In 1639 it was a place of very considerable importance and magnificence, and the capital of the Bengal and Bahar provinces. Sultan Shujah erected a splendid palace in this city, immediately on the banks of the Ganges, the marble hall of which still remains, though in a very ruinous condition, and apparently wholly unprotected from the hands of robbers. Having had occasion to pass through Rajmahal on my way from Berhampore to Bhaugulpore, I took particular notice of the picturesque and romantic ruins which met my eye in every direction. I did not reach the place till very late in the evening, but the fragrance of the breeze, and the brilliancy of the moon, induced me to contemplate a scene, whose beauty lost none of its attractions by being viewed at such an hour on such a night."

HAIL, stranger, hail! thine eye shall here survey
The path of Time, where Ruin marks his way,
When sullen moans the solemn midnight Bird,
And the gaunt Jackal's harsher cry is heard;
If thine the soul with sacred ardour fraught,
Rapt in the Poet's dream, or Sage's thought,
To thee, these mouldering walls a voice shall raise,
And sadly tell how earthly pride decays.
How human hopes, like human works, depart,
And leave behind—the ruins of the heart!

D. L. RICHARDSON.

* These lines are from an elegant *Diamond* edition of "Sonnets and other Poems, partly written in India," which has just appeared.

SANSKRIT LITERATURE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: You have favoured the general scholar, and all men of classical research, with a luminous and interesting dissertation on Sanscrit literature; and have clearly shewn how much of this rich and vast field remains uncultivated, and even unknown. A few, and but a few, eminent labourers have appeared; and, unfortunately, some of these, from retired habits, or unwillingness to appear before the world, have not communicated the result of intense study and application.

I was in India in habits of gratifying intercourse with that distinguished orientalist, Sir Wm. Jones, who "*Nil tetegit, quod non ornavit*;" and he said exactly what you state—that Hindu literature was unbounded. I observed to him that I understood the Celtic language, and had traced from it [since made known] a multiplicity of Greek and Latin vocables, such as *Theos*, *Deus*, from *Deugh*; *Scribere* from *Scrēulgh*; *Legere* from *Leugh*, &c.; and asked him his opinion of Sanscrit. His reply was truly expressive:—" *It possesses all the perfections, without any of the imperfections, of all the languages with which I am acquainted.*" It being now clearly established, that but little is comparatively known in almost every department of literature contained in this sublime language, it is full time to supply what is so evidently deficient, and not to leave it to industrious German linguists to anticipate us in what the well-educated servants of the East-India Company are perfectly adequate to achieve.

Without farther delay, let every Sanscrit work of repute, on every branch of science, philology, and literature of every description, be collected studiously, if not already done. This effected, let collective bodies of the most eminent scholars divide among themselves the truly important task of translation, elucidated by notes. "The labourer being worthy of his hire," these scholars would be remunerated for a due discharge of a great duty intimately connected with the stability and welfare of British interests, and of our government in India, as might, by a train of conclusive reasoning, be made out, were it not obvious. The sale of translations supplying manifest *desiderata* in literature, and of political, as well as scientific moment, would be rapid; and being sought after with avidity, would, in a great measure, indemnify expense not to be put in competition with an object so long wanting. A due administration of justice would be considerably facilitated, while the learned and upper class of the natives would feel highly gratified. In your excellent Journal, the general subject is so well developed, that I need say but little. In the course of these investigations, the real origin of one of the most ancient languages, the Celtic, might probably be traced much farther east than Scythia. As the knowledge of the English language advances in Wales, in the highlands of Scotland, and in Ireland, the Celtic must become extinct. To preserve, at least, a classical knowledge of it, I have recommended the establishment of Gaelic Professorships in two of the Scottish Universities.

Your's, &c.

JOHN MACDONALD.

Richmond, February 7, 1827.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE MAHRATTA COUNTRY.*

THE obscurity in which time involves the history of past ages, is perhaps in no portion of India greater than we find it in the country now distinguished by the name of the Deccan. The curiosity of knowing who went before us, the pleasure of associating the transactions of remote ages with the countries we inhabit, and with the mountains or plains whose picturesque appearance or whose fertility we daily contemplate, lead often to researches which, if they yield no greater benefit to mankind, tend at least to improve the mind, by enlarging the ideas.

Though it is granted that we may find treasures in the scientific works, it has not yet been admitted that we could discover any important lessons of Government from the study of the History of our Hindoo or Mahomedan predecessors; in fact, we find a melancholy blank in the details of the internal administration of those rulers. Foreign wars and internal seditions seem to be the most plentiful ingredients of the works of the historians of India. Sometimes the birth and death of a saint, and occasionally a wise or a bold saying, relieve the details of battles, enmities, and treacheries. The character of a general or an emperor is also occasionally sketched with impartiality; but most frequently the portraits are too flattering or too hideous; and to these sketches we have almost entirely to trust for our information of the practical internal government of Asia.

It is fair to believe that the Deccan, or that tract of country lying to the south of the Vindaya range of mountains, ranked upwards of three thousand years ago as a civilized nation; but as no exact notions can be gained from the writings and traditions of the Hindoos in regard to the state of society in remote ages, any speculations on them have little to recommend them beyond their ingenuity. I am, however, of the same opinion as those who conceive that the aborigines of India were Coolies, living in an uncivilized state approaching to barbarism, when Rama, the King of Oude, set himself to reduce the whole country to his power, and to civilize its inhabitants. Rawan, the King of Ceylon, and his brethren the kings of the countries south of the Vindaya range of mountains, were probably great Cooly Naicks, who with their subjects subsisted on their flocks, and on the produce of fields poorly cultivated.

Rawan, however, must have been a great man in his time, for it appears he is believed to have assigned this part of the country as an inheritance to his pipers. If this be true, they probably were its rulers when Seeta Rama's queen, on their arrival at Punchowtee, on the opposite bank of the Godavery at Nassick, took a fancy to have the skin of an antelope which she saw grazing in the fields made into a cholee or covering for her neck. The dire consequences which ensued from her husband setting off over the country to kill the antelope are well known; but we cannot but admire the politeness and conjugal affection of the times, and of so great a king as Rama, in endeavouring to satisfy his wife's odd longing. Rama is said to have conquered the countries all round him, and probably the first introduction of the Hindoo laws and faith to the southward of the Nerbudda was made by him. He probably had a fellow-feeling for the Coolies, as Walmeek, the prophetic writer of the *Ramayan*, was, before he changed his predatory habits and became a
Rishe,

* By H. D. Robertson, Esq., from the "Selection of Papers from the Records at the East-India House, 1826," vol. IV. p. 400.

Rishe, a notorious highway robber. I have not discovered, however, that there was any spiritual Cooley, or any learned Hindoo, who, marrying himself to a Cooley maiden, produced a second Veyas in the Deccan; but it is probable that the same means which were devised to instruct the Hindostan robbers were practised here; and that in the course of time civilization began to gain ground, and the country to become well-peopled and rich.

The religion introduced was no doubt the religion of the Vedas, a pure deism, which inculcates the equality of souls in the estimation of the Deity, and that the sun is the emblem of his Majesty. In the course of time there arose schismatics, who contended for the doctrines of immaterialism, the existence of nothing but the soul, and the determination of creation (though they admitted there was a God) by chance.

These sectaries probably carried every thing before them, and maintained their superiority for a long period. From the confusion and discomfiture of the believers in the orthodox doctrines of what we may in these days call Hindooism, the original faith was probably greatly adulterated, and in many places totally suppressed, and the knowledge of it lost; but those sparks which remained alive burst forth with all the destructiveness of religious zeal when a fit opportunity offered, and at length the Hindoos triumphed over their adversaries the Baudhists, and re-established worship, differing from their original faith in many particulars, and perhaps in none more than in the introduction of the worship of images. It is probable, however, that till about A.D. 30, they retained the practice of shedding the blood of the cow on their marriage ceremonies, of eating flesh (not beef) on their shrouds, and of a brother sleeping with his brother's wife, if she produced no children from her intercourse with her husband.* The Hindoo zealots who triumphed over their adversaries, no doubt used every argument they could think of to prove the existence and duration of matter, and in the heat of doing so probably gave birth to many of those foolish ceremonies and ablutions which evince their belief, not only in the existence of matter, but in the possibility of defiling the soul through impure material contact. From the same cause particular places became sanctified; a residence at some, and a sight of others, were declared sufficient to cleanse away sins, or to enable the devotee to reach even to Heaven; and thus the original Hindoo faith became, in the eagerness of its votaries to subvert the Immaterialists, a religion of the utmost absurdity, in which matter was mixed up with mind in all shapes and situations. To this zeal for marking distinctly their difference of opinion, is also probably to be attributed the invention of Metempsychosis and the doctrine of Gnan (perfect knowledge or omniscience), by which it is believed that none who are not so sufficiently holy in this life as to attain the last gradationary class of Asherums, and by performing strictly the duties of a Sunyeassee, to acquire omniscience, can arrive in Mookht, but that they will continue to be re-embodied successively until the consummation supervenes.

After the conquest over the Baudhists, the literati were probably engaged in giving a finishing shape and consistence to their tenets, and in writing books to prove the reverse of the doctrine of their opponents. They stated in their books that the divine essence could assume any form, and accordingly it was made to do so. The sun and moon also were made to be the progenitors

* I am inclined to look on the Jains, if not as more moderate reformers, at least as preserving in ancient times, more nearly than any other Hindoo reformers, the real tenets of the original Hindoo faith.

nitors of a long race of kings. The sun was, in consideration of its natural effects, incorporated with Vishnoo, the preserving power. The moon, on the same principle perhaps, was identified with Mahadeo or Seeva; the destructive energy and bountiful Alma Mater corresponded with Brimha, the Creator. A great reformer appeared about the commencement of the Christian era, who abolished the fourth stage of perfection in this life, on the principle that as wickedness would be paramount in this young, no one could ever expect to become so much devoted to abstruse contemplation as to acquire Gnan, and subsequently immortality. He also abolished sacrifices to the sun and fire; but he rescinded these reforms (probably he was obliged to do so, from opposition), from the conviction that, if they were made, the Hindoo religion would have speedily been annihilated.

The King of Oojein probably held under his sway the countries south of the Nerbudda, until Salivahan established himself in independence, and fixed the northern boundary of his kingdom along the line of that river.

There appears to be no reason to believe that, from the beginning of the Christian era to the present time, the Hindoo religion has ever been much encroached on. Many sects and schismatics have appeared, and the Mahomedans and Portuguese tried hard to convert its followers and suppress the religion: but it kept its ground, and perhaps did so the better from those occasional oppositions which could not eradicate it.

But as we must infer from the booty which the Patan kings of Delhi acquired in Dowlatabad,* and which their rebellious servants who established the kingdom of Koolberga found in Beeganuggur and Telenganny, that the countries ruled in the thirteenth century by Hindoo Rajas were in a highly flourishing condition; we may perhaps be justified in concluding, that if there ever was a great change in the habits or laws of the mass of the people, it was lasting, and that its effects soon became obliterated by the revival of former usages.

There are authenticated traces of the existence of Lingayets in considerable numbers in this part of the country. The people of that tract of our new territories which lies from the top of the Syaderee range inland from twenty to twenty-five miles, and which is in different places of the range termed Mora and Mawul, were cultivators and herdsmen by turns. The people of this tract appear to have resisted (if I may so use the term) any attempts to civilize them, and to have preserved under the Mahomedan kings of Deccan a barbarous independence. They were partly cultivators, in the same way as we now see in some of the divisions of that tract a single community of cowherds quite distinct from the inhabitants of villages, who have a gowra as their chief, to lead them to the pasture grounds, and to their labours as agriculturalists. I find the head-men of such communities in these districts were chiefly Lingayets, and that to every valley, or to every two or three vallies, there was a chief, who probably settled in the gross for the revenues of his districts, as there is mention made of one Beyapa Jungaum, of Pown Mawul, having lost his inheritance and power for not remitting his revenue to the Nizam's Government with due precision.

* There is a tradition that Deoghur, or Dowlatabad, was built in 1203 A.D., by a dhungur, or herdsmen, who acquiring, by some unusual good fortune, vast wealth, was named by his brother shepherds Rajah Ram, and soon after assumed the rank of a Rajah. Hemar Punt is said to have brought Peesackleep, the present Mochavacta, from Lunka, in 1253 A.D.; Hemar Punt became the minister of a Rajah Ram of Deoghur. Peesackleep means the writing of rascals, or demons, probably from its being the writing of Rawan's countrymen.

S U T T E E S .

An attempt is now making to stimulate the efforts of the public towards some legislative measure which shall put a stop to the dreadful custom prevailing amongst the females of Hindostan, of immolating themselves upon the funeral pile of their deceased husbands. A notice, we observe, has been given of a motion on this subject in the Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock, and we have reason to believe that Parliament will be called upon, during the present session, to interpose its powerful authority for the purpose of proscribing this cruel and detestable custom throughout the British territories in India.

We have before us a report of the proceedings of a public meeting convened by the Lord Mayor of York, and held at that city, on the 19th January last, at which a petition was resolved to be presented to both Houses of Parliament, wherein the practice is justly stigmatized as a gross violation of the law of God and the feelings of humanity, and in its tendency highly demoralizing; and the two branches of the Legislature are implored to adopt such measures as may be deemed most expedient for abrogating it. The speakers upon that occasion, with one accord, expressed the indignation natural to a Christian mind at this revolting custom, and at the unnatural and absurd superstition to which it owes its continuance; and they further considered that a practice like this, violating the laws of God and nature, ought to experience no toleration, but that it is the positive duty of Government to put a stop to it.

In some sensible introductory remarks, which precede the Report before us, it is observed that two arguments are used against interference with the practice: first, that its prohibition would be a breach of toleration; and secondly, that the attempt would be resisted, as evinced by the affair at Vellore, which (it is alleged) was occasioned by a supposed attack on the prejudices of the Hindoos. These arguments are thus met:—

To the first argument it may be replied, that complete toleration is correctly defined to be the allowance of every speculative opinion, and the uninterrupted exercise of every practice not inconsistent with the great principles of humanity and the divine law. It is evident, under this view of the subject, that a right to commit murder can never be claimed by any sect as a religious privilege.

The innovations which led to the mutiny at Vellore were of a very different character; they were a direct infringement upon religious liberty, by attempting to destroy the distinction of caste, which is denoted by the mode of wearing the hair and turban.

To the second argument may be opposed the sentiments of many persons well acquainted with India, as well as the very important fact, that the British government has not scrupled to inflict the same punishments upon Brahmins, who offend against the laws, as upon other persons, although their sacred books declare the person of a Brahmin inviolable.

We have patiently toiled through the ponderous volumes of documents which have been laid before Parliament upon this embarrassing subject; but the more we read the more are we perplexed to know what is expedient to be done. Our readers will find a brief summary of the contents of the last collection of Parliamentary papers respecting suttees in our 20th vol. p. 653. It will there be seen that opinion in India is still divided as to the policy of direct interference. We could add from that voluminous collection many additional facts and arguments: but we are convinced we should not, by doing so, advance the reader one step towards a conclusion as to what is expedient in a case where there is so much reason for apprehension that every course, but that of absolute passiveness, would be attended with more or less danger.

Upon

Upon this question, as upon most others respecting Indian topics, much misapprehension prevails, and thereby false conclusions are easily arrived at. It is, as far as we can ascertain the fact, perfectly true, that the practice of self-immolation amongst widows is not positively enjoined by the most sacred of the Hindoo laws: one, the *Vedanta*, it is said, forbids it. But, although we admitted the total silence of the Hindoo authorities, nay, that dissuatives may be found amongst the ancient writers, the practice is still of such high antiquity, that it is as much recommended to the people by that consideration, and forms thereby, in their estimation, equally a part of their religious system, as if expressly enjoined in the sacred books. The rite of self-immolation amongst the widows of Hindoos is expressly mentioned by the historians of Alexander's invasion of India, and the details of the ceremony attending a suttee, upwards of 2,000 years ago, are given by Diodorus Siculus with as much precision and accuracy as if it had occurred yesterday.* He mentions that the ceremony was conformable to the law of India. Cicero has borne similar testimony to the antiquity of the custom.†

There is a very important fact—important in many respects,—in the consideration of this question, which is sometimes overlooked. The existing custom is to a great extent local, prevailing most in particular districts, and especially in the Bengal territories. In some districts the practice is altogether disregarded, or even unknown. The first reflection arising from this fact is, that it accounts, in a great measure, for the discrepancy of opinion amongst the public officers in India as to the policy of direct and resolute interference. Those who witness but few of these horrid scenes, and find an indifference amongst the people around them, sometimes even a repugnance, to the performance of the rite, naturally conclude that the opposition of the natives to the abrogation of suttees would be trifling. On the other hand, those who have before them daily proofs of the eagerness with which these sacrifices are followed up, will as naturally come to an opposite conclusion.

This fact, namely, the local character of the custom, combined with the consideration that the Hindoo law is not imperative in requiring it, furnishes a ground for adopting some measure for interfering with suttees. If a prohibition were introduced into districts, beginning with such as offered the least resistance, and especially where some influential natives favoured the introduction of the regulation, the practice might be gradually suppressed in others, and at length finally extirpated throughout our territories.

It has been often urged as a reproach to our Indian Government that it should tolerate a practice repugnant to British law. But the practice does not prevail where British law is paramount: if a suttee were to take place within the scope of the jurisdiction possessed by the Supreme Court of Calcutta, there is no doubt that the parties assisting in the transaction would be indicted for murder, and, if convicted, executed. How far the criminal law of India, which is the Mahomedan, can be made available for putting a stop to the practice, we cannot determine; but the Mahomedan rulers of Hindostan did not stop, we believe, nay they suffered the practice, notwithstanding its repugnance to their code; and if so, our application of that law to the extinction of suttees, would be justly regarded as intolerant, inequitable, and at variance with the express stipulation under which we assumed the government of India.

The

* See *Asiatic Journ.* vol. xxi. p. 347.

† Mulieres in India, cum est cujusque earum vir mortuus, in certamen judiciumque veniunt, quam plurimum ille dilexerit: plures enim singulis solent esse nupte. Quæ est vitrix, ea læta, prosequenti-bus-aule, una cum viro in rogam imponitur: illa victa moesta discedit. *Tusc. Quæst.* lib. v. n. 78.

The impotence of the existing law of India to punish in the most atrocious cases, where the customary forms are outrageously violated, and the wretched victim is actually murdered, is demonstrated by the occurrence at Poonah, in September 1823, described in the volume of our Journal to which we have already referred. The parties in that diabolical affair were brought to trial, but escaped without punishment, which the law did not authorize.

The great inconvenience of legislating in this matter is that there is no alternative between absolutely prohibiting the sacrifice, and passively leaving the practice as it is; it being generally admitted that the regulations hitherto adopted by Government, especially those by which a magistrate's order is required for the ceremony, and a police officer is directed to be present to prevent unfair practices, have really done more harm than good, by giving a sort of countenance and sanction to the custom.* The only partial measure that can be adopted, with any prospect of benefit, is that which we have suggested, namely, to introduce a prohibition into particular zillahs.

Lord Hastings, it appears, deemed it practicable to put down the practice at once by a general prohibition: he was apprehensive of the effects of such a measure in England, not in India. But it cannot be forgotten that his lordship's toleration of this very practice was made a ground of eulogy by the native population of Calcutta; and, but for the suggestions of more sensible men, the toleration would have been recorded as one of the reasons for the gratitude felt by the natives of Calcutta, in the address presented to the Marquess, when quitting his high post of Governor General.

It is very probable that the apprehension of exciting the resentment of our Indian subjects, by offending their prejudices, may often be carried too far; but it is no act of egregious folly to err on the side of caution in this matter. It may possibly appear to the understanding of a Hindoo that Government might with as much propriety retrench all the superincumbent mass of superstition which oppresses the Hindoo religious system, and reduce it to its original form of a pure theism, as forbid the performance of the suttee rite, because it is not enjoined by any positive law of unexceptionable authority.

It is true that practices somewhat analogous have been prohibited by authority; such as female infanticide in Guzerat, and the drownings of infants at Saugor. Although it must be confessed that these were practices altogether local, and entirely unsupported by the religious books which constitute the sacred oracles of a Hindoo's belief, and therefore more easily relinquished than a practice so much more general and better supported, as is that of *Sahamarana*, yet the precedents are valuable.

Far be it from us to throw any unnecessary impediments in the way of abolishing this hateful and inhuman practice: we would merely endeavour to present all the difficulties, in order that, if the authorities which will be appealed to do not adopt any measure to fix a termination to it, their hesitation may not be imputed to neglect or indifference. It is one of those evils which legislation finds it difficult to cope with: the law may forbid the practice, but if the pertinacity of the natives persist in continuing it, who shall presume to say we can "subdue the unconquerable mind?"

In order to be effectual, the prohibition requires that some principles in the breasts of the people should co-operate with it. But their principles are decidedly opposed thereto: interest conspires with superstition, *tedium vite*, and other

* A precisely similar effect has attended the imposition of a tax on the ceremonies at Juggunath: the votaries conceive they act under government sanction.

other motives, to perpetuate the practice. Many of the instances of suttees, particularly of such as perform the rite of *Asoomarana*, by burning some time after the decease of their husbands, with a part of their furniture or apparel, are cases of mere suicide, proceeding from no affection towards the deceased, and prompted solely by weariness of life. The examples of such infatuation amongst both sexes are numerous throughout India. The Hindoo faith frequently flatters and encourages the deluded victims to perform an act of diabolical folly, with the impious hope of being enabled thereby to propitiate the Deity. Some of their acts of self-destruction are altogether incomprehensible, as in the following case, which has just occurred to our notice in an Indian journal : it is an extract from a native newspaper, called the *Timira Nasuk* :

It is said in the Sastras, that Abishma died of his own choice ; and in this iron age Loharam has followed his example. We learn from a letter received from Soekde, that an inhabitant of that village, by name Loharam, a Dhivara, or fisherman, by caste, who was looked upon as an idiot, and who was frequently fed at the house of the Kayasthas and Brahmans of the place, exhibited a marvellous instance of presentiment of death, and expired accordingly. On the 20th Asarh last, he entered the house of Babu Kasigati Mustavi, of the same village, reciting the names of the deity ; and told him that as he was about to die, he had come to him to be entertained : the Babu at first laughed at him, but ultimately gave him all he requested ; after having eaten, he invited his entertainer to accompany him to the river side, and thinking the whole a joke, the Bahu consented. When they arrived at the Ganges, Loharam requested a piece of cloth, which was given him, and lying down on the bank, so that the lower part of his body was in the water, he covered the upper with the cloth, and for some time continued to invoke the name of Govinda. After having laid some time in this manner, the bystanders becoming weary of the supposed trick, lifted up the cloth, and found that the man was really dead. Opinions are divided as to the circumstance, some holding him to be a knave, and others a saint ; but such a death is no doubt an extraordinary occurrence.

The Government of Bengal, to check this kind of self-destruction, issued an order in 1823, at Allahabad (near the junction of the Ganges and Jumna), intimating that any person *assisting* the suicide would be tried for murder.

Beasit as the subject is with difficulties, it is still desirable that the hope of abolishing this atrocious custom may not be abandoned, and that every effort should be made to keep our governments upon the alert, to ascertain whether the experiment, which is a desperate one, can be made with prudence. With this view it is right to rouse public attention and fix it upon this object, as one which deserves the deepest regard from a people jealous of any imputation upon their humanity. We heartily concur in the sentiments expressed by a reverend gentleman at the York meeting, namely, that " We may grant, for the sake of an argument, that there may be some hazard in accomplishing what is our *ultimate* object ; but in the promotion of our *immediate* object, there can be no hazard whatsoever, as that object is simply to invite the earnest attention of the public in general to a subject confessedly interesting and important, and especially to bring the subject to a fair discussion before the liberal and enlightened Parliament of our country."

EDUCATION OF CADETS.

Our present number is so overburthened with matter upon this subject, that with some timidity we venture to add to it.

Dr. Gilchrist has addressed to us a communication expressive of his sorrow at hearing the letter read by the Chairman of the Court of Directors which the Hon. Baronet declared he had just received from Sir Thomas Munro, the Governor of Madras, on the subject of the Hindoostanee language, and which, Dr. Gilchrist says, contradicts the opinion he has always entertained of the view which was taken of the subject at that Presidency, from repeated and recent communications from thence. He refers us in his letter to some statements in his *Tuitionary Pioneer*, in support of this opinion, and which go far to justify Dr. Gilchrist in suspecting some mistake in the two hon. baronets, or in his own correspondents. He has further directed our attention to an article which appeared in a daily paper on the subject of Hindoostanee; the object of which is to shew the convenience to those who are proceeding to India, of studying that language in England, instead of landing in the country in a condition which renders them dependent upon faithless natives for the commonest offices of business.

Whatever opinion we may entertain with regard to the particular course which Dr. Gilchrist has taken to bring his claims before the world, we are not disposed to join in the indiscriminate censure with which some persons have visited that gentleman since he has become in some degree a public character. Mere eccentricity ought not to work a forfeiture of those pretensions which he once possessed in the opinion of men whose judgment is worth something. We cannot forget that he was selected by Lord Wellesley, whose discernment of talent is a remarkable property in his character, to fill an eminent post in the College of Fort William. We ought to remember, likewise; that the works of Dr. Gilchrist, on the popular language of Hindoostan, have perhaps laid a basis for its extensive cultivation at home and amongst Europeans. It is a maxim with us that talents, of whatever kind, so that they be honest, are entitled to a sort of feeling from the public analogous to gratitude.

Having given this opinion of what is due to this gentleman, he cannot be displeased with us if, in the same spirit of candour and impartiality, we advert to the mode in which his pretensions are urged; a mode which tends rather to defeat than to aid his views. There is a refractoriness in the human mind which rebels against dogmatical dictation; there is no such thing as taking possession of the understanding by a *coup de main*. A person who appeals to the tribunal of public opinion must adopt the ordinary forms: if his cause is good, it needs nothing but the simple dress of reason to recommend it; if any other expedients are employed, if party-feelings are enlisted, and noisy vituperations obtrude, the public will think the cause a bad one let it be ever so just.

With regard to the imputations which, Dr. Gilchrist complains, have been cast upon him, it would be far better that he should despise such as, after all, are vague conclusions, which no arguments would obviate. If Dr. Gilchrist has been pronounced *madman*, *fool*, and *enthusiast*, we would recommend him to imitate the example of the ancient sage, who, when informed that his enemies had laid certain faults to his charge, replied that his conduct should disprove the accusations.

ON BUDDHISM;

AND ON THE EXPEDIENCY OF COMMENCING A NATIONAL COLLECTION OF THE
 BIRMAH MANUSCRIPTS.

THERE is no subject whatsoever on which man so intensely exercises his faculties, or which so deeply interests his feelings, as the investigation of the various parts of traditionary evidence connected with the first ages of the world; and those innate opinions and sentiments graven on the hearts of all the human race respecting the future destiny of the soul: these two points are the beginning and the vivifying principle of the theogony of every nation under heaven; from Caucasus to Ultima Thule, their sound has gone forth throughout the globe. How many volumes on these deeply-interesting subjects have been gleaned from the mutilated fragments of Berosus, Manetho, Sanchoniatho; and other relics of the past, which, as Lord Bacon beautifully says of the philosophies of Plato and Aristotle, "were saved from the general shipwreck of human learning, as light planks supported by the waves of time." Long has the student sought over the midnight lamp for a solution of his anxious inquiries, amid the brilliant dreams and endless theories of the philosophers and sophists of Greece: modern times, however, have had a new world called into existence for them; and the star of Eastern literature beams on the path of knowledge, to enlighten and guide the race of man to those hitherto unexplored mines of the East, so full of riches which never tarnish, and which survive even the mutations of empires.

If the classic fictions of Greece claim a kindred origin with the gods of India, and their true birth-place may be sought for on the banks of the Ganges and of the Indus, every document which lays before us the transcripts of the belief and tenets of their sacred books, adds so much to the stock of facts and knowledge, whence genius and judgment may draw those links of real history and analytical combination, which illustrate the march of events, and rescue the past history of man and of nations from being lost in oblivion. There is no tale so obscure or hyperbolically involved in the mythology of the early ages, that it may not prove capable of serving usefully in an illustration or evidence when judiciously compared with parallel statements.

The public are therefore greatly indebted to those patrons of science, and those learned societies, who laboriously exercise themselves in the collection of such materials. We live at a time, when more important and valuable records are placed within our reach, than at any former period, in this or any other country. The East has become manifestly a point of great interest in the cultivation of literature; hitherto the stores of Sanscrit learning have been the chief study, while enough has been done in the language and sacred books of the Indo-Chinese kingdoms to show how materially they are interwoven with the principles of the chief doctrines of paganism. Whether Buddhism or Braminism be entitled to the priority in point of antiquity, is a question not yet decided; but be that as it may, there can be no doubt but in the doctrines and compositions of the Indo-Chinese writers, no less than in the Sanscrit, are contained most valuable and important materials for the philosopher and the scholar.

The career of war has led our armies into one, and that a principal state of these regions—the empire of Ava, the literature of which was declared by the late Dr. Leyden to be peculiarly rich, and especially in historical works. On the authority of Dr. Buchanan, he states, that the Birmans have various his-

stories of different dynasties of their princes, and he adds: "these people have translated histories of the Chinese and Siamese, and of the kingdoms of Kathee, Koshan-pyee, Pagoo, Saymmay and Laynzayn: they have also numerous works on astronomy, mythology, medicine and law; also a variety of poems and songs, and even natakas which may be derived from Sanscrit tradition, as the adventures of Rama in Lanka are favourite topics in their dramas." In evidence of these facts, Dr. Leyden has supplied a list of no less than thirty-six highly popular works, some purely mythological, and others cheritrás of the historical class.

After this brief sketch of the Indo-Chinese literature, it may not be impertinent to present their leading ideas on the principal mythological personages of their ancient theogony, whereby the advantage of examining their character and import is demonstrated.

The following particulars are extracted from a series of queries which were submitted to the Chief of the Buddhist priests in Ceylon, and the answers were given from the contents of their most esteemed manuscripts. These documents, fortunately for literature, became the property of Sir Alexander Johnston, who has uniformly shewn himself no less able to appreciate their value, than possessed with the desire of liberally applying them to the public use.

The first point which strikes the mind on examining the doctrine of Buddhism, is the account which it exhibits of the nature of their gods, wherewith the heavens are peopled.

These gods are declared to be immaterial, are in truth spirits: the definition is singular. "They came spontaneously (self-existent) into vision, and being *vere apparition*, there appears no parent for a god."

Of these gods, Maha Brahma is supreme, inhabiting the sixteenth or highest heaven, and is declared to be the very god, Sahan-Pati Maha Brahma. The personage next in importance, at least as concerns the mundane system, is Sekkraia, the chief god of the heaven Deiwo Lowa, but not for the sixteen heavens: Iswara and Maheswara govern the earth as inferior deities to Sekkraia, who indeed performs a most important part in the Buddhist theogony. Wiswakarma, the Mulciber or Vulcan of India, is declared to be his artisan; and in the furious contest of the rebel Assouras, or evil demons, to recover their native heaven, Sekkraia received the Chakra Walalla, or bickering lightning, from Wiswakarma, who invented these formidable arms for his use (as the Lemnian Artisan forged the bolts of Jove); whereby he totally discomfited and routed the rebel demons, and became king of the gods of the heaven Tawoo Deiwo Lowa.

Still Sekkraia has to preserve his worlds from the mighty one, the rebel Assoura, who lurks under the maha maya parkwatte, or world-stone; ever watching for a moment's negligence on the part of the guardian gods, whereby he may regain his lost power. Against this evil the vigilance of four heavenly guards is exerted to notify the slightest effort of the demon to Sekkraia, by whose power he is instantly secured in his stony prison.

How very closely these incidents coincide with the Titanian wars!—those rebel-giants, struck down by the thunder-bolts of Jove, and buried under mountain-rocks, beneath which they struggled vainly to free themselves! Thus they were feigned to wrestle with their doom, and thereby to occasion the internal fire and earthquakes of Trinacria; and in the same manner the Assouras are made to disturb the repose of heaven, and to call for continued watchfulness.

Sekkram is represented as having delegated or delivered the tutelary charge of Ceylon, or Lanka Diva, to Wisnoo, described as living on the mountain Waykoote, in the wilderness of Dambediva, called Himmala wanna, 2,355 years and eight months seven days since; this epoch was stated as an historic fact, and was so reckoned by the priest who furnished parts of these explanations, as he extracted from their books the date, on the 29th of November 1813.

The gods are further declared to be subject to death,—that is, to a change of state: for death as destruction, or cessation of existence, is unknown in Buddhism. They are said to have acquired their stations from good deeds done on earth; it will also hereafter be seen that they are represented as interfering with the formation of man and woman. Can any language more accurately delineate this short analysis of the deities of Buddhism than the following passage of the Greek poet Hesiod? “When the mortal remains of those who flourished during the golden age were hidden beneath the earth, their souls became beneficent demons; still hovering over the world which they had once inhabited, and still watching as guardians over the affairs of men. These, *clothed in thin air*, and rapidly fitting through every region of the earth, possess the royal privilege of conferring wealth, and of protecting the administration of justice.”—Hesiod, *Op. lib. i. v.* 120.

To conclude this short sketch of the gods:—they are declared capable of lust and of adultery, and the happiness of heaven is described by reference to the senses. The word “gods,” translated into Cingalese, means “those who enjoy happiness,” which bears the precise meaning of the foregoing quotation.

Although, in these short extracts, much is omitted of the details of the gods which might illustrate the subject; what is narrated (for it is only intended to give the general scope of *their nature*, not *their names*, or *actions*) clearly suffices to shew, that their deities bear no stamp or impress of that sublime and awful being from whom the worlds take their existence: Maha Brahma is described in the most exalted terms, but notwithstanding it is clear there is no attribute in it of deity. They are not worshipped, nor have they temples; they appear solely as *ancestral shades*; and are invested, amid all their elevation, with human passions.

The Buddha is superior to the gods, even to Maha Brahma, who is represented as descending from the highest heavens, and attending at the birth of Goutama: to be entitled to become Buddha he must incarnate in flesh, and be born a man. Whence came this singular and striking coincidence with scriptural facts, unless we trace it up to, and rest it upon, the primary promise of a son to be born, who should crush the serpent's head? Hence flows the claim of being to this great and mighty one among the first conquerors of the earth, the Ninus of the Assyrian dynasties, the Phris, or Pharaohs of Egypt, and the system of Avatars.

Buddha is stated to have acquired his privileges by abstaining from all sensual pleasures, by mortification and self-denial, and a variety of acts deemed praiseworthy and meritorious, wherewith sundry treatises are filled: they are curious and interesting, as elucidating various points of ancient belief and practice. Buddha is able to tell the past, the present, and the future,—for such his name implies. Among his qualities are “the fore-knowledge of the birth, the creation, and destruction of the world;” the power “of knowing the hearts of every other; of discovering the shapes inhabited in past transmigrations.”

In

In true Buddhist doctrine, there is no such term as "creation of the world:" the Buddhists declare it to have self-existed from eternity; and what is here put down as *creation*, in the original means "the rising of the world;" as if, after having run through its stage of existence, it had been submerged under the waters of the great abyss; whence, after the term of its absorption in the plastic fluid had been fulfilled, it again arises in new birth, exhibiting the deities, great and subordinate; men, animals, and plants, as at the first, to fulfil another series of existence.

We hear very little of Buddha in his highest quality of omniscience, and the most zealous Buddhists are soon brought to acknowledge a period anterior to his power or existence: his knowledge of the past, present, and future, therefore, resolves itself into the *Metempsychosis*, of which Buddhism is the true parent, and which invests him with the knowledge of all the stages of existence during the ages that he has passed on earth. Pythagoras exhibited the same claim in his doctrines, and the tenets of the Ionic school found their best support in the subtle and elaborate metaphysics of Indian doctrine.

The most extraordinary and refined part of Buddhist faith, is the state of Nirwan or Nigban, declared to be "annihilation, non-existence, perfect happiness, perfect bliss:" notwithstanding the unqualified terms often used for this great and highest good, as the Buddhist books declare it, they use such phrases in other parts as induce the probable supposition, that it is not "annihilation," according to our conception of it, but a significant expression of *an absorption into the final great anima mundi, and a rest from all further change or transmigratory trial*. This is a doctrine too sublime for any but the chosen disciple of the Muni, or great teacher, and therefore it is veiled from vulgar and unbelieving minds: for it is declared in one of their books, that no one can understand the meaning of Nivani who is unskilled in the Buddhist faith. A phrase in itself absurd, if the tenet only defined annihilation, absolute and perfect. But the real state of the case seems to be, that the Buddhists are too keen and too practised reasoners not to see the manifest bearing upon the supremacy of their Buddha, if they by any means admitted into their system a state or deity which exempted beings for ever from any operative change, and awarded an eternity of unchangeable happiness, while Buddha and his worlds are going on in a series of painful revolutions. The truth, however, which they seek to hide, appears to be demonstrated by Nivani, and clearly evidences that there is lurking in the system of Buddhism a higher principle still, a chief of gods, a sublime, one and alone, which will link this ancient faith with the first ideas in the early ages of man's existence. The acts of Buddha, and the various miracles which attended his appearances in Ceylon, merit a distinct examination; they bear, in many particulars, strong concurrent approximation to the early Mosaic accounts, more so than perhaps that of any other Eastern doctrine. Meantime the present imperfect sketch may serve to shew in how many and striking particulars the Pantheon of Greece and Rome concurs with the long established and deeply rooted principles of Buddhism. One important subject of thought so strongly deserves the attention of that learned and distinguished body who guide the public opinion on Eastern literature, that it seems the influence and interest of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain cannot be too earnestly or instantly exercised upon its realization. The events of the recent glorious war with Birmah has thrown into the hands of English officers an immense number of manuscripts, many of them of the greatest beauty and splendour;

splendour; they are now constantly presenting themselves to notice in every quarter among the relatives and friends of these individuals; the ornamental appearance, and compact and portable shape, of these bundles of varnished and embellished palm-leaves, render them objects of attractive elegance, and thus (perhaps rather unfortunately) make them pleasing memorials of remembrance.

A few months will disperse far and wide, and for ever, these valuable depositaries of the science and history of a great people, and a most important opportunity of collecting together a perfect library of Birman writings is passing away, never to be recalled; the value and the usefulness of these manuscripts are so apparent, that surely a pithy address which designated either the Museum, our grand national depositary, or the library of the Royal Asiatic Society, as a select dépôt, to receive, under certain conditions, these *opima spolia* of war, would permit the approbation and patronage of numerous individuals, to whom these manuscripts must be a sealed tongue. Not any time should be lost in making the effort, for the purpose of securing and procuring for literature so large a portion of the writings of one of the most powerful of the Indo-Chinese kingdoms, of which at the present instant there are in England such numerous specimens as would compose a collection of inestimable rarity and importance. What public monument would more illustriously confirm the warlike successes of England over the region of the Mogas of Magadha, than such a depositary of the writings of their progenitors? These best gifts of war would commence a more grateful contest, and by them might we best learn how to conciliate our new subjects, and convert them into grateful and willing allies.

Were the individuals' names carefully inscribed on the manuscripts presented, such a gift would not less illustrate the liberality than the valour of the donor; and it cannot be questioned but that a well-supported appeal to the public of this great metropolis would produce at once the funds requisite to effect a measure, combining the advantages of knowledge and intellectual improvement, with national character and glory.

MR. MOORCROFT.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: I have observed a paragraph in the English papers, copied from a Russian journal, giving an account of the murder of an English traveller of celebrity, named *Moncrief*, in Tartary: does this refer to Mr. *Moorcroft*, or to some other person?

A. S.

•• We have no doubt that the individual referred to is Mr. Moorcroft, whose name and whose fate are equally misrepresented in the paragraph, which has run the round of the English papers, and is now upon its travels on the Continent.—*Ed.*

Review of Books.

Sketches of Persia, from the Journals of a Traveller in the East. Two Volumes. London, 8vo. 1827.

CURIOSITY is now so eager in quest of information concerning "the land of Roses and Nightingales," that the British public will probably be glad of any contribution that will tend to allay it: in the mendicant's phrase, "the smallest donation will be thankfully received." Under these circumstances, memoranda of travels, which have long lain by, or which have been confined to the perusal of select circles, are now polished up and prepared for the eye of the world.

It is probably to this cause that we are indebted for the work before us, which is one of the most amusing books we have met with for some time. The writer, it will be soon perceived on perusing these "Sketches," is intimately acquainted with Persia and its manners, and he has communicated what his experience has furnished him with, in a style at once so lively and instructive, diversifying his narrative with critical remarks, tales and romances from the treasures of Oriental writers, that the work comprehends the most agreeable features of a book of travels, a novel or romance, and a selection of Eastern fables.

As the nature of these "Sketches," which are in some measure desultory, although the writer professes to follow the mission to the Court of Teheran in 1800, from Bombay to the capital of Persia, precludes us from giving a systematic review or epitome of them, we shall endeavour to afford the reader such a sample as may give him a slight notion of the style and character of the work, which deserves to be extensively read.

A sprightly introduction is prefixed to the work, in which the author relates that he had long meditated this publication out of the sketches which were contained in certain trunks, where they had slumbered undisturbed for nearly thirty years. He decided upon undertaking the office from consulting the *fâl*, or form of divination practised in Persia; he took a volume of Persian poetry, shut his eyes, opened the book, and counting seven pages back, read the first four lines, and from their prophetic language, was induced to despatch his MS. forthwith to the bookseller.

In the second chapter the following reflections occur:

The eastern hemisphere continues to have a certain venerable air with old men from a belief that the star of knowledge first enlightened its horizon: children delight in it from its containing the enchanting tales of the "Thousand and one Nights;" ladies admire its flowered muslins, rich shawls, pure pearls, and brilliant diamonds: merchants view it as a source of commercial wealth; the naturalist, the botanist, and the geologist, search its plains, its forests, and its mountains, for unicorns, spikenard, splendid specimens of zeolite, and grand basaltic formations; the English soldier looks to its fields for a harvest of reputation, while pious missionaries sally forth with more than military zeal, to reclaim the millions of the East from their errors, and direct them in the path of life.

Almost all these, however different their objects, concur in one sentiment, that the rulers of the East are despots, and their subjects slaves; that the former are cruel, the latter degraded and miserable, and both equally ignorant.

The author of the "Sketches" is very full and minute on the subject of ceremonial etiquette; in this respect, the work is fit to be a manual for ambassadors. Europeans in general are little aware of the importance attached to

to these points in Persia, and of the ill-effects proceeding from neglect or ignorance in regard to them.

Ceremonies and forms have, and merit, consideration in all countries, but particularly among Asiatic nations. With these the intercourse of private as well as public life is much regulated by their observance. From the spirit and decision of a public Envoy upon such points, the Persians very generally form their opinion of the character of the country he represents. This fact I had read in books, and all I saw convinced me of its truth. Fortunately the Elchee (Envoy) had resided at some of the principal courts of India, whose usages are very similar. He was, therefore, deeply versed in that important science denominated, "*Kâida-e-nisbest-o-berkhâst*," (or the art sitting and rising), in which is included a knowledge of the forms and manners of good society, and particularly those of Asiatic kings and their courts.

He was quite aware, on his first arrival in Persia, of the consequence of every step he took on such delicate points; he was therefore anxious to fight all his battles regarding ceremonies before he came near the footstool of royalty. We were consequently plagued, from the moment we landed at Abusheher till we reached Shiraz, with daily, almost hourly drilling, that we might be perfect in our demeanour at all places, and under all circumstances. We were carefully instructed where to ride in a procession, where to stand or sit within-doors, when to rise from our seats, how far to advance to meet a visitor, and to what part of the tent or house we were to follow him when he departed, if he was of sufficient rank to make us stir a step.

The regulations of our risings and standings, and movings and re-seatings, were however of comparatively less importance than the time and manner of smoking our kelliâns and taking our coffee. It is quite astonishing how much depends upon coffee and tobacco in Persia. Men are gratified or offended, according to the mode in which these favourite refreshments are offered. You welcome a visitor, or send him off, by the way in which you call for a pipe or a cup of coffee. Then you mark, in the most minute manner, every shade of attention and consideration, by the mode in which he is treated. If he be above you, you present these refreshments yourself, and do not partake till commanded: if equal, you exchange pipes, and present him with coffee, taking the next cup yourself: if a little below you, and you wish to pay him attention, you leave him to smoke his own pipe, but the servant gives him, according to your condescending nod, the first cup of coffee: if much inferior, you keep your distance and maintain your rank, by taking the first cup of coffee yourself, and then directing the servant by a wave of the hand to help the guest.

When a visitor arrives, the coffee and pipe are called for to welcome him; a second call for these articles announces that he may depart; but this part of the ceremony varies according to the relative rank or intimacy of the parties.

The manner in which the Envoy resented a want of respect is shewn in the following occurrence:

The Elchee, on entering this apartment, saluted the Prince; and then walked up to his appointed seat; but the master of the ceremonies pointed to one lower, and on seeing the Elchee took no notice of his signal, he interposed his person between him and the place stated in the program. Here he kept his position, fixed as a statue, and in his turn paid no attention to the Elchee, who waved his hand for him to go on one side. This was the crisis of the battle. The Elchee looked to the minister; but he stood mute, with his hands crossed before his body, looking down on the carpet. The young Prince, who had hitherto been as silent and dignified as the others, now requested the Elchee to be seated; which the latter, making a low bow to him, and looking with no slight indignation at the minister, complied with. Coffee and pipes were handed round; but as soon as that ceremony was over, and before the second course of refreshments were called for, the Elchee requested the Prince to give him leave to depart; and without waiting a reply, arose and retired.

The Minister seeing matters were wrong, and being repulsed in an advance he made as an explanation, sent Mahomed Sherref Khan, the Mehmandar, to speak to the

Elchee;

Elchee; but he was told to return, and tell Cherâgh Ali Khan, "That the British Representative would not wait at Shiraz to receive a second insult. Say to him," he added, "that regard to the King, who is absent from his dominions, prevented my showing disrespect to his son, who is a mere child; I therefore seated myself for a moment: but I have no consideration for his minister, who has shown himself alike ignorant of what is due to the honour of his sovereign and his country, by breaking his agreement with a foreign Envoy."

The Elchee mounted his horse, after delivering this message, which he did in a loud and indignant tone, and rode away apparently in a great rage. It was amusing to see the confusion to which his strong sense of the indignity put upon him threw those who a moment before were pluming themselves on the clever manner by which they had compelled him to seat himself fully two feet lower on the carpet than he had bargained for. Meerzâs and Omrâhs came galloping one after another, praying different persons of his suite to try and pacify them. The latter shook their heads; but those who solicited them appeared to indulge hopes, till they heard the orders given for the immediate movement of the English camp. All was then dismay: message after message was brought deprecating the Elchee's wrath. He was accused of giving too much importance to a trifle: it was a mistake of my lord of the ceremonies; would his disgrace—his punishment—the bastinado—putting his eyes out—cutting off his head, satisfy or gratify the offended Elchee? To all such evasions and propositions the Envoy returned but one answer: "Let Cherâgh Ali Khan write an acknowledgment that he has broken his agreement, and that he entreats my forgiveness; if such a paper is brought me, I remain; if not, I march from Shiraz."

Every effort was tried in vain to alter this resolution, and the minister, seeing no escape, at last gave way, and sent the required apology, adding, if ever it reached his Majesty's ear that the Elchee was offended, no punishment would be deemed too severe for those who had ruffled his Excellency's temper or hurt his feelings.

So exact are the notions of the Persians as to these frivolous subjects, that, it appears, when the Envoy reached Teheran, a Meerza endeavoured to regulate his dress, and produced pictures of ambassadors who had visited Persia many centuries ago, amongst which was the portrait of the English representative, supposed to be Sir Anthony Shirley, dressed in the full costume of Queen Elizabeth's time, which the Meerza wished the Envoy to adopt, "as his Majesty desired to follow in all points the usages of the Suffavean Kings, since they well understood what was due to the dignity of the throne of Persia!"

Our author, speaking of the plundering tribes of Persia, furnishes an interesting account of the Toorkomans, which is, however, too long for insertion.

In the fifteenth chapter of the second volume we are favoured with a very amusing discussion respecting the mode in which Oriental females are treated. After describing the tomb of Fatima-ool-Masoomah, at Koom, the author says:

I have had frequent discussions with my Persian friends upon the general condition of the female sex in this country; and cannot better illustrate the subject than by relating what passed on an occasion when I made a violent attack on their usages in this particular, and brought them into strong contrast with those of the civilised nations of Europe.

I began by stating, that by making slaves of one half of the creation, they made tyrants of the other. "I am only surprised," I said, "how your females can bear the subjection and confinement to which they are doomed. How our Christian ladies would scorn such restraints! Their minds are cultivated as carefully as those of their fathers, brothers, or husbands, who trust for their good conduct to their sense of virtue and religion, rather than to strong doors and high walls. We desire," I added, "that those who share our pleasures and our toils should be acquainted with the world in which

which they live, that we may possess not only an affectionate wife, but an intelligent friend.

"Your Mahomedan ladies, on the contrary, are shut up like wild animals: whilst moving from one inclosure to another they travel in a curtained carriage; or, if walking, they are enveloped in robes which merely admit of their breathing and seeing their way through small eye-windows. Besides, they are not allowed to have any communication but with their husbands, children, or slaves. What with flattering one, coaxing another, beating a third, and fighting a fourth, these ladies must have a fine time of it in this world; and as to the next, though they are not denied Paradise as we Europeans often erroneously believe, they are only promised, as a reward for the most pious life, half those blessings which await the virtuous of the male part of the creation!"

"Your females," I said, "are married while mere children, and the consequence is, they are old women at twenty-five. This furnishes you with an excuse for forming other connexions, and treating your first wives with neglect."

This attack was listened to with symptoms of impatience; every one seemed anxious to answer, but precedence was given to Jaffier Ali Khan, and the ladies of his country could not have had a better advocate.

"Really, Sir, you form a very erroneous judgment of the condition of our women. In this, as in many other instances, where our religion or our customs are concerned, vulgar errors pass from one to another till they are believed by all. Many persons in England imagine that a pigeon was taught to pick peas from the ears of the prophet, who thought he might succeed by this device in persuading the ignorant that the pigeon was a celestial messenger. They also say that his tomb at Mecca is supported between heaven and earth by means of a loadstone. If true, it would be a miracle; but it is not true: nevertheless, people believe it, and the more readily, because it is wonderful. Now," said Jaffier, "it is the same with half the stories about our women. Why, I am told, it is a common belief with you that Mahomed has declared women have no souls! If you read the Koran, you will find that our prophet not only ranks women with men as true believers, but particularly ordains that they shall be well treated and respected by their husbands; he has indeed secured that by establishing their right to dowers as well as to claims of inheritance. He also has put it out of the power of a husband to hurt the reputation of his wife, unless he can produce four witnesses of her guilt; and should he have witnessed that himself, he must swear four times to the fact, and then by a fifth oath imprecate the wrath of God if he is a liar. Even after this, if the wife goes through the same ceremony, and imprecates the wrath of God upon her head if her husband does not swear falsely, her punishment is averted; or if she is divorced, her whole dower must be paid to her, though it involve the husband in ruin. What protection can be more effectual than this?"

"Then a woman who is divorced may marry again after four months, which is believed to be soon enough. These widows, I assure you, Sir, when they have a good dower, are remarkable for consulting their own judgment as to a second choice; they are not like young giddy girls, who are guided by their parents or the reports of old nurses or match-makers."

"You English take your ideas of the situation of females in Asia from what you hear and read of the harems of kings, rulers, and chiefs, who being absolute over both the men and women of their territories, indulge in a plurality of wives and mistresses. These, undoubtedly, are immured within high walls, and are kept during life like slaves; but you ought to recollect, that the great and powerful, who have such establishments, are not in the proportion of one to ten thousand of the population of the country. If a person of inferior rank marry a woman of respectable connexions, she becomes mistress of his family; and should he have only one house, he cannot place another on an equality without a certainty of involving himself in endless trouble and vexation, if not disgrace. The dower usually settled upon such a lady, added to other privileges, and an unlimited authority over her children and servants, give her much importance; and she is supported by her relations in the assertion of every right with which custom has invested her.

"With

"With regard to liberty, such a lady can not only go to the public bath, but she visits for one or two days, as she chooses, at the house of her father, brother, sister, or son. She not only goes to all these places unattended, but her husband's following her would be deemed an unpardonable intrusion. Then she has visitors at home; friends, musicians, and dancers; the husband cannot enter the lady's part of the house without giving notice. I only wish," said Jaffier Ali, laughing, "you could see the bold blustering gentleman of the merdāneh in the ladies' apartment; you would hardly believe him to be the same person. The moment his foot crosses the threshold, every thing reminds him he is no longer lord and master; children, servants, and slaves look alone to the lady. In short, her authority is paramount: when she is in good-humour, every thing goes on well; and when in bad, nothing goes right. It is very well for grandees, who, besides power and wealth, have separate houses and establishments, and are above all regard for law and usage, to have harems, and wives, and female slaves; but for others, though they may try the experiment, it can never answer;" and he shook his head, apparently with that sincere conviction which is the result of experience.

The conversation is kept up for some time, and we would recommend those who have adopted the vulgar notions respecting the condition of women in the East (generally) to give it an attentive perusal.

A limitation by law, as to the number of wives a person may choose to keep, is, indeed, repugnant to the understanding of a Persian. Our author relates that, when the Envoy enjoyed an interview with the Shah, his Majesty inquired whether it was really true that the King of England had but one wife; he had heard it stated, but could not believe it. The Envoy replied, that no Christian Prince could have more; and as to entertaining ladies upon any other footing, "our gracious King, George the Third," said the Envoy, "is an example to his subjects of attention to morality and religion in this respect, as in every other." His Persian Majesty observed, with a laugh, that this might be very proper, "but," added he, "I should not like to be king of such a country."

His Majesty was equally inimical to other customs and maxims popular in England; it required much explanation to make the Shah understand what was meant by "the liberty of the subject." When he comprehended the definition of the phrase, he observed that the King of England was only *Kut-khoda-e-avvel*, "corresponding exactly to our phrase of "First magistrate of the country." He added, with a smile, "such a condition of power has permanence, but it has no enjoyment: mine is enjoyment. There you see Suliman Khan Kajir, and several other of the first chiefs of the kingdom,—I can cut all their heads off: can I not?" said he, addressing them. "Point of adoration of the world," replied they, "assuredly, if it be your pleasure."

The remarks of the Shah remind us of that made by a Grand Seigneur, when one of our ambassadors, explaining to him the constitution of the British Parliament, described the "Opposition." The Turkish monarch asked, with surprise and indignation, why the King of England did not send them *the bow-string*.

Having occasion to advert to the changes occurring in the Court of Persia, between the author's first and second visits, he gives us a little insight into his own opinions upon a subject which now possesses peculiar interest:

"I am treading on forbidden ground; I have nothing to say to politics: if I had, this chapter might be more amusing. I could tell of French and English schemes for harlequin-changes, which were to leave my Persian friends no remains of barbarism but their beards! of Mahomedan princes trained to be reformers, of the sudden introduction of the fine arts, and of the roving tribes of Tartary, and the wild mountaineers
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of Fats, becoming, by the proper use of a few cabalistical phrases, disciplined regiments. These and many similar transformations were meant to prove that we lived in an age when an instructed or enlightened man might, if furnished with the necessary implements of pen, ink, and paper, effect any given change, on any given nation, in a few months.

This was not the first time that such experiments had been tried in Persia; for, besides a knowledge of the civil and military arts of Europe, efforts had been made to teach the Seffavean monarchs and their nobles to understand the laws, institutions, and governments of the more civilised world. The sarcastic and penetrating Gibbon, when speaking of the attempt, observes, "Chardin says that European travellers have diffused among the Persians some ideas of the freedom and mildness of our governments: they have done them a very ill office." This may be too severe; but if instruction is of a character to diminish happiness, without furthering improvement, he would be bold who should call it a blessing. A medicine may be excellent in itself, yet, from the peculiar habits and constitution of the patient, it may act as a poison. These and many similar sentences of wisdom I have now and then uttered, when talking about the proposed sudden regeneration of the Eastern world, but I never could obtain a hearing. My plans of slow and almost imperceptible change, which were not confined to the teaching half a dozen individuals, but embraced a whole people in their operation, have been ridiculed as proving nothing but the sluggishness of my understanding. When I have pleaded experience, I have been accused of giving that name to prejudice; my toleration of systems out of my power to alter, and interwoven with every feeling, habit, and enjoyment of the communities in which they prevail, has been referred to my narrow views; and all my pretensions to discernment and judgment have been called in question because I have persuaded myself, and tried to persuade others, that Asiatics, though they are not so fair as we are, though they are of a different religion, speak a different language, and have neither made the same advances in science nor in civilization, are, notwithstanding these disadvantages, not altogether destitute of good and great qualities, both of head and heart.

Liable as I am to such accusations, I must cautiously limit myself to facts, which I know from observation, or have heard from persons worthy of credit; but should my reader detect me in the sin of taking a more favourable view of human nature than it merits, I shall hope to be forgiven; while I pray that the stranger, who visits the land of my nativity, may come to it with a mind disposed rather to dwell on its green and fertile valleys, than upon its rugged rocks and bleak mountains. May he find enough of sound and good feeling among its inhabitants to make him look with indulgence on their failings and excesses. If he quarrels with that luxury and refinement, which, by supplying, multiply the wants of men; if he doubts the good of many of the laws and institutions which belong to an artificial society, the frame and workings of which the labour of a life would not enable him to comprehend, may he contemplate it in a spirit of humility, which rather leads him to question the correctness of his own judgment, than to pronounce, on a superficial glance, that every thing is wrong, which does not accord with his own habits and feelings.

The behaviour of the Persians towards their inferiors is a remarkable trait in their character: it is elucidated by the succeeding very just remarks and distinctions:

Hajee Mahomed Hoossein is a man of great simplicity of manners, and neither has, nor pretends to, any of that wit, or brilliancy in conversation, for which many of the Persians are so distinguished. He is rather dull in company, and appears what he really is, a plain man of business. A friend of mine one day breakfasting with him, was surprised to hear him say to a poor man, who brought a pair of slippers to sell, "Sit down, my honest friend, and take your breakfast; we will bargain about the slippers afterwards."

This admission of inferiors to their society at meals is not, however, uncommon with men of rank in Persia. It arises out of a sense of the sacred duties of hospitality, and

out of parade, if they have not the reality of that humility so strongly inculcated in the Koran. Besides, their character and condition often dispose them to relax with those beneath them, and even with menial servants, whom they admit to a familiarity which at first view appears contradictory to those impressions we have of their haughty character. I was one day almost reproached by Aga Meer, on account of the difference which he observed in our behaviour, to those of our countrymen who were below us in condition. "You speak of your consideration for inferiors," said he to me, "but you keep them at a much greater distance than we do. Is this your boasted freedom?" I told him that it was exactly our boasted freedom which compelled us to the conduct we observed. "You are so classified in Persia," said I, "that you can descend from your condition as you like; a man below you will never presume on your familiarity so far as to think himself, for a moment, on the same level with those who are so entirely distinct from his class in the community. In England we are all equal in the eye of the law, the rights of every man are the same; the differences which exist are merely those of fortune, which place us in the relation of master and servant; but where there is no other distinction, we are obliged to preserve that with care, or all forms and respects would soon be lost."

It is from no conviction of their excellent qualities that the Persians treat their inferiors with familiarity: the lower orders, and especially those with whom a traveller has to deal, have many vices. The author of the "Sketches," however, puts this matter upon a juster footing than travellers in general, who bitterly complain of the treachery of Persian servants, without reflecting upon the reasons which a foreigner often finds in England to tax our countrymen with the same vice. Inferences from particulars to generals is a very common but a very unjust method of reasoning.

The work is brought abruptly to a close with the following remark: "My efforts to amuse, and perhaps inform my readers, are interrupted by circumstances, which, though they forbid a promise, warrant a hope that, if we are pleased with each other, we may meet again."

That every reader of the work will be pleased with it is too much, perhaps, for us to assert; but that we have been highly pleased, and that we entertain the hope of meeting the author again, we can say with truth. The "Sketches" are full of amusement, as well as information.

The work is attributed to Sir John Malcolm; indeed there are very few persons who have had opportunities to collect the same materials: it affords a new evidence of the versatility of his talents.

The Gulistān (Rose Garden). By Sādī of Shīrāz. (Persian.) London: 8vo. 1827.

THIS is a new and very accurate edition of *the Gulistān* in the original language. The merits of the former edition are so fully known and admitted by Oriental scholars that we may dispense with a critical notice of them upon the present occasion.

The improvements which have been introduced into the present edition may be concisely described: they are such as leave no imputation of negligence upon the able person who superintended the former. A considerable number of errors was almost unavoidable; these have been diligently rectified, and some hundreds of typographical mistakes, whereby letters were detached from words to which they belonged, and added to the succeeding, &c., have been amended.

A very material advantage which the student will find in the use of this edition, is the insertion of the vowel-points in the Arabic words, omitted in the former edition. The Arabic was likewise in that edition otherwise defective, to the embarrassment of the unskilful reader.

VARIETIES.

CALCUTTA MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society was held on the 5th August, the Vice-President, Mr. Wilson, in the chair. Dr. Mellis was elected assistant secretary. A complete set of the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal* was presented to the Society by Dr. Duncan. From the letter accompanying the journals, it appears that the senna now procurable at home is generally called East-Indian senna; but Dr. Duncan doubts the accuracy of the appellation: it is believed he is quite right in this respect. Senna is an article of import in Calcutta, being brought by the Arab ships. It is not improbably, however, re-exported, if not from Calcutta, from Bombay, and hence its denomination—East-Indian.

The following communications were then laid on the table:—Observations on the diseases of Arracan by Mr. Stevenson, jun.; cases of consumption occurring in India, by Mr. Bird, of the Bombay Establishment; case of a singular tumor on the eye of a child, by Mr. Clark; cases of malignant ulcer, by Mr. Langstaff; a note on the Papeetha, or St. Ignatius' Bean, by Mr. Playfair; cases of cholera at Buxar, by Mr. Dempster; and remarks on the virtues of the rhubarb of the Himalaya, by Mr. Royle, superintendent of the botanical garden at Sherunpore.

The properties of the Himalayan rhubarb appear to be rather inferior to those of Turkey rhubarb; but the comparison was made under unfavourable circumstances, the roots not having been duly prepared, but brought from the hills entire and vegetating. The latter was so far a favourable condition, that it admitted of their being transferred in the experimental garden in the hills, the Mussoreea Tibba, where they were growing in a strong and a healthy state.

The geographical distribution of the genus of plants from which rhubarb is obtained, is from the frontiers of China to Siberia, on the north and westward, if native writers may be believed, to the mountains bordering on the Caspian. It is found along the Himalaya in various places, and in great abundance, and there is reason to think, in every one of the varieties from which the drug is obtained, that is known as Russian, Turkey, or China rhubarb. A variety was sent down from Gosain Than by Capt. Webb, of which the root was as good as China rhubarb. A round-leaved variety was noticed by Mr. Fraser, at Jumnautri; two kinds were seen by Mr. Moorcroft at Niti, one of which he took for the *rheum palmatum*, the other was smaller, and in the opinion

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of Major Hearsay, three species were distinguishable: one with broad, one with spear-shaped, and the other with serrated leaves; the last being, perhaps, the *rheum palmatum*, from which the Turkey rhubarb is obtained. On the Choor Mountain the rhubarb plant grows in rank luxuriance, and Mr. Gerard has found it in great abundance and of majestic growth on the hither slope of the Himalaya, and on the table land of Tartary, and in Ladakh, from whence some of the drug, of a very fine quality, was sent by Mr. Moorcroft. Wherever travellers have been in the Himalaya they have met with the plant, and there is every reasonable probability that one kind or other will be found to correspond with that preferred in Europe. It is a curious anomaly in the history of vegetable productions, that this drug should make nearly the circuit of the globe, in order to be rendered available in its native country.

Mr. Royle also adverts to the soil and temperature of the spot selected for the medical garden, the Mussoreea Tibba; the former he describes as consisting of a clayey loam, with a calcareous substratum, and the latter, as equivalent to a latitude of 41°. In confirmation of this, he has found the temperature of the nearest spring, in the warmest month of the year, to be 56°, and, considering this to be about the mean temperature, it approximates to that of Rome, which is in 41° 53', and of which the mean temperature, as given in Humboldt's isothermal tables, is 60°, 44'. It is not unlikely that the elevation of the Mussoreea Tibba will render it equivalent to a rather higher degree of latitude even than 41°.

The papers which were submitted for discussion were observations on diarrhoea hectica, by Dr. John Tytler, and remarks on a malignant epidemic ulcer, or hospital gangrene, by the secretary, Dr. Adam. The former complaint is very common amongst the poorer or more exposed classes of natives in the rains and the setting-in of the cold season, and is, apparently, referable to the want of nutritious diet, to insufficient clothing, and to damp uncomfortable accommodation. It is very extensively fatal, and no mode of treatment has yet been devised on which confident reliance can be placed. The epidemic gangrene occurred amongst a division of the forces stationed at Hussingabad in 1818, and proceeded to an alarming extent, although not fatal. It came on with the commencement of the cold weather, to the influence of which the situation of Hussingabad was much exposed. The

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only topical application of any utility was the arsenical solution; but the disease was finally arrested by the exhibition of mercury, and in a short time disappeared.—*[Cal. John Bull.*

CALCUTTA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

An extraordinary meeting of this Society was held on the 9th Aug. at the house of the President, W. Leicester, Esq., to take into consideration the disposal of an extensive supply of fruit-trees, recently received from Liverpool, which it was determined should be offered for sale at such prices as should reimburse the Society in their cost, in order to promote their dispersion through the country, and to provide for a further supply from England.

On this occasion the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—E. Barnett, Esq.; G. Chester, Esq.; J. Donnithorne, Esq.; the Hon. C. Lindsay; S. Nicolson, Esq.; and R. Leslie, Esq.—Brig. Gen. Walker, of St. Helena, was elected an honorary member.

A specimen of Bourbon cotton, raised by Mr. Peddington in the Krishnagur district, from seed brought by him from Singapore, was submitted to the Society, with a supply of the seed for distribution to the members.

With reference to the public advertisement of prizes, it was determined that the Society should procure seeds from the Cape, New South Wales, and Patna, which, when received, should be held disposable amongst intended competitors for any of the prizes awarded by the Society.

A proposal was submitted to the Society for the establishment of an experimental garden in the vicinity of Calcutta, which it was resolved should be taken into further consideration.—*[Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

HINDOO ANECDOTE.

The rajah of a certain kingdom having tried four thieves, condemned them to death. After three of them had been put to death, the last one, who was very cunning, said he had an address to make to the rajah, and that they might afterwards deprive him of his life. With this he went into the presence of the rajah, surrounded by the guards, and addressed himself to him to the following purpose:—"May it please your Majesty to enforce the sentence you have passed upon me after a trial of the extraordinary power I possess of making a tree which would produce golden fruit." The Rajah returned, "since you do possess such a power, why did you not make use of it instead of that abominable art, stealing?" "But," replied the thief; "it must be observed that unless the seed be sown by one who has never in his life committed a theft in any respect, it will not produce the plant." The Rajah ac-

cordingly had small seeds of gold made by a goldsmith, and gave them to each of his courtiers, with directions to sow them. The courtiers said, "We have been engaged in performing the business of the state, and have enriched ourselves thereby; so we cannot with propriety affirm that we never have committed any theft." They also added that the Rajah was the proper person for sowing the seed; to which he returned, "I myself cannot boast of being free from guilt, for I recollect, when very young, having eaten a sweetmeat without the knowledge of my mother, who had secured it." The thief concludes the affair with the following observation: "Now, since all of us are guilty of the same crime, why am I alone to lose my life?" These words of his made the Rajah and all his courtiers laugh, and served to set him at liberty.—*[Native Newspaper.*

EAST-INDIAN SUGAR.

The use of East-Indian sugar having become very extensive among the conscientious opposers of slavery, the following directions have been drawn up for clarifying it:—"Take six pounds of East-Indian sugar and the whites of six eggs beaten up in a quart of water. Mix all well together, and simmer it for about three-quarters of an hour. Take the scum off as it rises. The scum (to prevent waste) may be boiled again with half a pint of water, for about half an hour, and strained through a cloth. This will produce a clear and delicious syrup, which may be used at the breakfast and tea table, and for all domestic purposes, as a complete substitute for the best refined West-Indian sugar, than which it will be found to be considerably cheaper."—*[Christian Observer.*

MINERAL PRODUCTS OF INDIA.

That little should have been effected hitherto towards developing the mineral resources of India has been, in a great measure, unavoidable, and the unfriendly condition of the districts in which they most abound, or the ungenial nature of the climate, has opposed insuperable obstacles to scientific investigation. The alluvial soil of Bengal and the country along the Ganges, from the Himalaya to the sea, have offered but little temptation to mineralogical research; and although, at no great distance to the west, we have formations of a more promising character, and the hills of Gondwana, if we may credit native records, are rich in metallic produce, yet the uncultivated and unhealthy character of the country renders the task of exploring it a service of more than ordinary peril. Within the presidency of Madras, indeed, iron is abundant, and a rich deposit of copper was many years ago discovered at Nellore, the working of which,

which, for reasons with which we are unacquainted, was, we believe, not prosecuted, and, at any rate, has not been continued. The coal mines of Burdwan and Sylhet, most of our readers have heard of; but these are the only situations in which an attempt has been made to derive advantage from subterranean formations. Now, however, that the field of inquiry is extended, and the prospect of permanent tranquillity affords both time and funds applicable to internal improvement, we cannot doubt that due attention will be paid to an object so important to considerations of national economy, as well as scientific reputation. Specimens of copper and lead ore have been sent to the presidency from Marwar, which would apparently repay the labour of working, and we understand that a lead mine is actually worked, although, perhaps, not very efficiently, in Ajmer. The newly acquired territories in the south-east are known to be rich in valuable minerals, and the researches in progress in the Himalaya have already discovered some highly useful products. The rivers of Assam have always had the character of affording gold dust in considerable quantities; but, even if this should not prove correct to the extent stated, there is reason to anticipate that they may lead to other substances of utility and value. Coal, for example, has been found in the vicinity of Rungpore, although it has not yet been ascertained where the seam is situated. The pieces have been found in the bed of the river, and they are so large that they could not have come from any great distance, and they also indicate a bed of considerable thickness: one piece that was broken up furnished 105 maunds, part of which, we understand, may be expected here shortly, that its quality may be ascertained. Coal is also found in a river near Bishwanath, but the pieces are described as such as might have been washed down from a great distance.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, July 24.

HOSPITALS FOR ANIMALS IN INDIA.

Diego de Louta, an early Portuguese writer who treated of India, during his residence at Goa, relates the following particulars respecting the charitable foundations for birds and other animals amongst the Hindus:—

“One means of making atonement for their sins is that of founding hospitals for birds. We have seen a remarkable one in the fortress of Cambayette, in which were very comfortable places provided for the birds which sheltered there, and persons are employed to take care of such as were sick. The revenues are derived from public alms. One hospital has persons in pay whose duty it is to walk the streets and fields, in order to search for sick or infirm

birds, and to bring them to the hospital. They have also places of the same kind for sick and aged beasts, where they are lodged and attended: people are kept to go in search of old buffaloes, horses, or mules, wounded or infirm, which are conveyed to the hospital and cured. If they see a lame man on the ground they will not lend a hand to lift him up, but let him be trampled on by men and beasts, because, they say, he is reduced to this state by his sins. They buy birds merely to let them loose; but would not contributed to release a man from prison, even if it was their own father.”—[*MS. penes Ed.*

ORIGIN OF ARABIAN PROVERBS.

Meidani, an Arabian author, in his collection of Arabian proverbs, quotes the following:—“The morrow is nigh to him who waits for it.” He subjoins an elucidation of it, which throws some light upon the history of Noman, king of Hira, anterior to Mahomet, and upon his conversion to Christianity. He says:—

“The individual who gave rise to this proverb was Karad, son of Adjda, and this was the occasion: Noman, son of Mondha, whilst hunting, was carried away by his horse without being able to restrain him. Separated from his companions, and surprised by a shower of rain, he sought for shelter, and reached a house inhabited by a man of the Taï tribe, named Handala, and his wife. Noman asked if he could have shelter there; Handala answered ‘yes,’ and received Noman as a guest without knowing his rank, although he had nothing to offer him but a single sheep. He observed, however, to his wife: ‘Take notice of this man; what a fine shape he has! what an air of nobleness there is in his appearance! what are we to do?’ She replied: ‘I have a little meal which I have preserved; do you kill the sheep, and I will make a cake of the flour.’ The man killed the sheep and prepared a stew from it. After giving Noman meat to eat and milk to drink, he found means to procure some wine, and chatted with him the rest of the night. Next day, Noman, on mounting his horse, said to his host, ‘ask whatever reward you please, for I am king Noman.’ The Taite replied, ‘I will, please God.’ Noman was then rejoined by his people and returned to Hira. The Taite was long before he needed any favour; but a misfortune happening to him, he fell into trouble: his wife thereupon said to him, ‘if you go to the king, he will load you with presents.’ At this, he determined to set out for Hira, and arrived on one of the ill days of Noman, who, having killed two of his dear friends, in a fit of intemperance, decided that he would sacrifice to their manes whomsoever he met on the

day he devoted to sorrow in commemoration of them, and load with favours those he met on the day he appropriated to joy. Noman was clothed in armour, and surrounded by his cavalry. When he saw his host he recognized him, and became grieved. The following conversation ensued: 'Art thou the Taite with whom I found an asylum?'—'Yes.'—'Why did you not come some other day?'—'God bless you! I knew not that this day was inconvenient.'—'By—, if misfortune were to bring my son Kabour before me on this day he should certainly die. Ask, therefore, whatsoever you wish of the goods of this world, for you must assuredly die.' 'May the blessing of God alight on you! what shall I do with the goods of this world, if I must lose my life?'—'There is no means of preserving it now.'—'If it must be so, then, let me at least go to my family, and acquaint them with my last wishes for the arrangement of my affairs; after that I will return hither.'—'Be it so, on condition of your leaving a pledge for your return.' The Taite upon this applied to one of the King's courtiers, who refused to answer for him; when a man of the tribe of Kalb, named Karad, son of Adjda, approached and said, 'may the blessing of God alight upon you! I answer for this man.' Noman took his guarantee for the Taite, to whom he gave 500 camels. The Taite set out for his home, and a year was fixed for his return, which he promised to effect on the precise day. When the term prescribed had arrived, excepting one day, Noman said to Karad, 'I see that to-morrow you cannot fail to die.' Karad replied: 'If the first part of to-day has passed, to-morrow is near enough for him who expects it.' The morning of the following day, Noman, attended by his suite, went, according to his custom, to the Garyans, and stopped amongst them. He ordered Karad, whom he had brought with him, to be put to death; but his viziers represented to him that he had no right to put him to death till the end of the day. When the sun was near setting, and the executioner was at the side of Karad, just as Noman was about to give the order for his execution, a person appeared in the distance. They told the king that he could not kill Karad until this person came up, in order that it might be known who he was. He stopped the order till then, and, to their great astonishment, the person proved to be the Taite. Noman recognizing him, was sorry at his arrival. He said to him, 'Wherefore didst thou return, seeing thou hadst escaped death?' He replied: 'Fidelity to my promise is the reason of my return.'—'And what motive (asked the king) has provoked that fidelity?'—'My religion,' replied the Taite. 'What is thy religion?' inquired Noman. 'The Christian religion!' exclaimed the Taite. 'In-

struct me in it,' said the king. The Taite did so, and Noman and all the inhabitants of Hira became Christians; before which time they professed the religion of the pagan Arabs. Noman gave Karad and the Taite their liberty, saying: 'Great God, I cannot say in truth which of the two is the noblest and most faithful, he who, having escaped death, came back to reclaim it, or he who devoted himself to almost certain death for the sake of a stranger: I shall not be the least generous of the three.'—[*Journal Asiatique*.]

THE "FO-KWA-KI."

M. Abel-Remusat has finished a translation of a Chinese work, which will shortly be put to press, calculated to throw considerable light on the ancient geography of Upper Asia: it is the *Fo-kwa-ki*, or history of the kingdoms professing the religion of Fo. Properly speaking, it is a Buddhist itinerary, or narrative of a journey undertaken towards the close of the 14th century of our era, by several Shamans of China, into Tartary, little Bucharra, to the sources of the Indus, in the Himalaya mountains, and as far as the southern parts of Hindustan. The translator has added a chart of India drawn up by the Chinese themselves, according to the information of these Shamans; as well as numerous illustrations of the geography and ancient history of India, and several points respecting the Buddhist worship spoken of in the work.—[*Ibid*.]

BURMESE ARCHITECTURE.

Colonel Symes, during his embassy to Ava, was informed that, notwithstanding well-formed arches of brick are still to be seen in many of the ancient temples in that country, the Burmese workmen can no longer turn them: a circumstance which shows how easily an art, once well known, may be lost to a country from disuse and the capriciousness of fashion. Masonry has not been much practised in latter ages in Ava; wooden buildings have superseded the more solid structures of brick and mortar.

THE ZENDAVESTA.

The *Zendavesta* is divided into twenty-one parts, each called by the Parsees *nusick*, or broadly pronounced, *nusk*, a part. Each one of these treatises has a title suited to the subject of which it treats. The appellation of *Zendavesta* is, we are told by Dr. Hyde, not a Parsee but an exotic word, meaning a *tinder-box*—an allegorical name calculated to inspire the readers of the book with holy zeal. It was originally written in the Zend character, one of the most ancient in the East, and nearly allied to the Sanscrit; but being too sacred for vulgar eyes, it was translated into the Pehlevi,

Pehlevi, supposed to be the language of ancient Media, from Pehleh, a district in that country.—[*Bell's Rollin*.]

ORIENTAL LIBRARY OF THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

A catalogue of the valuable MSS. and books contained in the library of the Duke of Sussex, at Kensington Palace, is now in preparation. These manuscripts are in various languages.

The Arabic manuscripts relate to the *Koran*, of which a very interesting account is given: and a splendid one, which formerly belonged to Tippoo Saib, is particularly described. There is a Persian MS. of the Gospels, and an Armenian MS. of the same, with singularly beautiful illuminations. This is of the thirteenth century, upon vellum, and is, perhaps, the most valuable Armenian MS. in the country. They are of exceeding rarity. The MSS. in the Pali, Singhalese, and Burman languages, conclude the first part of the first volume. The MSS. in the square Pali character, obtained from Rangoon, are (if not unique) the finest in this country. They are of the most splendid description, and one of them is upon plates of ivory. The letters are in japan, and richly ornamented with gold.

ORIENTAL VASE.

A very curious antique vase, found among the ruins of the ancient city of Teshire, has arrived in Calcutta. Its form is an irregular oblong, about three feet in height and two in circumference, at the widest part. It is composed of a consistency resembling brick, an inch in thickness. Upon examination it was found to contain human bones, which it is conjectured were covered over with clay and afterwards baked. It offers a fine subject for the research and ingenuity of the oriental antiquary. A particular account of this vase is given in Malcolm's "*Persia*," to which we refer such of our readers as wish for further information.—[*Beng. Hurk*.]

BOTANY.

The celebrated Dutch naturalist Dr. C. C. Blume has safely returned to Europe after nine years' residence in the island of Java. Favoured by circumstances, and devoting himself with indefatigable zeal to the natural history of that remarkable island, he has brought home immense collections of natural productions of every kind: and when we recollect how little this branch of science, connected with the Dutch possessions in India, has been cultivated since the time of Rumpf and Rheede, and how unfortunate

the more recent laudable endeavours of Messrs. Kuhl and Van Hasselt, as well as those of the English naturalists, Arnold and Jack, proved, in consequence of the fatal influence of the climate, we may congratulate ourselves on the safe return of this able naturalist. It may be expected that he will publish an extensive work on the Botany of the Dutch East-India colonies. Dr. Blume, who is a pupil of Bruggmann, has already published at Batavia, as a precursor of his great work, a view of the vegetable kingdom of Java, in fifteen Nos., which sufficiently prove the value of his discoveries, and authorize the highest hopes of his more elaborate work.—[*For. Journal*.]

AFRICA.

M. Castiglioni, of Milan, has published a geographical and numismatic memoir of the eastern part of Barbary, which is called *Afrika* by the Arabs. He describes its antiquity, and the vicissitudes which it has undergone; and corrects numerous errors which have been committed on the subject by travellers and geographers.—[*Ibid*.]

RUINS OF POMPEII.

In the recent excavations of a house near the Frellonica, there were found five glass jars perfectly closed, and placed in a wooden box; these jars being carefully cleared of earth which covered the outside, it was found that two of them contained a thick and liquid substance in good preservation, which, on examination, proved to be a conserve of olives, prepared for the table of some Pompeian gastronome, eighteen centuries ago; they are still entire. In another jar there was a thick butyraceous sauce, made of the roes of fish. The King of the Two Sicillies, being informed of this discovery, has ordered an accurate analysis to be made of it.

PERSIAN POST-HORSES.

At Shiraz there is now a chuparee (post) horse, which travels between that city and Tehran, on important occasions, in five days, the distance being 500 miles, with the same rider on its back the whole way. Many of the chuparee horses would beat the celebrated hurkaru camels of India, which make most extraordinary journeys. There is a ludicrous story told of one, which arrived at the station of a Bengal regiment in an unprecedented short space of time. One of the officers got up from dinner to try the motion of the camel; he mounted, the animal set off with him, and carried him the whole stage, seventy miles, without his hat.

College of Fort William.

26th JULY 1826.

The following Minute recorded by the Right Hon. the Visitor of the College of Fort William, on a Review of the proceedings of the Institution for the year 1825-26, is published for general information, under directions received from His Lordship to that effect :—

Having attentively considered the proceedings of the College Council, and the reports of the professors and examiners, relative to the affairs of the institution during the past year, I proceed to record the general result exhibited in those papers, and the sentiments which they have suggested.

I propose, in the first place, to explain the motive which has induced me to discontinue the assembly, heretofore annually convened, for the purpose of witnessing the distribution of the honorary rewards assigned to the several students, and to substitute a written address for the discourse which it has been usual to deliver on such occasions.

The alteration has not been suggested by any diminished estimate of the value and importance of the institution; I regard its concerns with an interest no less constant and intense than that which has been felt by any one who has presided over it. But the system, according to which the operations of the College are conducted, has undergone a material alteration. The exigencies of the Government have rendered it an object of paramount importance to add to the number of the effective servants as rapidly as possible; and it has further been our policy to encourage students to enter on the active duties of the service, as soon as they are qualified to discharge them, in order that they may not be exposed to the expenses and temptations of the Presidency for a longer period than is unavoidable. Hence it happens that a large portion of those, whose merits and exertions distinguish the period under review, having been reported qualified for the public service at intermediate examinations, are no longer present to receive in person the tribute of applause to which they are entitled: the disputations and exercises for which the ceremony of an annual meeting was mainly instituted, can no longer be held; and the assembly, consequently, has lost the character and effect which once belonged to it.

With this alteration of circumstances, it appears to be reasonable and proper that a corresponding change should be made in the mode of address hitherto adopted, and

in relinquishing a form which no longer harmonizes with the actual state of things, I would wish to be considered as evincing the sincerity of that interest with which I regard the institution, and which I shall equally extend to the active career of those who have so lately entered on the duties of public life.

It is satisfactory to me to perceive, that the result of the papers, now under consideration, is generally favourable. During the last year, ten medals of merit have been granted for rapid and considerable proficiency in the languages taught in the College. Fifteen students, specified in the annexed list, have passed the requisite examination in Persian and Hindee, or Bengalee, since June 1825, and have consequently been declared fully competent to the discharge of their public duties, by their acquaintance with two of those languages.

Among these, the merits of the following appear to deserve distinct notice.

Mr. Edmonstone was admitted into the College in April 1825. At the following annual examination held in June, he was found to have attained the prescribed standard of proficiency in the Persian language, and was declared entitled to a medal of merit for rapid and considerable progress in that language. In August of the same year, having added to his previous acquisitions a competent knowledge of the Bengalee language, he was reported qualified for the public service.

Mr. F. J. Halliday commenced his studies in June 1825, and at the general examination of the following December was reported to have made such proficiency in Persian, as entitled him to the reward of a medal and a prize of eight hundred rupees. In the further period of two months, having attained the prescribed standard of proficiency in Bengalee, he was finally declared qualified for the public service in February last.

The progress of Mr. Crawford and Mr. Garstin, who in about nine months attained a respectable proficiency in two languages, and the former of whom obtained medals of merit in two languages, has also been satisfactory.

Mr. A. Reid, in October 1825, entered his name on the records of the institution as a student of Persian and Bengalee, and in February following was reported qualified for the public service in both languages. For the attainments of this gentleman, the College can only claim a partial credit. He

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was permitted, under particular circumstances, to reside with a friend at a distance from Calcutta, and did not, consequently, attend any lectures. To his own abilities and industrious application, therefore, his early acquisition of the requisite qualifications must mainly be ascribed.

Mr. G. T. Lushington commenced his oriental studies at the same time with Mr. Reid : but his talents and diligent application soon enabled him to outstrip all his contemporaries, and he was accordingly reported qualified in Persian at the half-yearly examination in December, and in Hindee, at the general examination holden in February of the present year, being rewarded for such rapid and considerable proficiency with a medal of merit in each of those languages. Mr. Lushington, however, did not rest satisfied with such attainments only as the test of qualification for the public service requires, but, desirous of acquiring a more full and critical acquaintance with the languages of India than that ordeal implies, continued to apply himself with great attention to the study of Persian and Hindee till the close of the term, when at the last annual examination he was distinguished with the first place in both these tongues, and received, upon that occasion, the reward assigned for high proficiency, *viz.*, a prize of eight hundred rupees. It appears certain that a few months further study would enable Mr. Lushington to attain the highest grade of Collegiate honours, and to give his name a conspicuous place among the most distinguished students of the College of Fort William.

Mr. J. R. Colvin has given a singularly striking proof of what talents united with industrious and vigorous application can effect. This gentleman entered the College in March last, and at that time he was acquainted with little more than the elements of Persian and Bengalee, and not even with the character of Hindee; yet, in the course of three months, he obtained such a knowledge of those three languages as to gain the usual report of qualification for the public service, and to hold a respectable place in them all, obtaining in each a medal of merit for rapid and considerable proficiency.

I cannot conclude this enumeration without expressing my sorrow for the loss of Mr. H. P. M. Gordon, who died in May last, soon after he had been declared qualified for public employment. By the death of this excellent and amiable young man, the public service has been deprived of one who gave the best promise of future usefulness and distinction.

I remark, with much satisfaction, the circumstance, that Lieut. Todd, one of the Examiners of the College, obtained in the past month a degree of honour for eminent proficiency in the Bengalee lan-

guage. On this officer similar degrees were conferred, at the annual meeting in June 1825, for his eminent attainments in Persian and Hindoostanee, and although he was called away for some time from his academic duties, to the discharge in the field of those more immediately belonging to his profession, yet his diligent application during the remainder of the period under review, has enabled him not only to master the Bengalee language, but to make such progress in Arabic and Sanscrit, as to hold out the fair promise of similar excellence in those languages at no distant period.

I cannot omit this opportunity of recording my regret, that the College of Fort William no longer offers those facilities for the cultivation of the native languages, which for some years it afforded to the military servants of the Company; and that it is, consequently, deprived of that accession of literary attainment which so eminently contributed to extend the usefulness and to enhance the reputation of the institution.

Though not immediately connected with the College, I consider it to be also proper on this occasion to notice the success with which Mr. Thomason, who in June 1823, left the College with distinguished credit, has since prosecuted the study of Arabic law. An extract from the report of the Examiners is annexed to this minute; and though I state it with regret, the immediate pecuniary advantage with which Mr. Thomason's merit has been rewarded is no longer proffered, yet I trust that there will not be wanting civil servants ready to follow his example; for to those whose bent of genius is favourable to the pursuit, there still remain many other and higher motives for the attainment of the more advanced stages of proficiency.

I regret to observe, that three students have subjected themselves to removal from College by neglecting to profit by the advantages which it affords. But in the confident expectation, that they will exert themselves to redeem the errors of the past (and one of them has already given unequivocal evidence of amendment), I will forbear from more pointed animadversion.

I feel satisfied, that it must be unnecessary to assure the College Council, that the rigid enforcement by them of the provisions for ensuring a diligent attention to study, will ever have my cordial approbation and decided support. It is alike dictated by a regard for the public service, and for the real interests of the individuals.

I am particularly gratified by observing that the new statute, requiring of every student, as a qualification for the public service, a knowledge either of Hindee or of the Bengalee language, in addition to the Persian, has completely answered the end of its enactment.

It is still more satisfactory to me to learn, that the arrangements adopted by Government, for improving the situation of the students, and for providing them with the means of meeting the expenses of their situation without the necessity of contracting debts to individuals, have been attended with the beneficial effects anticipated from their operation. There is no point on which I would desire to lay more stress than on the importance of avoiding pecuniary involvement, fatal alike to the happiness of the individual, to the independence of the public functionary, to the credit of the Government, and to the security of the people.

It is not to be disguised, that in former times, when the College could boast of sending forth from its walls, at each of the annual examinations, many students deeply imbued with oriental learning; and, when it aimed at communicating to all a higher degree of proficiency than is requisite for the ordinary purposes of public business, the advantage was not purchased without much preponderating evil. The distinguished individuals who bore away the highest honours, and whose attainments shed a lustre over the institution, might, indeed, generally resist the temptations to which a lengthened residence in the capital exposed them: their devotion to learning, and the generous emulation with which they struggled for collegiate distinction, might exclude all other and lower passions. But to a much greater number, and those, too, often men who, in public life, have evinced themselves most able and excellent officers, the unnecessary detention in College proved a source of the most serious mischief. Although, therefore, the extensive acquirements for which, at one period, many of the students of the College obtained degrees of honour, are now rarely found within its walls, because the period of collegiate study is generally so much abridged as to render the acquisition impracticable, even to the highest talents, and most indefatigable industry, I cannot but cordially rejoice at the character which the institution has assumed. That character seems, indeed, to be such as local circumstances would naturally dictate. In England, if any where, the selection must be made of persons qualified to become useful instruments of Government; and there the foundation must be laid of that varied knowledge, which is requisite to the successful administration of public affairs, in their extensive and complicated relations. Here, on the other hand, the means of furnishing to the public functionaries the medium through which they must communicate with the people, and without which, their most distinguished accomplishments would be comparatively valueless, are possessed in a degree of efficiency which we should vainly seek in

England; and that the College of Fort William affords extraordinary facilities for the acquisition of the native languages, appears to be sufficiently evinced by the simple enumeration of the students who have qualified themselves for the public service in the past year. Here, consequently, though at home the rudiments of the oriental tongues may very properly be taught, the civil servants of the Company, after having, through a course of liberal education in England, acquired the knowledge, the habits, and the principles, which may guarantee the worthy discharge of their important trusts, should add such an acquaintance with the languages, as is requisite to enable them adequately to perform the duties of the different situations to which they aspire. I should hope that, in each year, some students will be found willing to prolong their connection with the institution, in order to attain a much higher degree of proficiency than is ordinarily required as a qualification for public employment; and that, among those who seek to enter on the active duty of the service, as soon as it is open to them, there may be some who, combining an attention to oriental literature with the discharge of the public business, will prosecute their studies to the highest grade of attainment. For several situations, such attainments may be regarded as a most valuable, if not an altogether indispensable qualification; and I shall be happy to co-operate with the College Council in any arrangement by which this object can be promoted. It will be sufficient to take care, that the public interests do not suffer from any want of extensive learning in the members of the civil service, though the College of Fort William may be deprived of the credit of imparting it. From the general body of the students it would be unreasonable to demand such acquisitions. The great majority of public officers must necessarily content themselves with such a knowledge of the languages as is required for the due discharge of their several trusts. This, it is satisfactory to observe, the College of Fort William imparts at the present moment, with a degree of efficiency never surpassed.

I confidently trust that no exertions will be wanting on the part of the officers of the College, to secure the fullest advantages attainable under the present system. The diligence of the students being immediately rewarded by admission to public employment, when the ambition of literary eminence may not induce them to prolong their studies, there remains no motive, and no excuse for any relaxation; and removal from College must infallibly attend any delay, or neglect of study. To those who do not readily avail themselves of the advantages it offers, the institution will generally be found to occasion un-
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mixed evil. They cannot, consequently, be too soon detached from it. I am induced to rest on this point the more particularly, in order that the officers of the College may be fully assured of my support in enforcing the recent statutes; and because the duty they have to perform is one of a very distressing nature, and one for which other Collegiate institutions afford no true rule of guidance. The circumstances of the College of Fort William are, indeed, in many respects, altogether peculiar. The students of the College may be regarded as having actually commenced the first duty of their profession: to be diligent in study being an obligation which attaches to them not less directly, than the zealous performance of his public function to any other public servant. And, although the scope of the instructions given in the College has been wisely abridged, the officers of the institution have a favourable opportunity of communicating to the students much that will be eminently useful to them on their entry into public life. They may give most valuable directions for the prosecution of those studies which are best calculated to fit the civil servants of the Company for the high functions which await them; they may convey to them just conceptions of the importance of the station they are destined to fill, and of the solemn responsibility which that station involves. They are not, indeed, expected formally to communicate the knowledge which the civil servants of the Company should acquire in other seminaries, or by solitary study; but they may remove, or soften, the prejudices which such knowledge does not always obviate, and sometimes strengthens. They may prepare their pupils to understand the character, to estimate the virtues, and to guard against the vices, of the singular people they are destined to govern; they may lead them to comprehend how, with much that is faulty, and much that is erroneous, there is, also, much that is valuable in Eastern learning, and to acknowledge that, at all events, it is not a humane or a wise part, hastily to condemn what has been long and clearly prized by many millions through successive generations. They may inculcate invaluable lessons of patience, candour, and toleration. Cherishing a fervent devotion for our national faith, they may urge the comprehensive obligations of that charity which it most pointedly enjoins; encouraging lofty conceptions of the rank which is held among the nations by our singularly favoured country, they may readily lead their young friends to perceive, that in India the real glory of England is to be sought, not in any vain display of personal or national pride, but in such a conduct, in public and

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private life, as our country would approve in the magistrates who govern her; in security of person and of property—in the amendment of the laws—in the administration of equal justice—in the establishment or promotion of beneficial institutions—in the execution of useful works—in the increasing wealth, intelligence, happiness, and freedom of the people.

I beg to return my acknowledgments to the College Council, for the careful superintendence they have exercised over the concerns of the College during the past year; and I have much satisfaction in expressing the very favourable sense I entertain of the manner in which the professors, and other officers of the College, have discharged their several duties.

The literary works which have issued from the press since the last annual examination, or which are now in preparation, will be specified in an appendix to this minute.

I doubt not, that it will be a source of high satisfaction to the general body of the service to learn, that the great work of public instruction continues to be vigorously and successfully prosecuted.

The progress of native education, in the institutions under the authority of the Committee of Public Instruction, has continued, during the past year, to afford satisfaction to Government, and to justify the expectations that have been formed of their public utility. The course of study has, in every instance, been sedulously maintained, and the actual advance proportioned to the means of instruction and facilities of study.

Of the Colleges and Schools in the provinces, the report of the last annual examination held at Benares, shew the students on the foundation to be sixty; and the out-students 177, of whom several have acquired considerable proficiency in the branches of study which they have cultivated. The first annual report from the College of Delhi states the number of resident scholars to be 120, of whom the classes more advanced are engaged in the study of the Arabic language, Mohamedan law, and the elements of Euclid; and the junior, in the cultivation of Persian, and the elements of the Arabic language. The report of the Local Committee is highly favourable to the zeal with which the teachers and the students of this seminary have been animated; the diligence with which it has been superintended, and the popularity which, even in this early period, it has attained; these circumstances have determined Government to extend the beneficial operation of the College, by placing more liberal allowances at its disposal, and thus opening a door to a greater

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number of pupils, of whom, from the advantageous situation of Delhi, there is likely to be a considerable resort from the upper and western provinces of Hindostan.

The progress made at the Agra College is not yet before Government in any official report, no examination having been held; but there is no reason to suppose that the advance has been less than might have been reasonably anticipated; the number of scholars attached to the College was 117, of whom the Hindu classes comprise forty-three, and the Mohamedan seventy-four students.

Of the other establishments in the provinces there is nothing that calls for any remark; they comprehend a considerable number of scholars, but the nature of the instruction communicated at them, the description of persons by whom they are attended, and circumstances peculiar to their organization or position, render them of less importance than those previously adverted to, and leave some uncertainty as to the extent to which they are calculated to disseminate useful information; they are on this account more especially subjected to the attention of the Committee of Instruction, and, through them, to the observation of Government, and they must expect to receive that encouragement alone which the benefits they afford may be found to deserve.

The institutions established at Benares, Agra, and Delhi, render it unnecessary to complete any present addition to establishments for native education in the remoter provinces; but in the interval between Calcutta and the former city, a seminary is required for contributing to the instruction of the youth of Behar and Tirhoot, for which the city of Patna seems to be eligibly situated. The establishment of a College at this city, on the same principles as those of Delhi and Agra, has accordingly occupied the attention of the Committee of Instruction.

The progress of the institutions at the presidency is equally the subject of favourable report; and the annual examinations of the Sanscrit College, and Madrisa, convey a satisfactory impression of the assiduity and success with which the course of study is prosecuted at those institutions. At the Mohamedan College, the attention of the students is more especially directed to the study of the Arabic language, Mohamedan law, and the mathematical sciences; and measures have been adopted to extend the facilities for the cultivation of the two latter, by the multiplication of useful works: with this view, the *Fatawa Humadi* has been printed in the course of the year, and encouragement has been given to the preparation of the *Fatawa Alungiri* for the press; a translation of *Bridges' Algebra* has been also prepared,

and is in the course of printing for the use of the mathematical class.

The studies of the Sanscrit College are of a more varied description, as they include the elementary cultivation of the Sanscrit language. The study of Hindu law, according to authorities which, although of great weight, have been hitherto little read in Bengal, as *Menu* and the *Mitakshara*, have been successfully introduced, and a course of mathematical studies has been lately commenced by the perusal of the *Lilavati*. The building destined for the accommodation of the Sanscrit College has been completed, and the classes were removed to it in the beginning of the year, and some progress has been made in the printing of useful works, to which the encouragement of Government was formerly given. An edition of the *Mugdabodha Grammar* is nearly completed; and a considerable portion of the *Bhatti*, a poetical work illustrative of the rules of grammar, has been printed.

The buildings contiguous to the Sanscrit College, of which it was originally intended to appropriate one to the use of the Anglo-Indian College, have both been transferred to that institution, the measure having been rendered necessary by the growing numbers of the scholars of the seminary. By the report of the annual examination in January last, it appeared that 196 pupils, of different ages, the sons of the most respectable members of the native community, were in course of instruction at this seminary, in the English language and literature, and in European science; and the knowledge of the senior pupils reflected the highest credit upon their talents and application, and upon the system of tuition by which they had been instructed. At present there are 280 scholars, of whom 190 contribute to defray the expense of their own education; of the rest, sixty are upon the foundation, and thirty are supported by the School Society.

It is to this establishment that Government especially look for the successful diffusion of that knowledge, which is equally applicable to the purposes of active and contemplative life, and which unites reason and philosophy with the happiness and improvement of society.

The inquiries of the Committee of Public Instruction have sufficiently established the total want in India of facilities which exist in other countries, for intellectual cultivation. Of village education, the mere ability to read and write, there seems to be no deficiency, at least in the lower provinces: but there exist no means of any advance beyond the simplest rudiments of knowledge, exclusive of the College establishments founded by the British Government. No endowments for literary purposes have survived the domestic distractions of these countries,

countries, and no Academic or Collegiate Institution perpetuates the memory of private or public munificence. The course of events has also shut the schools which the fame of individual teachers formerly rendered attractive, and instructors by profession are now of the most humble acquirements; are either without remuneration, or are inadequately rewarded, and are in general held in little estimation. Books are everywhere scarce and expensive, and without books, teachers, or schools, it is evident that the means of education are wholly defective. The first object of Government is to provide for these deficiencies, but it is obvious that they can only be extensively supplied by the co-operation of the people themselves. As far as the means at our disposal extend, schools have been endowed, teachers encouraged, and books will in the course of time be multiplied; but no public resources can admit of the education of a whole people being provided for by the ruling authority. It is, therefore, with much satisfaction, that Government observes the manifestation of a disposition to assist in the great work of promoting Native instruction, either by their own servants or by the members of the Native community. Of the former they have had to notice the meritorious institution of a school at Allahabad, by the European residents at that station, and individual instances of a similar spirit have met with their approbation. Of the latter, it is with peculiar gratification that they can advert to the occurrences of the past year, during which Sicca Rupees 1,06,000 have been placed at the disposal of the Committee of Public Instruction, by several Native gentlemen, in justice to whose liberality their names and donations are here particularized:

Raja Baidyanatha Raya.	S. Rs. 50,000
Raja Sivachandra and Harisinhachandra Roy.	46,000
Baboo Guruprasad Bose.	10,000

Sa. Rs. 1,06,000

These are honourable testimonies of the interest taken by wealth and intelligence in the improvement of the rising generation, and entitle the donors to the acknowledgment of the Government and the gratitude of their countrymen.

In the designs of the Committee of Public Instruction and of Government, a prominent object is, to add to the efficiency and respectability of the Native officers employed in the administration of the country. In accomplishing this object, a great public good will obviously be secured, and it is one which it is equally the duty and the interest of every Civil Servant of the Company to promote. But the scope of the Committee's labours is much more extensive; for they embrace

almost every thing that can tend to advance the knowledge, to raise the character, and to improve the moral condition of the people. Among the means of accomplishing this object, none appear likely to be so efficacious as the introduction of European science, and this the Committee are judiciously endeavouring to accomplish, without any attempt, arbitrarily, to supersede the learning prized by our Native subjects. They seek no artificial support for the cause of truth when fairly opposed to error. The result, indeed, is certain, if the friends of truth are just to themselves.

The literature and the morals of England must prevail if the superiority we claim for her be reflected in the conduct of her citizens; their errors may throw back for centuries the accomplishment of the purpose; and in contemplating the efforts made for the improvement of India, this should be the first and most anxious thought, to those about to enter upon public life, how they can best maintain the character of their country, and best secure for themselves the title of Instructors and Benefactors of the millions they are called upon to govern.

AMHERST.

APPENDIX.

Extract of the Report of the Examiners appointed to ascertain the ability of Mr. Thomason to consult works in the Arabic language on Mahomedan Law, dated 13th March 1826.

Mr. Thomason was accordingly examined by us on Saturday last, the 11th inst., in presence of the Law Officers of the Sudder Dewanee Adawlut. The following exercises were performed by Mr. Thomason—being Extracts from Original Arabic authorities to be translated into English.

No. 1. Of Partnerships.—The circumstances under which partnerships by reciprocity lose that character and fall under the class of partnership in Traffic.—*Jami Ooroomoor.*

No. 2. Of the administration of oaths, with a view to the discovery of an offender in cases of murder.—*Hidaya.*

No. 3. Of appropriation and the various rules to be observed on the occasion of a religious endowment.—*Ashbah-o-Nuzair.*

No. 4. Of compacts of cultivation, exhibiting the principles by which they are governed, and the condition to which they are subjected.—*Foosool-i-oostorrooshee.*

No. 5. Of sales, showing certain necessary conditions to the legality of such contract under particular circumstances.—*Rizant-ool-Moofteen.*

No. 6. An English exercise to be translated

lated into Arabic, on the law of Kissas, or retaliation.

From the studious habits and tried abilities of Mr. Thomason, we were led to expect the display of extraordinary attainments. We assigned, therefore, to that gentleman the performance of exercises proportionably arduous; and it affords us sincere gratification to be able to state, that our estimate, high as it was, of his acquirements, fell short of the reality. The very names of the works above cited will vouch for the difficulty of the task which was imposed, and when we say that the translations were made with the utmost fidelity, accuracy, and despatch, we bear but inadequate testimony to his merits. In the course of three or four hours, Mr. Thomason not only performed what was required of him, but he found leisure also to make judicious annotations on abstruse passages, thereby furnishing satisfactory proof, that to the capacity of consulting original legal authorities, he has added a considerable knowledge of the law itself. In addition to the above written exercises, Mr. Thomason read a passage of the *Hidaya* in the presence of the law officers of the Sudder Dewanee Adawlut, to whom he explained the meaning in the Persian language, and who expressed themselves in the highest degree gratified by the learning and acumen which he displayed.

In communicating the result of this examination, which has furnished so decisive a proof of intense application and extraordinary talent, we need hardly add, that Mr. Thomason is, in our opinion, fully and eminently entitled to the reward assigned to success in this department of study.

(True Extract.) D. RUDDELL, Sec.C.C.

The superintendent of the Native Medical Institution reports the students of it to have made satisfactory progress within the past year, and that several of them have already proved useful to the public service, as Native Doctors to corps as well as in the two dispensaries that have been lately established in Calcutta, for the purpose of affording relief to the native officers of Government, and to such of the Natives as have not the means of otherwise procuring medical aid.

COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM.

Twenty-sixth Annual Examination, holden
in June 1826.

PERSIAN.	Date of Admission into College.	Number of Lectures attended this Term.	Period of attendance on the Lectures.
<i>First Class.</i>			
1. Lushington, 800 Rs. of merit	Oct. 1825	4	5 1
2. Crawford, medal	Sept. 1825	31	8 1
3. Colvin, ditto ditto.	Mar. 1826	21	3 0
4. Garstin	Oct. 1825	35	7 2
5. Thompson	Feb. 1826	26	3 2
6. Becher	Oct. 1824	0	0 0
<i>Second Class.</i>			
7. Gubbins	May 1826	1	0 2
8. Bury	May 1825	27	11 1
9. Heyland	Sept. 1825	25	8 0
<i>Third Class.</i>			
10. Pringle	Aug. 1825	31	9 2
11. Armstrong	Dec. 1825	45	6 0
12. Grant	Jan. 1826	25	5 0
13. Woodcock	Oct. 1825	30	7 0
14. Mills	May 1826	6	1 0
15. Fitzgerald	May 1826	6	0 2
16. Splers	Oct. 1825	45	7 0
<i>HINDEE.</i>			
<i>First Class.</i>			
1. Lushington, 800 Rs. of merit	Oct. 1826	20	7 3
2. Colvin, medal of merit	Mar. 1826	23	3 0
<i>Second Class.</i>			
3. Heyland	Sept. 1825	33	8 1
4. Thompson	Feb. 1826	21	3 2
<i>Third Class.</i>			
5. Splers	Oct. 1825	44	7 0
6. Armstrong	Dec. 1825	45	6 0
7. Woodcock	Oct. 1825	36	7 0
<i>BENGALIE.</i>			
<i>First Class.</i>			
1. Colvin, medal of merit	Mar. 1826	30	3 0
2. Pringle	Aug. 1825	37	9 2
3. Bury	May 1825	38	11 1
4. Laurell	June 1825	31	11 0
5. Smith	Dec. 1824	0	0 0
<i>Second Class.</i>			
6. Mills	May 1826	5	1 0
7. Grant	Jan. 1826	35	5 0
<i>Third Class.</i>			
8. Gubbins	May 1826	1	0 2
9. Fitzgerald	May 1826	2	0 2

By order of the Council of the College,
D. RUDDELL, Sec. C. C.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

[We have waited in vain till a late period of the month in expectation of receiving papers from Calcutta, from whence no direct intelligence has been received for upwards of two months. Should any papers arrive before the last sheet is put to press, a summary will be given at the end.]

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDER.

DONATION OF BATTA TO TROOPS RECENTLY EMPLOYED IN THE BURMESE TERRITORY.

Fort William, Aug. 3, 1826.—The Rt. Hon. the Governor-general in Council having taken into consideration the heavy losses and expenses incurred by the troops, European and Native, who were employed in the late war in Ava, Arracan, and the sea-coast of the Burmese territory, has been pleased to resolve that a donation of six months full or field rate of batta shall be granted to all the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of corps, detachments, and staff (including permanent establishments, not in receipt of increased rates of pay for this special service), who were so employed for a period of not less than twelve months. This period to be calculated from the date of landing in the Burmese territory, until the final termination of hostilities on the 24th Feb. 1826, or re-embarkation, whichever may have occurred first.

2. To the officers and men of the Ava and Arracan forces, whose period of actual service within the Burmese territory falls short of twelve months, the Governor-general in Council is pleased to grant a donation of three months batta.

3. His Lordship in Council is further pleased to grant the donation of six or three months batta respectively, as the case may be, to such of the officers and men of the flotillas employed in the Irrawaddy, and on the coasts of Tenasserim and Arracan, as may not have drawn the batta awarded by the resolution of Government in the Secret Department, dated the 19th Nov. 1824. This indulgence of batta to the officers and crews of the flotilla who may not have been included in the benefit of the resolution of the 19th Nov. 1824, is limited to individuals on the regular establishment of the Hon. Company. For those who were temporarily employed, suitable rates of pay or special allowance were fixed, with reference to the nature of the service for which they were engaged.

4. The donation of six and three months batta, granted by these orders, is extended to the heirs or assigns of individuals entitled to receive it, who died or were killed on service during the war, with exception to those of the native troops, for whom a special provision already exists, whereby the families of deceased sepoys on foreign service receive a pension from Government.

5. The rate of batta to be regulated according to the regimental rank in which the individuals served at the conclusion of the war, death, or period of re-embarkation, as the case may be, unless entitled to a higher rate, annexed to staff employment.

6. Corps, detachments, or individuals who may have landed for the first time in the Burmese territory, subsequent to the termination of hostilities, are to have no claim to the batta donation.

7. Individuals who may have been employed with each division of the army are to have the benefit of their collective actual service in claiming the higher rate of donation; and corps, &c. which may have been employed on more than one occasion during the war (as in the case of H.M.'s 45th Foot), are to regulate their claims accordingly.

8. Officers and staff who may have quitted the army on medical certificate, or on public duty, and subsequently rejoined it before the conclusion of hostilities, are, as a special indulgence, to have the benefit of the time of their absence taken into account, in claiming the larger share of batta.

9. The claims of all deceased officers and men, likewise all absentees, are to be included in the abstracts of companies, detachments, or departments. If heirs, assigns, or agents are in India, the amount will be paid over accordingly under the order and responsibility of the commanding officer; otherwise the amount of all claims of this nature will be lodged in the general treasury until legally claimed.

10. The batta bills, for the donation of six and three months respectively, will be referred for audit and adjustment to the public departments of the presidencies to which corps, departments, or individuals respectively belong.

11. Each bill will be accompanied by a nominal roll of all ranks drawn for in it; and officers, &c. who may have been employed on the staff, and whose regiments were not serving with the army, will prepare and submit separate bills.

12. A nominal acquittance roll of each corps, detachment, and department, will be prepared within one month after the issue

issue of the donation, shewing the manner in which the distribution has been made, and the appropriation of all shares of absentees or casuals.

13. These rolls will be deposited in the Military Audit Office, for future reference in the event of disputed or additional claims being preferred to the donation.

14. The amount of the batta donation will be debited to war charges in Ava.

15. Any extra batta already paid, or payable under orders of the Government of Fort St. George, to the troops of that presidency, must be considered as forming part of the batta donation intended by these orders, and be deducted accordingly.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Commercial Department.

July 26. Mr. C. Becher, commercial resident at Rungpore.

Judicial Department.

July 20. Mr. P. E. Patton, fourth judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Moonshehad.

Mr. B. Tayler, judge and magistrate of Mirzapore.

Mr. E. H. Robinson, register of Zillah Court at Agra.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Aug. 5.—Maj. Wm. Fendall, H.M.'s 4th L.Dr., to be military secretary to Governor General.

Lieut. V. Shortland, 36th N.I., to have superintendence of northern division of Cuttack road.

Capt. G. A. Vetch, 84th N.I., to have superintendence of Berhampore road.

Aug. 11.—*Cadets admitted.* Mr. R. T. Knox, for cav., and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. J. N. Reid and C. Hutton, for inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. H. Chapman, F. Turnell, C. S. Grant, and C. Newton, as assist.surgs.

Lieut. G. T. Green, corps of engineers, to be an assistant to superintendent of Delhi canal, in room of Lieut. Swetenham.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 4.—*Removals.* Lieut. Col. Com. Sir T. Ramsay from 19th to 28th N.I., and Maj. Gen. E. S. Broughton from latter to former; Lieut. Col. G. D. Heathcote from 61st to 69th N.I., and Lieut. Col. T. Murray from latter to former.

Aug. 8.—*Regt. of Artillery.* Lieut. W. Wakefield removed to 2d troop 3d brig. horse artil.; the exchange of troops between Lieuts. Hotham and M'Morine, in May last, cancelled; Lieut. Alex. Bell rem. from 2d troop 3d brig. to 3d troop 2d brig.; 2d-Lieut. H. Sanders (new arrival) posted to 2d comp. 6th bat.; 2d-Lieut. W. Young (ditto) posted to 30th comp. 6th bat.

Surg. G. G. Campbell, gar. surg. at Agra, to have med. charge of artil. at that station.

Aug. 11.—*Postings and Removals in Cavalry.* Lieut. Col. T. Shubrick (new prom.) to 1st regt.; Lieut. Col. Swetenham from 1st to 8th ditto; Lieut. Col. Com. F. J. T. Johnston from 2d to 8th ditto; Lieut. Gen. Gordon from 8th to 2d ditto.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RUNJEET SINGH.

The Bombay papers supply us with a few gleanings from those of Calcutta.

Runjeet Singh.—The native papers communicate some scanty particulars respecting the proceedings of Runjeet Singh, who

marched from Amritsur on the 19th June, pitched his tent near Pul-Koonjree on the 20th, where he remained till the 21st. On the 25th he commenced operations against Yar Mohammed Khan, the ruler of Peshawar. Some attempts had previously been made at negotiation. "The envoy of Yar Mohammed Khan, the ruler of Peshawar, produced a letter to his address from his master, requiring to know why he had received no reply to his former address to the Maharaja. His Highness replied, that as his master had been so far misled by his advisers as to collect forces and make preparations for war, it was unnecessary to send him any reply." Some further minor details are given from the ukhbars, but their meagreness renders them unintelligible. It would appear that some friendly intercourse has taken place between the Sikh Chief and Sir C. T. Metcalfe, the Resident at Bhurtpore.

The following account of the power of Runjeet in the *Bombay Courier* of Aug. 12, is somewhat at variance with former statements.

Runjeet Singh, the chief authority in the Punjaub, has always been considered, in all speculations relative to the firmness of our present footing in India, as a very formidable personage. The following extract from a private letter from the banks of the Sutledge, of so late a date as the 20th July, shews that distance has greatly magnified the extent of his power and resources.

"How Runjeet Singh has got such a name, not only in India but in Europe, it is difficult to say. To those who are near him, and see the state of his people, &c. he cannot long be an object of fear; he is little better, I believe, than an uncivilized savage tyrant, his army an unpaid rabble of thieves, and his whole country in a state of misrule, without either law or regulation that is paid attention to: half-a-dozen Sepoy regiments and a few cavalry, would drive him to the desert: and of this he is very well aware, and keeps himself quiet as far as regards us."

Bhurtpore.—A letter from Doorjun Saul of Bhurtpore had been received, representing that he had received repeated orders from Government to send for his mother from Delhi; which he could not do, as it was with difficulty he defrayed even his own private expenses, and that his poverty had obliged him to send his son to Delhi. Maudhoo Sing of Bhurtpore, after giving an account of his difficulties, also stated, that if he was ordered, he would give up all other expenses, and keep only one horse and a servant, for he was in no way connected with his mother or brother, but with Government. Sir C. T. Metcalfe consoled him, and said there was no necessity for decreasing his establishment. One day

day Burdeo Singh said, that the affairs of Bhurtpore were not properly administered by the Maha Rane: when Newab Futta Ollah Beg Khan observed that the state had much better be governed wholly by the English resident; to which Sir Charles replied, that the British power were not inclined to interfere in the government of the province.—[*Jami Jehan Numah*.

Appa Saheb.—From Maharaja Sindhia we have advices to the 20th June. An affray had taken place between the followers of Appa Saheb, and a rasaleh belonging to the Maharaja, in which several lives were lost—it was put an end to by the interference of Hindu Rao, and the commander of the rasaleh was given into the custody of Mr. Jenkins; but on the 18th, Hindu Rao reported that Appa Saheb had distributed ammunition to his troops, with an intention of marching to the Dekkin, and had given orders that his men were not to regard the question or commands of any one that should attempt to stop them. After some discussion, in which Appa Saheb made it a condition of his remaining, that one of his people, Batenker, should stay, it was acceded to, and a prospect of an allowance held out to his followers. On the 20th, news of the death of Gokul Parakh, at Mattra, arrived—orders were given to Hindu Rao to take care of the treasury accounts of the deceased.—*Ibid*.

Mir Khan.—An Afghan named Nanhi Khan, who was in the service of this chief, having been long without pay, took an opportunity, whilst Mir Khan was in a mosque at his devotions, to attempt his assassination. He fired at him, but the ball missed—the attendants of Mir Khan immediately fell upon the assassin, who was defended by some of his companions: he was, however, killed in the affray, but not before twenty-two persons on both sides were slain.—*Ibid*.

COALS IN INDIA.

The very great usefulness of steam navigation in such a country as India, where the prevalent and pleasantest mode of travelling is by water, is too obvious to require comment: as far as fuel is concerned in the advancement of steam, we are glad to be able to state, that coals are likely, in a short time, to be procurable in very great abundance, and at a cheaper rate than hitherto; for besides the coal mines at Sylhet and Burdwan, which have already been opened, we observe that a bed of coals, it is thought, lies in the vicinity of Rungpore. Government assuredly will not neglect taking advantage of these discoveries, and have the necessary investigations instituted to ascertain the value and quality of each seam.

SICKNESS AT CHEDUBA.

The H. C. Ship *Thames*, from Cheduba the 24th July, has arrived with the invalids of the 2d European regiment, of whom, we regret to learn, she buried sixty on the way up: a great portion of her own crew was sick. She experienced a gale through the whole of her passage.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Aug. 10*.

CAPTAIN AMHERST.

It is with sentiments of unfeigned sorrow that we announce the death of the Hon. Captain Amherst. After suffering several relapses of the severe fever with which he was attacked in the beginning of last week, he expired at half-past nine yesterday morning, at Barrackpore. The premature close of a career of the most honourable promise would alone awaken general regret; but in Captain Amherst, the society of Calcutta have to lament an individual endeared to them by familiar and friendly intercourse, by unaffected cheerfulness, unassuming manners, and a disposition invariably obliging and kind. Few persons in his station would have inspired more sincere or more general esteem, and few could be more universally or truly mourned.

Captain Amherst was aged 23 years and 11 months. He was to be interred this morning, in the burial-ground at Barrackpore. The funeral was intended to be private, but a number of the chief functionaries, and principal members of the society, left town yesterday afternoon, to pay the last tribute of respect to the deceased.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Aug. 3*.

INUNDATIONS.

We understand the mails have been impeded in the past month, on the Bombay side, at Poonah, and also between Nagpore and Sunhulpore, by very bad weather, the overflowing of rivers and torrents, and the carrying away of numerous bridges. The same effect has been produced to the southward by the overflowing of the Godavery, and other minor streams, particularly between Ellore and Vizagapatam, on to Poondree and the Soobunreeka in Balasore.

On the north-west road to Benares, the Damoodah has burst its boundaries, and flooded upward of sixty square miles of country in Bissenspore, &c. Similar checks have prevailed particularly in the neighbourhood of Hazareebaugh, where there are three Shakesperian bridges over very bad torrents. Fortunately all the dawks have arrived in due succession and uninjured by wet.—[*Ibid. Aug. 7*.

INTERPRETERS.

It may be interesting to some of our military friends to know, that it is in contemplation

temptation shortly to enforce the test of examination which the interpreters of corps are expected to undergo. We understand that a Committee of the Professors and Examiners of the College of Fort William is to be formed for the examination of the interpreters who are at the presidency or in its vicinity. Local committees for the purpose will be appointed at the military stations. The works to be read are, we believe, the Anweri Soheili, or Gulistan, in Persian, the Bagh-o-Behar, in Oordoo, and the Premasgur, in Hindustani. The candidates are also to translate written papers from those languages into English, and from English into them.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. July 13.*]

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Letters received by yesterday's dawn state, that on the morning of the 8th inst. the fleet of the Right Hon. the Governor-General was off Mirzapore. They speak of the gloom thrown over the whole party by the late severe calamity, which, as must have been supposed, was felt in its most melancholy force by his Lordship, and very severely by all who had the happiness to be on intimate terms with the amiable departed spirit. The progress of the fleet was rather slow. The currents are mentioned as dreadfully strong against the fleet, and the services of the steam vessel, in hauling pinnaces, &c. off sand-banks and lee-shores, are spoken of in the highest terms. Four or five baggage boats had foundered.—[*Beng. Hurk. August 11.*]

ENSIGN WRIGHT.

We regret to state that Ens. Charles Wright, of the 3d regt. N.I., was lately murdered within the Oude territory, while proceeding to join his regiment at Lucknow. None of our readers will be much surprised at the occurrence of such an event in the kingdom of Oude, although it will, no doubt, be duly felt by all who are ever likely to visit that country, and be deeply lamented by the relatives and friends of the deceased.—[*Ibid. August 12.*]

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOOGHLY.

There are, at present, no fewer than four ships foul of each other at Champaul Ghaut. Our informant could not ascertain their names, but mentions the Clydesdale as one of them, and that her stern frame seemed to be considerably damaged. At the time he left, a large vessel was swept down by the current, whirling round about, till she reached the other ships that were foul, where, after some crushing, she stuck fast. One of them has lost her bowsprit, and the bowsprit of another is right athwart her, and fixed betwixt the main and foremast. The Hamian Shaw, which is imme-

diately above the four ships above-mentioned, appears to be moving down upon them, and another vessel of smaller dimensions was whirling down in the same manner as the one first mentioned, when they appeared to have succeeded in bringing her up. At the time our informant left, the four vessels foul of each other were swinging by one cable.—[*John Bull, August 12.*]

ORIENTAL MAGAZINE.

We learn that the *Quarterly Oriental Magazine* proceeds, notwithstanding the late order of the Court of Directors with regard to the Indian press, during a reference made home by Government to the Hon. Court.—[*Cal. John Bull, July 25.*]

ARAB SHIPS, &c.

Our attention has been recently called to a subject of so much importance to the interests of the British ship-owners of the port, that we feel it incumbent on us to endeavour to excite the notice of Government to it, with a view of having the evil complained of remedied as far as that may be practicable. We have been informed then, and indeed the fact is partly within our own knowledge, that there are, at this moment, numbers of vessels in the river *bonâ-fide* the property of Arabs not British subjects, which are not navigated even by British officers, yet under the British flag, and enjoying all its privileges; what is still worse, too, partly manned by slaves. The injury which such an abuse inflicts on the *bonâ-fide* British owners, and on the revenue of the country, is too obvious to need any particular illustration. It must be apparent to every one who reflects one moment on the subject, that British owners cannot compete with those Arab traders, manned and officered as they are; they sail at a fourth of the expense of our actually British vessels; and then, when they arrive in the Gulf of Persia, or in any Arab ports or places, they hoist the Arab flag, and thus defraud the revenues of their own country, by an expedient similar to that which they practise so successfully here. We are told that the number of these vessels is, of late, very rapidly on the increase, and it is surely worthy the attention of Government, and our men-of-war in this country, to inquire into their title to hoist the British flag. In future, too, it would be well, in the case of all applications for temporary registers, which, as far as regards the navigation of India, we believe the local governments are still empowered to grant, to institute a very strict scrutiny into the ground of all applications for such documents. We understand that, at this moment, there is a vessel regularly trading to this port, which, we well know, was originally built for the Imaum

Imaum of Muscat, obtained a register as the property of a British Mahommedan subject at Bombay, was sailing under English colours, and navigated for a time by British officers, and a crew of Indian Lascars, British subjects; but was afterwards turned over to the Arabs, employed in a slave voyage, and is still under the British flag, navigated and manned chiefly by Arabs, many of them Caffrees, and, we believe, slaves. This vessel, we have no manner of doubt, is still the property of the Imaum of Muscat: indeed, though legal proof of it might be difficult to obtain, the fact is well known. That such a system should be suffered to go on, we can only attribute to that very great difficulty of obtaining legal proof of these abuses, to which we have adverted; but we are, nevertheless, of opinion, that means might be taken to verify the fact of such vessels being the property of individuals not British subjects, not being navigated by British officers, and partly manned with slaves; the second point is, of course, easy to be ascertained; the last we could at once point to a mode of discovering, but that our doing so would enable those concerned to defeat it. We trust we have said enough, however, to excite the attention of the local Government to the subject, and the vigilance of our men of war, which will shortly be increased in number, and be enabled, therefore, to look sharply after these double dealers, who avail themselves of a flag they detest, in order to defraud the revenues of the country to which it belongs, and drive her own lawful subjects out of trade.—[*Bengal Chron.*]

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Aug. 3. *Noreas*, Combrass, from Liverpool, and *Fairlie*, Short, from Madras.—5. *Juliana*, Innes, from London.—11. *John Shore*, Rees, from Batavia.—Sept. 3. *Hoopley*, Reeves, from Ceylon and London.—4. *Providence*, Ardlie, from London.—5. *Mediterranean*, Stephens, from Ceylon.—11. *Aria*, Balderston, from London.—16. *Yimandra*, Wray; *City of Edinburgh*, Milne; and *Marchioness of Ely*, Mangles, all from London.—16. *Duke of Lancaster*, Hannay, from Liverpool.—19. *Palmyra*, Lamb, from London and Ceylon.

Departures from Calcutta.

Aug. 7. *Ganges*, Lloyd, for Penang and Singapore.—11. *Elizabeth*, Cock, for London via Port Louis.—13. *Rasselas*, Austin, for Boston.—Sept. 10. *William Wilson*, Bramwell, for Isle of France and London, also *Twenty-sixth-February* (Portuguese), Bratto, for Rio de Janeiro.—13. *Georgiana*, Haylett, for Madras and London.—16. *Elisa*, Mahon, for Madras and London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

June 13. At Cawnpore, the lady of the Rev. Mr. J. Whiting, of a son.
July 12. At Futtighur, Mrs. E. Mac Cutchen, of a daughter.
20. At Agra, Mrs. Campbell, wife of Mr. Wm. Campbell, of the Custom-House, of a daughter.
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21. At Banda, in Bundelcund, the lady of W. Fane, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
27. At Saunsle, Ally Ghur, Mrs. T. Bird, of a son.
28. At Berhampore, the lady of the Rev. H. R. Shepherd, district chaplain, of a daughter.
24. At Monghyr, Mrs. J. P. Ledlie, of a son.
30. At Berhampore, the lady of Lieut. W. Thomas, H.M.'s light inf., of a son.
Aug. 1. At Dum Dum, the lady of Capt. Debreitt, of a daughter.
3. At Colliah Factory, Jessore, Mrs. M. J. D'Vadmares, of a daughter.
4. Mrs. R. Wall, of a daughter.
6. At Chandernagore, Mrs. Joseph Winter, of a daughter.
7. Mrs. John Bartlett, of a daughter.
9. At Serampore, the lady of H. Cooke, Jun., Esq., of a son.
— At Barrackpore, Mrs. J. C. Watson, of a daughter.
15. The lady of C. G. Strettel, Esq., of a son.
24. At Delhi, the lady of Capt. T. F. Hutchinson, commanding Delhi prov. bat., of a son.
27. At Benares, the lady of Lieut. Col. Playfair, of a son.
28. At Cawnpore, the lady of Capt. Jenkins, H.M.'s 11th L. Dr., of a daughter.
Sept. 1. At Mirzapore, the lady of J. M. Macnabb, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
7. Mrs. C. Hebbel, of a daughter.
8. At erampore, Mrs. J. B. Dorrett, of a son.
10. At Barrackpore, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Graham, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 20. At Meerut, J. Monteath, Esq., Capt. 35th regt., to Mrs. Lucinda F. Whish.
24. At Berhampore, G. J. Taylor, Esq., civil service, to Harriet, daughter of the late H. Christopher, Esq.
Aug. 8. At Berhampore, Lieut. W. M. Stewart, 22d N.I., to Charlotte, eldest daughter of Capt. Debnam, H.M.'s 13th L. Drags.
9. At the Cathedral, Lieut. H. Clayton, sub-assist. com. gen., to Jean Henrietta, daughter of Lieut. Gen. Sir Robert Blair, K.C.B.
24. At Cawnpore, T. Morton, Esq., to Mrs. C. Burrows.
Sept. 1. At Chandernagore, Mr. J. P. Sejourne to Miss M. Viosconellos.
7. At Chinsurah, O. S. Owen, Esq., to Fanny, widow of the late Alex. Forbes, Esq.
12. Lieut. W. Counsell, of the Bengal artil., to Miss Wiltshire.

DEATHS.

June 4. At Cawnpore, Hephzibah Maria, second daughter of Lieut. Col. Watson, 42d regt., aged 11 years.
July 8. At sea, Capt. R. Garrick, of the ship *Bengal Merchant*.
17. At Allahabad, Mr. J. Goodall, an assistant in the Board of Revenue, Central Provinces.
19. At Allahabad, William, fifth son of Capt. Pariby, agent for gunpowder, aged two years.
25. At Goruckpore, Miss Azubah Clark, sister of H. Clark, Esq., civil surgeon at that station, aged 19.
27. At Bareilly, Lieut. C. R. Bellow, Interp. and qu. mast. 37th N.I., aged 25.
— At Patna, the infant son of Dr. R. Johnson.
— At Allipore, the infant son of Mr. J. Burridge, H.C.'s marine.
28. At the New Anchorage, Mr. H. N. Dallas, 8th officer of the H.C.'s ship *Lady Melville*.
— Mr. John Pearson, aged 42.
29. At Monghyr, the infant son of Mr. J. P. Ledlie.
30. Master W. B. Walls, aged 17.
31. Mr. G. Grimwood, of the H.C.'s Bengal marine, aged 24.
Aug. 1. William Lloyd Gibbons, Esq.,
— At Howrah, Mrs. A. J. M. Blundell, widow of the late H. Blundell, Esq., civil service.
2. Mr. Wm. Clark, formerly harbour-master of Calcutta, aged 58.
4. Mr. R. Dundon, of the Bengal marine, aged 28.
5. R. C. Statham, Esq., aged 53.
7. At Saugor, on board the H.C.'s ship *Meekness*, Thos. Waterman, Esq., aged 54, long a commander out of this port.
9 E. 8 Arch.

8. Arch. Colquhoun, Esq., late paymaster of 2d bat. H.M.'s 68th regt., aged 62.
 12. In Fort William, Capt. E. Walker, H.M.'s 87th regt., aged 34.
 14. W. H. Websterfield, Esq., aged 33.
 — At Howrah, Mrs. J. Mackey, aged 24.
 23. At Barrackpore, Lieut. Col. Wm. Short, 2d regt. N.I.
 25. At Barrackpore, Mrs. Hickman.
 26. At Kotah, the lady of Maj. J. Caulfield, political agent.
 31. Mrs. M. G. Thorose, aged 52.
 — At Dinapore, Mary Jane, infant daughter of E. Phillips, Esq., surg. 6th extra N.I.
 Sept. 5. At Kidderpore, Mrs. A. Bowie, aged 29.
 6. Mr. J. F. Karangolin, teacher.
 — Mr. J. J. Valente, aged 65.
 8. C. T. Evans, Esq., indigo planter, aged 49.
 11. In Fort William, Emily Jane, infant daughter of Lieut. Ripley, 2d Europ. regt.
 12. Mr. F. Jacobs, carpenter, many years record-keeper of the military department.
Lately. At sea, Capt. J. Heron, of the ship *Hercules*, aged 28.
 — At the New Anchorage, on board the H.C.'s ship *Macqueen*, Mrs. C. R. Macleod, aged 24.
 — During his passage from Rangoon to Calcutta, C. Smyth, Esq., of Dumfries, second officer of the ship *Ganges*, Capt. Boulbee.

Madras.

[The remark prefixed to the Calcutta Intelligence is equally applicable to that from this Presidency.]

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

- Sept. 21. Mr. G. W. Saunders, judge and criminal judge of sillah of Nellore.
 Mr. H. Dickinson, collector and magistrate of Trichinopoly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STATIONS OF CORPS.

His Majesty's 41st regt. is under orders to march on Monday morning next, for Bellary, to relieve the 46th, which is to take the place of the 30th at Hyderabad.

The 30th is under orders to come down to the Presidency to be drafted, previous to embarkation for England at the end of the year.

The 98th regt. will remain in garrison at Fort St. George.—[*Mad. Cour. Aug. 8.*]

THE GOVERNOR.

Letters of the 5th instant, from the camp of the Hon. the Governor, at Papanatchy, state that they hoped to reach Tanjore next day : but this was rather uncertain, as two unfordable branches of the Cauvery were to be crossed—the river was quite full, and some hindrance had been experienced at the branches already crossed. The camp was quite healthy. It was expected that the Governor would remain four or five days at Tanjore.—[*Mad. Gov. Gaz. August 10.*]

GENERAL TAUFFREVILLE.

Died, at Pondicherry, on the 3d of June, in the 79th year of his age, General Pierre Adrien Le Roux de Tauffreville,

Knight of the Royal and Military Orders of St. Louis, and of the Legion of Honor ; an officer known by his high and amiable qualities to an extensive and most respectable circle of friends, widely spread over the Peninsula of India, leaving a disconsolate widow, and descendants extending to the fourth generation (intimately connected with the Madras army), to bewail his irreparable loss.

Few gentlemen of his nation, who have appeared in India since the middle of the last century, have enjoyed more generally the esteem and consideration of his own, and of the British Governors, who, during the course of his long and honourable career, have successively ruled over these provinces.

General Tauffreville was born on the 16th May 1748, of an ancient and noble family, in Normandy (one of his ancestors having held the office of Lord High Seneschal of that dukedom); he entered the service of his country as a volunteer, in the Legion of the Isle of France, in the year 1766; was appointed a lieutenant in the battalion serving in India, in 1768; attained the rank of major in the regiment of the Isle of France in 1787, in which year he was admitted to the military order of St. Louis; he became colonel of the regiment, serving in India, in 1792; and lastly, was promoted to the rank of "Marechal des Camps et Armées du Roi," in 1816. During this long period of service, besides the command of his own regiment, he held that of the settlement of Karikal (then an important station in French India) from 1790 to 1793, after which he held, for a short time, the general command of the French settlements. Among other active services, he was present at the two last sieges of Pondicherry, under General de Bellecombe and Chermont.

To a thorough knowledge of the minutest detail of the military profession, as refers to the command of a regiment (which by dint of application is accessible to common capacities) the General united the far more important knowledge of the grand features of the art of war, on which he discoursed in a manner which delighted all true soldiers who heard him, of whatever nation or service they might be. Few persons in India had watched and followed, with more attention than he did, the vicissitudes of political events in the East, during his fifty-two years' residence in this country; and so accurate and retentive was his memory, that many of the rulers of the settlement of the various nations, whose flag flies on the Indian shores, might often have obtained from him information on the concerns of their own nation, which lie hid under the dust of public records, and never came to their knowledge.

The political opinions of Gen. Tauffreville, during the great contest which terminated

minated in the restoration of the House of Bourbon, are too well known to those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance to need repetition. In India the cause of legitimate authority has lost a loyal, steady, and rational support; at the same time, that he never refused to any of the opposite party, that degree of praise which services, rendered to his native country, have a right to claim under any form of Government, from a liberal and unprejudiced mind.

But all these claims to distinction vanish at the consideration of his unbounded benevolence, and of his unceasing efforts to render himself practically useful to the unfortunate. When the liberality of the French Government placed at the disposal of its representatives in India a certain sum of money, to be distributed annually among the superannuated, the infirm, the necessitous of all classes and colour (of which there is no parallel in the annals of this country), a Committee was formed, of which General Tauffreville was elected the president, and from that instant to that of his death, and notwithstanding his advanced age and infirmities, all his thoughts, speculations, and actions, were directed towards the means of effecting a just and equitable division; and when the rule stood in the way of an afflicted claimant, he invariably supplied it by individual acts of charity. Such was the confidence reposed in him by the local Governors, and the body over which he presided, that it sufficed he had recommended any measure of benevolence, to procure it its full and entire execution.

But if the humble meed now offered to departed worth be suspected of exaggeration, and if any further proof of the preceding statement were required, it may easily be obtained by an appeal to the recollection of all those who, but a few days ago, attended at his obsequies, where, independently of the public authorities, a considerable portion of the population of Pondicherry had resorted, to pay a tribute of respect to that grave, where (as was briefly and elegantly expressed by the venerable clergyman who officiated at the solemnity) "the Father of the Poor was for ever to be deposited."—[*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Aug. 25. *Marchioness of Ely*, Mangles, from London.—Sept. *Providence*, Ardile; *Duke of Bedford*, Parsons; and *Prince Regent*, Hosmer, all from London.—8. *Britannia*, Lamb, from London and Cape.—12. *Lady Holland*, Snell, from London.—16. *Rose*, Marquis, from London.—17. *Abderton*, Percival, from London.—21. *Melpome*, Johnson, from Cork and Ceylon, and *H.M.S. Boadicea*, from Portsmouth and Ceylon.—22. *William*, Andree, from Bombay.

Departures.

Aug. 14. *Marquis of Huntley*, Fraser, for Pe-

nan and China.—17. *H.M.S. Alligator*, Chads, for London.—Sept. 9. *Marchioness of Ely*, Mangles; *Duke of Bedford*, Parsons; and *Britannia*, Lamb, all for Calcutta.—13. *H.M.'s ships Tamar* and *Athol*, for Ceylon.—14. *Clyde*, Munro, for Cape and London, and *Prince Regent*, Hosmer, for Calcutta.—20. *Norfolk*, Kingsell, for Padang.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGE, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Aug. 1. At Secunderabad, the lady of Capt. Oliphant, of engineers, of a son.

8. Mrs. A. Turner, of a daughter.

11. At the Presidency cantonment, the lady of H. Marshall, Esq., 33d N.I., of a son.

19. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Capt. J. Fulton, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen. southern division, of a daughter.

Sept. 6. At Arcot, the wife of Mr. Sub-Assist. Surg. J. Hunter, of a son.

8. At Quilon, the lady of Lieut. H. Smith, 15th N.I., of a daughter.

9. The lady of Lieut. J. Edgar, 50th N.I., commanding Onore, of a daughter.

13. At Palmenair, Mrs. T. Morris, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

Sept. 12. Capt. J. Garnault, 47th N.I., to Emma Carruthers, fifth daughter of the late J. D. White, Esq., of the Medical Board of this establishment.

DEATHS.

July 17. At Sunkerumpette, G. M. Ager, infant son of Lieut. W. Ager, H.I. the Nizam's 2d regt. infantry.

19. At the Presidency, the lady of Lieut. S. W. Prescott, 5th regt. N.I.

30. At Coringa, Capt. Joaquim Correya, of the ship *Euphemia*.

Aug. 5. At Secunderabad, Ens. W. Pennefather, 46th N.I.

10. Henrietta Jane, infant daughter of Mr. H. Blacker.

11. Gilbert Agnes Leroux, infant son of Mr. M. Caraplett.

Sept. 14. At St. Thomé, Thomas Charles, infant son of Mr. J. R. Dally.

17. Anne Barbara, infant daughter of F. W. Russell, Esq., of the Bengal C. S.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Aug. 3, 1826.—24th N.I. Ens. H. N. Ramsay to be lieut., v. Allen dec.; date 2d April.

Aug. 7.—Lieut. W. Sterling, 17th N.I., to have brevet rank of capt. from 24th July.

Lieut. N. Campbell, 11th N.I., and assist. in Deccan Survey Department, to be dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., v. Pringle; date 13th July.

Aug. 8.—Lieut. W. N. T. Smece, 6th N.I., and assist. of 3d class of Deccan Survey Department, to be assist. of 1st class in that department, from 9th Feb. 1826.

14th N.I. Lieut. G. P. Le Messurier to be capt., and Ens. J. Burrows to be lieut., in suc. to Innerrarity dec.; date 23d July.

Aug. 14.—2d L.C. Lieut. H. J. Robinson to be adj., v. Cunningham prom.; date 13th July.

Aug. 18.—12th N.I. Ens. T. E. Taylor to be lieut., v. Clarke dec.; date 6th Aug.

Lieut. A. Urquhart, 2d L.C., to be interp. and extra aide-de-camp to Com.-in-chief.

Aug. 24.—2d L.C. Corn. the Hon. A. O. Murray to be lieut., v. Balmanno dec.; date 6th Aug.

Aug. 25.—Capt. Hewitt, 5th N.I. (lately placed at disposal of Madras Government) ordered to rejoin his corps.

Aug. 29.—*3d or Gr. N.I.* Capt. R. Robertson to be maj., Lieut. W. Rollings to be capt., and Ens. J. C. Bowater to be lieut., in suc. to Morin dec.; date 1st April.

[Three weeks' Appointments wanting.]

Sept. 20.—*Regt. of Artill.* Sen. Maj. L. C. Russel to be lieut. col., Sen. Capt. W. G. White to be maj., and Sen. 1st-Lieut. M. C. Decluseau to be capt., in suc. to Mackintosh dec.; date 31st May 1826.

Sept. 23.—Messrs. A. Moir, C. T. Whitehead, and A. W. J. Logic admitted to Inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. T. S. Cahill admitted an assist.surg.
5th N.I. Ens. R. Colquhoun to be lieut. in suc. to H. Spence rem. to 25th N.I.; date 8th Sept. 1826.

Ens. G. D. Wilson removed from 2d Europ. Regt. to 25th N.I.

Ens. E. H. Ramsey, 26th N.I., and Ens. A. S. Hawkins, 2d Europ. Regt., permitted to exchange corps.

Ensigns permanently posted to Regts. J. Pope to 17th N.I. H. W. Budden, 18th do. C. S. Geddes, 24th do. F. Mayor, 6th do. H. C. Morse, 8th do. C. Birdwood, 3d do. C. Rooke, 22d do. T. M. Dickinson, 14th do. A. A. Drummond, 11th do. E. W. C. Parry, 21st do. J. Brodhurst, 1st Europ. Regt. C. Giberne, 16th N.I. J. C. Heath, 5th do. W. M. N. R. Forbes, 4th do. J. Holmes, 12th do. J. Montgomery, 15th do. R. H. Goodenough, 26th do. W. J. Morris, 9th do. C. W. Prother, 2d Europ. Regt. G. Fulljames, 26th N.I. G. H. Leaviss, 17th do. E. W. Cartwright, 23d do. A. James, 7th do. J. E. Frederick, 18th do. F. N. Vaillant, 24th do. J. Harri, 6th do. C. A. Hawkins, 8th do. R. Hughes, 3d do. R. Lewis, 22d do. W. Denman, 14th do. H. J. H. Christopher, 11th do. F. Twynan, 21st do. H. Ask, 20th do. L. M. McIntyre, 19th do. G. T. Cooke, 13th do. L. M. Mitchell, 1st Europ. Regt. C. G. G. Munro, 16th N.I. W. T. C. Scriven, 5th do. F. Williams, 2d Gr. N.I. C. C. Lucas, 4th N.I. F. H. Brown, 12th do. G. A. Hughes, 15th do. B. H. Crackett, 1st or Gr. N.I. J. W. Auld, 26th N.I. J. Ramsay, 9th do. C. Threshie, 10th do. W. B. Salmon, 2d Europ. Regt. J. R. F. Willoughby, 25th do. W. J. B. Knipe (not arrived), 17th do.

Sept. 25.—*Regt. of Artill.* Sen. 1st-Lieut. W. Jacob to be capt., v. White prom.; date 31st May 1826.

Sept. 28.—Assist.surg. G. Richmond, H.M.'s 4th Dr., placed at disposal of Com-in-chief for military duty.

Assist.surg. J. Boyd admitted into service on this establishment.

Oct. 2.—*Garrison of Surat.* Lieut. G. J. Mant, 19th N.I., at present commanding corps of Seabunds in Northern Concan, to be fort adjutant.

2d Europ. Regt. Lieut. R. St. John to be adj., v. Steward prom.; date 17th Sept. 1826.

3d N.I. Lieut. E. W. Jones to be adj., v. Johnson; date 30th Aug. 1826.

9th N.I. Lieut. J. B. Bellais to be interp. in Hindoostanee, and qu. mast., v. Crosby prom.; date 16th Sept. 1826.

15th N.I. Lieut. T. Mitchell to be interp. in Marhatta language, v. Macan transferred; do. do.
25th N.I. Lieut. B. McMahon to be adj.; and Lieut. G. Macan to be interp. in Hindoostanee and Marhatta languages, and qu. mast.; do. do.

26th N.I. Lieut. J. B. Gillanders to be adj., and Lieut. J. H. Otley to be interp. in Hindoostanee, and qu. mast.; do. do.

3d L.C. Cornet H. Bury to be lieut., v. Babington dec.; date 17th Sept. 1826.

FURLONGHS.

To Europe.—Aug. 19. Capt. W. H. Waterfield, 14th N.I., for health.—Sept. 25. Capt. R. Sandwith, 1st L.C.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Aug. 8. Capt. W. Shaw, 18th Madras N.I., for twelve months, for health.—29. Lieut. Benbow, 15th N.I., ditto, ditto.

To the Brasile.—Aug. 22. Ens. B. H. Crockett, on urgent private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, July 28.

The King on the prosecution of the Rev. Henry Davies, v. William Miller, Esq.

This was an indictment for a libel brought by the Rev. Mr. Davies, senior chaplain on the Bombay establishment, against Capt. Miller of the artillery. The bill was ignored twice by the Grand Jury, which gave rise to some curious proceedings.

On this day the Grand Jury came into court with the second bill, ignored; whereupon Mr. Graham, the solicitor for the prosecution, in the absence of counsel, addressed Sir R. Rice, the only judge on the bench, complaining that the Grand Jury had not examined all the witnesses on the back of the indictment, and trusted his Lordship would instruct the Grand Jury upon that point, as he (Mr. Graham) conceived that such omission had arisen from ignorance or misconception of their duties.

Mr. Justice Rice inquired how Mr. Graham knew that the Grand Jury had not examined all the witnesses.

Mr. Graham answered, that he had been in court all day, and two material witnesses had not been called by the Jury, nor had attended in court at all; but in what he (Mr. Graham) had said, he did not intend to throw out any improper insinuations against the Jury.

Mr. Justice Rice observed, that it would be as improper for him (Mr. Graham) to attempt any thing of the kind as it would be for him to listen to it; and as the point which had been mentioned was altogether a novel one, and one upon which he wished to take the opinion of his brother Judges, he would defer its further consideration until Monday morning.

July 31.

As soon as the Chief Justice and Sir Ralph Rice had taken their seats,

Mr. Irwin rose on behalf of the prosecutor in this case, and moved that a new inquest be formed to try the grounds on which the present Grand Jury had ignored the bill against the defendant. The grounds of his application were contained in two affidavits, which stated, that on the bill being filed, two only of the witnesses whose names were on the back of the indictment had been examined, and the bill was ignored—upon this a second bill had been filed, with the addition of one name to the list of witnesses. On this occasion the witnesses were all in attendance, but those only who had been examined to the former bill and the gentleman whose name was added were examined. The bill was again ignored.

In the course of Mr. Irwin's application, the Grand Jury entered their box.

The

The Chief Justice observed that it was necessary for all Grand Juries to receive the instructions of the court (whose duty it was to afford them) as to the law of any case which might come before them. It was impossible for him to know the grounds on which the Grand Jury had thought proper to throw out these bills. They might be, for aught he knew, perfectly sufficient, or otherwise; on this subject he could say nothing; but it was the duty of the court, acting as their legal advisers, to give the Grand Jury such directions as to the law of the case which might come before them, as the circumstances of each might render necessary. He would refer them to the oath which they had taken, not supposing in the slightest degree that they were unmindful of its obligations, or neglectful of what it enjoined. If these bills had been thrown out upon the ground of publication, it was the duty of the jury to examine all the witnesses. He had read the depositions, and if the publication of the paper mentioned in them had been proved, he had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the paper was a libel. If some only, and not all of the witnesses had been examined, the Grand Jury could not be said to have diligently inquired concerning the facts. As to the law of the case, it was the duty of the Grand Jury to ask the instructions of the court, and equally their duty to follow them when given. His Lordship concluded by observing, that he was of opinion the Grand Jury could not exercise their duty properly without examining every witness whose name was on the list of the indictment.

Sir R. Rice observed, that it had been the usual practice to leave the direction of the Grand Jury altogether to the learned Judge who had charged them at the commencement of the session; he had therefore thought it proper, when the motion had been made before him on a former day, to postpone it, for he was of opinion that he could not receive it without intruding on the duty of his learned brother, the Chief Justice. He agreed entirely in the opinion of the Chief Justice, that it was the imperative duty of the Grand Jury to make diligent inquiry concerning every thing that came before them, and on such their diligent and impartial inquiry to find or ignore generally. He was also of opinion, that on questions of uncertainty as to the law of the case, it was their duty to be governed by the court. Before Mr. Fox's act it had been generally understood, that the Grand and Petit Juries were to try merely the fact of the publication of any writing charged as libellous, and find accordingly, leaving the consideration of its being a libel or not to the discretion of the court. This act enabled juries to find a general ver-

dict. It was not a great many years since, when he was presiding on an occasion when a case of libel occurred, he thought it his duty in his charge to tell the Grand Jury that their duty was the same as that of the Petit Jury, and that in taking the bill into their consideration they should examine into all the circumstances connected with it. The Grand Jury had found the bill, and the learned Judges of two presidencies with whom he had consulted on the subject, agreed with him in the propriety of his direction. The truth was not a justification of a libel. In the case of granting a criminal information, it was absolutely necessary that the libellous matter should be negatived on oath, and when the matter came before a Petit Jury, in case a justification were established, no damages would be given; but although the truth were no justification (he spoke under correction from his learned brother), the Grand Jury had a right to find a general verdict, as to whether the libel had been published with malicious or fair views. As to calling all the witnesses, he was of opinion that there could be no diligent inquiry without it, though there were many cases in which such a proceeding might be unnecessary. In the present case, if the Jury were not satisfied in their own mind as to the propriety of ignoring the bill, it could be sent back.

The Chief Justice observed, that as his learned brother seemed to have misunderstood the purport of his remarks, he would state more at length what he meant. If the bill had been thrown out, on the ground that the witnesses examined by the Grand Jury had not sufficiently proved the publication of the libel, it would be certainly necessary to call every other witness. The bill might have been thrown out upon other grounds, of which he was not aware. Although the Grand Jury were not punishable if they did not find according to the directions of the court, still it was their duty to take such directions seriously into consideration. If the words were libellous in law, it was the duty of the Jury to find the bill, and to follow the instructions of the court. Of the fact, they (the Jury) were the only judges.

The Foreman stated that the Grand Jury were perfectly satisfied as to the grounds on which they had ignored the bill. The Grand Jury then left the box.

The Chief Justice asked if Mr. Irwin wished the court to order another Grand Jury to be summoned.

Mr. Irwin said, that if the court were satisfied that he had sufficient ground, he would, with their permission, move that a new grand inquest be summoned, to try the conduct of the present one in throwing out these bills.

The Chief Justice said that the court would

would take the matter into its consideration.

August 1.

This day the Grand Jury entered the court, and made the following presentment.

“ My Lords: The Grand Jury feel it to be an imperative duty on them to present to the court, that on Friday last the 28th inst., on their bringing into court an indictment which had already in a somewhat different form been laid before them, charging Wm. Miller, Esq. with uttering a certain libel, and which had been returned by them a second time “ No Bill,” Mr. J. B. Graham, the attorney of the prosecutor, addressed the court, to the effect that it was an improper return, inasmuch as the whole of the witnesses had not been examined, which he knew from the circumstance that some of them were not in attendance; that such proceeding was caused by ignorance of their duty on the part of the Grand Jury; and he therefore moved the court that the bill should be returned to them, with instructions to examine the whole of the evidences; which conduct, on the part of Mr. Graham, the Grand Jury present, as a manifest endeavour to bring the Grand Jury into contempt, as tending to obstruct the freedom of their deliberations, and as an outrage on the public justice of the country.

(Signed) “ J. WEDDERBURN, Foreman.”

The Chief Justice said that the language was most improper, but he did not think that any intentional insult was meant to be thrown out against the Grand Jury. Mr. Graham had already been censured, and perhaps the Grand Jury would be satisfied with an apology.

Sir R. Rice stated, that if he had thought for a moment that the Grand Jury would have put such an interpretation upon what Mr. Graham had said, he would have censured him at the time to a greater extent than he had done; but perhaps, under all the circumstances of the case, the Jury would be satisfied with an apology.

Sir C. H. Chambers observed, that as the point of law that had arisen out of the proceedings was rather a peculiar one, he had looked into it with some attention, and certainly thought that the Grand Jury ought to have examined all the witnesses, and that it would have been better for them to find the bill, if the publication had been proved; that he would so have instructed the Grand Jury if he had charged them, and recommended them to leave the justification to the Petit Jury. He agreed with the Chief Justice that Mr. Graham's language was improper, but thought that great allowances should be made to professional men, who were often betrayed into a high degree of warmth in advocating the cause of their clients.

Mr. Graham proceeded to justify him-

self, but being prevented by the court, contented himself with saying, that he meant no disrespect to the Jury, and was disposed to make every concession and apology for what had taken place, if the Jury were not satisfied.

The Grand Jury then left the box without further observations. After they had retired,

Mr. Irwin submitted the following motion to the court, viz. “ That a new grand inquest should be summoned to inquire into the concealments of the present Grand Jury in the case of the King on the prosecution of *Davies versus Miller*.”

The learned gentleman offered two affidavits of the prosecutor, stating that certain witnesses were not examined by the Grand Jury before they found the two bills not to be true bills. He then commenced an elaborate argument concerning the functions of a Grand Jury, judicial and ministerial, for default or neglect in the latter of which, he contended, they were answerable to the court, and liable to some proceedings. He grounded his present application for a new grand inquest on the stat. 3 Hen. VII. c. 1. He contended that the refusal to examine a witness was not strictly a judicial act; with their judicial functions he did not intermeddle.

The Chief Justice said he would decide the point, not on the statute, but upon the merits of the case. The court had no judicial knowledge that the Grand Jury had acted improperly. The libellous matter complained of was contained in an affidavit; for aught he knew, it might have been established to the satisfaction of the Grand Jury that this affidavit had not been sworn before a proper court. If the court supposed this case, the Jury were certainly completely justified in acting as they had done. From what had appeared before the court it was impossible to say that the Grand Jury had acted improperly.

The other Judges concurred in opinion with the Chief Justice.

August 2.

On this day the Grand Jury made their final presentment, and again adverted to Mr. Graham in the following terms:—

“ The Grand Jury, at the conclusion of their labours, the heaviest probably that ever devolved on the Grand Inquest since the first institution of a King's Court at this presidency, cannot refrain from again adverting to the obstructions they have experienced in the discharge of their duty, in the matter of the indictments for a libel laid before them against Captain Miller.

“ Having already presented the conduct of one individual in this matter, the Grand Jury felt disposed, under the recommendation of the Court, to have accepted his apology, however reluctantly and ungraciously offered, especially as they were entirely free, from any personal feeling

ing on the occasion; but the pertinacity shewn apparently in the same quarter, in pressing an obnoxious, and, as may be inferred from the result, an unfounded, frivolous and litigious motion in Court, connected with the same proceeding, immediately after the Grand Jury had made their presentment yesterday, evinced such a determination to attack their independence in another shape, that they are compelled again to present the circumstances to the notice of the Court, as, in their opinion, a most serious offence against the laws and constitution of their country. (Signed) "J. WEDDERBURN, Foreman."

"Bombay, Grand Jury Room,
2d Aug. 1826."

The Chief Justice was at a loss how to do more than what had already been done. Mr. Graham had already been censured by Mr. Justice Rice, who alone could judge of the tone and manner in which the thing was done. No blame attached to Mr. Graham whatever on the score of the subsequent motion made by Counsel. The motion was a regular one, and made in terms of the statute. The Jury must remember they were not above the law, but must be guided by it. There was nothing irregular in the prosecutor adopting proceedings against them, if he thought there was misconduct on their part.

Sir Charles Chambers said a few words, in concurrence with what had fallen from the Chief Justice, and the Grand Jury were then discharged.

The names of the Grand Jury are as follow:—

John Wedderburn, Esq., Foreman; Thomas Bernard, John Pepper, John Pollexfen, William Shotton, Patrick Stewart, James Fawcett, John Burnett, Lestock Robert Reid, John Pruin, John R. Stewart, William Nicol, John Saunders, David Greenhill, James Sindry, Thomas Buchanan, George Grant, John Elphinstone, George Forbes, Andrew Farquharson, John Thacker, John R. Snow, and M. Houghton, Esquires.

The *Bombay Courier* states that the above proceedings will shortly be submitted by Mr. Graham to His Majesty in Council, and also become the subject of Parliamentary consideration on constitutional grounds.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ROBBERIES.

The following letter appears in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 12th July.

"Since your last there have been numerous robberies in all parts of the island, particularly in the Native Town, and among the houses of Europeans in the vicinity of the Parell and Mazagon roads. In the former the depredations committed have been more extensive than could be

readily believed, and so much alarm has been excited, that sepoys are hired by even the middling class of natives, at an expense they can ill afford to defray, as guards to their property, and defence of their families, which are not now merely subject to plunder, but mutilation and even murder, the former having been committed on several women and children, in order to obtain their ornaments, and the latter upon a Banyan residing a short distance from Mr. Higgin's stables—a circumstance I do not observe that yourself or the Editor of the *Courier* have noticed.

"Among the houses of European gentlemen, the attacks have been so systematic and daring as to lead to a belief of the robbers being well organized, and possessed of a degree of courage not usually evinced by native burglars; and property to a considerable amount has been carried off. They have been even so daring as to make an attempt upon the house of the Commander-in-chief, although sentries are posted round it, and in one instance a sentry there was seriously hurt by a stone while in the act of loading his musket, which, however, he succeeded in firing, when the alarm being given, they retreated. Several palanquins have been stopped on the Parell road, and the passengers plundered.

"The police have, it is said, ascertained the numbers of robbers to be very great, and to consist of all castes and classes. Several of the sepoys of the extra battalion are supposed to have been concerned in some of the most daring robberies."

BALL AT POONAH.

We understand that the *Civil* bachelors at Poonah gave, on the 28th Sept., a splendid ball and supper to the society of that station. The house in which the entertainment was given and the surrounding gardens were most brilliantly illuminated, and the whole arrangements were in a style of great taste and elegance. About half-past nine the company began to arrive; dancing soon afterwards commenced, and continued in the most spirited manner till midnight, when a summons was received to repair to the supper table, which was covered with a profusion of luxuries, and the champagne, both pale and pink, was pronounced by the best judges to be of the very first quality. After supper dancing was resumed, and was kept up with unabated spirit till half-past three, when the company retired, highly pleased with the treat that had been prepared for them by the bachelors of the *Civil Service*.—[*Bom. Cour.*, Oct. 7.

SICKNESS.

We are sorry to say that much sickness has prevailed at almost all the northern stations.

stations. H. M.'s 4th Dragoons, stationed at Kaira, by the last accounts, were suffering much, and out of little more than 400 men, upwards of 200 were in hospital; many officers from different stations had been obliged to proceed to the coast for change of climate, and the benefit of the sea breeze. The deaths, we are happy to say, had not been numerous, but little general improvement can be expected to take place during the present month, or indeed to the middle of November.—[*Bom. Cour.* Oct. 7.

BOMBAY HAMAULS.

There is no class of natives which we have heard so universally complained of as the Bombay hamauls. Their insolence, and the system of imposition which they carry on, particularly where strangers are concerned, are we believe notorious; but what has led to their pre-eminence in every bad quality over the other hamauls of India we do not pretend to divine. We have frequently noticed, in some of the publications at home, immense whinings about the poor oppressed natives of India, but we believe the class of people of which we now speak, as far as regards independence of action, and free and casiness, and familiarity of address towards their superiors, even to those who are usually called their English oppressors, enjoy a liberty which is not granted to an Englishman in his own country, or even to an American in America. If a coachman in England is insolent, or imposes on his employer, the number of his coach immediately leads to his discovery and punishment; but how is a stranger in Bombay to get a casual set of bearers punished, however insolently they may have treated him, or however much they may have imposed upon him? He cannot take the law into his own hand, which is perfectly proper. He cannot, if he makes the discovery of their bad conduct at ten o'clock at night, detain them till morning, without subjecting himself to the penalties of the law, and how, in God's name, is it possible that he can know where to apply to the person who has authority to confine them? The hamauls are allowed to depart in peace, and perhaps the very next day they repeat the villany of the day before. We really wish that some regulations were framed, and not only framed, but strictly enforced, in regard to the class of men of which we are now speaking. Why should they not be obliged to attend at particular stands? At each of these stands a small police choky might be established, and a copy of the regulations kept for general inspection. Such an arrangement would not only prevent imposition on the part of the hamauls, but would secure good treatment on the part of their employers. We

are no friends to tyranny or oppression. We only wish such regulations to be adopted as will secure to the hamaul a fair value for his labour, at the same time that his employer is prevented from suffering from the villany which is now every day practiced upon him. If we have had one, we have had a hundred complaints relative to the grievance we have now publicly noticed. The only system of decreasing crime, is the system of detecting it. There is no state of society so demoralizing, as where the slightest premeditated crime is allowed to pass with impunity.—[*Bom. Cour.* July 1.

JACKALL HUNTING.

Copy of a letter from Dharwar, Aug. 18. —“Mr. Fullerton's pack, consisting of four couple of little beauties, was at the usual early hour on its way out (on the 3d inst.) when a promising jackall was observed to go boldly away from the Gravel Pits near the new road beyond Mr. Eden's house. The morning was most favourable, and the dogs “bitting it off” in fine style. We were carried along at our best speed towards the race course: this extensive piece of open country we crossed “in no time,” and as quickly made through the ploughed land and marshy ground near Narraindra. From this we turned, keeping Washerton on our left, towards Mougat Common, where, after thirty minutes at our best pace, and without a check, the little dogs ran him to ground. The earths here being large, some delay necessarily took place; at length, however, the jackall finding the spot too hot for him (the dogs having reached his brush under ground), bolted, and with renovated courage, and evidently showing a perfect knowledge of the country, made straight for the extensive woods of Mullikwad. These coverts are such as would astonish the oldest fox-hunter, and puzzle the best and largest pack of fox hounds in England: it is therefore really wonderful that the little cry ran into him, and killed him in the gallant style they did. This was effected in twenty-five minutes, at no moderate pace, from the time of his bolting from the earths; thus making the actual time of running fifty-five minutes.”

EDUCATION OF CADETS.

The following remarks on the debate at the East-India House of 25th January 1826, appear in the *Bombay Courier* of July 29:—

The Hon. Proprietor's proposition (Mr. Hume's), which appeared to be brought forward merely for the purpose of serving Dr. Gilchrist, received but little support; and we are inclined to believe that there are few people, who know any thing of this country, who are likely to agree with him

him in opinion, that England is the best place for acquiring a useful and practical knowledge of Hindostanni, more particularly under the system of instruction employed by the oriental philologist, whom it appears to be his object to patronize. We certainly think it would ultimately benefit the military branch of the Hon. Company's service, if young men who obtained cadetships were not sent to India till they had attained a maturer age than is generally the case at present. Two years, at least, after the usual period of school education, might be most usefully spent at a military academy, where not only much general and professional knowledge might be accumulated, but greater experience of the world acquired, and probably a taste communicated for studies and pursuits, the cultivation of which, in after life, might raise to individual eminence, and elevate the character and increase the efficiency of the public service. As to the study of Hindostanni, we would leave that branch of their education till after their arrival in India, where in addition to grammars, dictionaries, and story-books, they will have an opportunity of a constant colloquial intercourse with the inhabitants of the country, by which alone a practical and useful knowledge of any of the native languages is to be acquired. But the whole of Mr. Hume's reasoning is founded on error, and on an ignorance of facts (we speak, at least, as far as respects Bombay), which is quite unpardonable in one who resided so long in this country, and who pretends to take so great an interest in its affairs. The assumption upon which all his arguments are grounded, is, that an universal ignorance of Hindostanni prevails among the officers of the army in India, and that they are generally incapable of communicating with the men under their command. Now we have no hesitation in saying that such ignorance does not exist, at least in the army of this presidency. On the contrary, we believe—nay, we are certain, that a much more general and extensive knowledge, both of the Hindostanni and Mahratta languages, prevails at this moment among the officers, than at any former period; and it would be difficult to find one among the youngest, that is of two or three years' standing, incompetent to hold communication with the sepoys, though his language, like their own, might not be in the purest style of classical Hindostanni. The hon. proprietor, from assuming, as a fact, that officers in India are almost universally ignorant of the Hindostanni language, is led into an almost unaccountable mistake relative to the duties of regimental interpreters, and which shews that the legislators in Leadenhall Street still require to be enlightened on many subjects connected with the military branch of the service in India. What

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we allude to, is Mr. Hume's unaccountable ignorance of the duties of interpreters, in supposing that it was their business to trot about from company to company to interpret between every European officer and every native officer, non-commissioned officer, sepoy, drum-boy, or filer, of his company, with whom he might wish to have a few minutes' conversation. The whole speech abounds in similar fallacies. In respect to what Mr. Hume states, relative to there not being interpreters attached to European regiments, we can only state that it is now, we believe, three years since an officer of the above description has been allowed to each European regiment, whether King's or Company's, and to each battalion of artillery, under this presidency; so that his remarks do not apply to *our side*, as the *mills* are in the habit of saying. Dr. Gilchrist's deserts are no doubt great, and let him be rewarded with the grant of a commensurate pension; but it does not look well to see the patriotic Mr. Hume coming forward to support a mere job, and exposing his own ignorance while he is lamenting the ignorance of others.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Aug. 21. *Moro Castle*, Smith, from Liverpool.—22. *Sarah*, Milne, from the Mauritius.—26. *Crown*, Baird, from Greenock.—31. *Atalanta*, Johnson, from London.—Sept. 17. *Hannah*, Shepherd, from London.—18. *Boyne*, Miller, from London.—25. *Recovery*, Chapman, from London.—*Dorothy*, Garnock, from Liverpool.

Departures.

Sept. 3. *Claremont*, Honner, for London.—13. *Diadem*, Cotgrave, for Cape and London.—16. *Eliza*, Smith, for China.—Oct. 1. *Sarah*, Milne, for London.—12. *Crown*, Baird, for Greenock.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Aug. 2. The lady of the Rev. R. Y. Keays, chaplain at Surat, of a son.
Sept. 12. At Poonah, the lady of Maj. Snodgrass, assist. com. gen., of a son.
22. At Girgaum, the lady of Capt. Crockett, of a son.
Oct. 2. The lady of Capt. Manson, regt. of artill., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Aug. 9. At St. Thomas's Church, Geo. Adam, Esq., to Eliza, eldest daughter of Alex. Read, Esq., late of the Madras civil service.
17. At St. Mary's Church, Poonah, Lieut. Thos. Ridout, 6th N.I., to Miss Tighe, fourth daughter of the late T. Tighe, Esq., of Tuam, county of Galway, Ireland.
Sept. 22. At St. Thomas's Church, Mr. Jas. Casewell, of the country service, to Miss Elizabeth Brooks.
25. Lieut. B. Crispin, 14th N.I., to Miss Janet Bell.

DEATHS.

July 31. At Rutnagherree, Capt. James Innersley, 14th regt. N.I.

Aug. 1. At Rajkote, in Kattiawar, Catherine, wife of Capt. Barnewall, political agent in that province, and eldest daughter of the late Wm. Ironside, Esq., of Houghton-le-Spring, county of Durham.

5. At Mhow, Lieut. Geo. Clarke, 12th regt. N.I.
— At Rajkote, Lieut. Balmanno, 2d regt. L. C.

8. At Bandora, the Rev. Antonio Joseph de Souza, clergy in *minoribus*, inhabitant of Versavah, aged 60.

14. At Poonah, Sholto James, third son of Chas. Ducat, Esq., M.D., civil surgeon.

16. Lady Anna Maria de Souza, relict of the late Sir Miguel de Lima e Souza, Knight of the most Honourable and Ancient Order of Christ.

24. Mrs. Serafina de Cruz, aged 36.

26. At Colabah, of cholera, Thomas Reid, youngest son of the Rev. Joseph Laurie.

Sept. 4. At Baroda, Lieut. J. Hawkes, 20th B.N.I.

7. At Malligaum, of fever, Lieut. H. L. Victor, 14th N.I.

11. At Surat, of fever, Matilda, eldest daughter of the late Colonel Mordon, formerly of H.M.'s 60th regt.

17. At Sattara, Richard B. Kays, son of Assist. Surg. M. T. Kays, of this establishment.

23. At Poonah, John Dodd, Esq., late quart. mast. of H.M.'s 20th regt.

Lately, At Vesdekhaust, in Persia, G. A. Malcolm, Esq., of the Bombay civil service, attached to the mission under Col. Macdonald to the court of Persia.

Ceylon.

SIR HUDSON LOWE.

We have great pleasure in announcing the arrival of Maj. Gen. Sir Hudson Lowe, K. C. B., on the Staff of this Island, accompanied by his Aid-de-Camp, Lieut. Delancy. Sir Hudson Lowe embarked in the H. C. cruiser *Antelope*, which sailed from Bombay on the 9th Aug., and anchored in these roads yesterday morning. At 11 o'clock the Maj. Gen. landed under appropriate salutes from the ship and the garrison, and was received with the usual honours.

We have also the satisfaction of notifying the arrival, on the 17th inst. of the *Palmira*, having on board the headquarters of H. M. 78th Regt., under the command of Lieut. Col. Lindsay.—[*Ceylon Gaz.* Aug. 20.]

At a Council held at the King's house at Colombo, this 19th day of Aug. 1826—Present, His Exc. the Governor in Council.

This day, pursuant to his Majesty's command, signified by a despatch from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State, the Hon. Maj. Gen. Sir Hudson Lowe, K. C. B., was sworn in a Member of His Majesty's Council in Ceylon, and took his seat at the Board next to the Hon. the Chief Justice, under a salute of eleven guns.

By His Excellency's command,
(Signed) JOHN RODNEY,
Chief Sec. to Gov.

Singapore.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

Aug. 14. Mr. John Prince, late of the Bencoolen establishment, to be resident of Singapore.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW RECORDER.

The H. C. Ship *Marquis of Camden* has arrived at Penang from England, having on board Sir John Claridge, Recorder of the "Incorporated Settlements." We have now therefore a speedy prospect of having a competent court of justice established in this island.—[*Sing. Chron.* Aug. 17.]

TRADE.

The visit of the Hon. Company's direct ships to our port this season has given an impulse to commerce in such branches of it as embrace articles suited to the market of China; and been productive of much advantage to the Chinese merchants generally, by affording them an opportunity of disposing of all the produce which remained on hand at the departure of the junks. It is much to be regretted that free permission is not granted to these ships to touch here at all times on their outward voyage. To any one at all acquainted with the locality of Singapore, it will at once appear evident how little danger or difficulty is incurred by such a deviation from the common track up the China sea; and the dilatoriness of dispatch from Canton which the direct ships are invariably subjected to, is so great as to render the loss of time of no consequence whatever. On the contrary, we are of opinion that a short delay here would be beneficial as it would tend much to the healthiness of the crews, many of whom fall victims to the climate at the noxious season of the year in which they commonly arrive at China.

We feel assured that were the subject properly represented, and the benefit which Singapore would derive from such an intercourse made known to the Court of Directors, they would be prevailed upon to abolish a restriction equally impolitic as useless.—[*Ibid.*]

SIR RALPH RICE.

On Monday, the 28th instant, Sir Ralph Rice arrived from Bombay, in the H. C. Ship, *Duchess of Athol*, and landed in the course of the day under the usual salute. Sir R. we understand pays our settlement but a short visit, and returns almost immediately by way of Penang.—[*Sing. Chron.* Aug. 31.]

MISSION TO SLAM.

Captain Burney, envoy to the Court of Siam, has returned from Bangkok, in the *Guardian*,

Guardian, and proceeded to Penang. We regret our inability to present our readers with any official details of the negotiations with the Siamese Court; these will probably appear first in the *Government Gazette* of Calcutta. The restitution of the King of Keda, which, we believe, was the principal object of the mission, has not been obtained; but, we understand that some arrangements have been entered into, respecting custom-duties, which are likely to prove of benefit to commerce. The extension of the native trade by the junks, between this port and Siam, by which our manufactures are introduced into the country, at so cheap a rate, and in such abundance, renders, in our opinion, the establishment of a more direct intercourse, conducted in European vessels, a less desirable object than it was previous to the establishment of Singapore. It is well known that the large profits obtained by the junks on their import cargoes, at this place, and the cheapness of British manufactures here, enable them to compete with us in the Siamese market, in the disposal of our own commodities, and, in many instances, to sell these articles at lower prices than would pay the British merchant, even if the goods were imported direct from England. Unless, therefore, British vessels are admitted to trade at a very reduced rate of charges, and the merchant secured from the constant interference of the Government officers, the European trade with Siam can never prosper; and, indeed, all hopes of success have already been abandoned by those who have lately been engaged in it, and whose experience renders them the best judges on the subject.

His Siamese Majesty, we understand, honoured Captain Burney with a second audience before his departure. The *Guardian* has also brought down presents of sugar, tin, &c., in return for those presented by the envoy, on his arrival in the country. The Siamese, although wise enough to preserve an amicable relationship with our Government, are not sufficiently acquainted with our power, and have even the presumption to think that we are afraid of offending them. Their obstinacy, regarding Keda, is sufficient proof of this feeling; and, it would be well to undeceive them, in case of any future aggression, or interference with the states on the Malayan peninsula, who consider themselves now, in a manner, placed under the protection of the British Government.—[*Ibid.*]

BUGGIS PRAHUS.

The season for these traders having now set in, their non-arrival has excited much anxiety amongst the Chinese dealers in this settlement, who are, in consequence, un-

able to fulfil engagements entered into, in anticipation of their coming at the regular period. One prahu only has arrived from Mandar, in Celebes, and she has proceeded up the straits. The commander of this vessel reports, that, in consequence of the renewal of hostilities at Macassar, the Dutch cruisers seize every vessel on the coast, and it was with considerable difficulty that he escaped their vigilance. Several boats had attempted to come away, without success; and a fleet of about forty vessels, of the largest size, had been obliged to put back, having encountered some of the Dutch cruisers.—[*Ibid.*]

WAR IN CELEBES.

We have not been able to obtain any authentic intelligence regarding the progress of the war in Celebes. It appears, from the native accounts, that the Dutch, from their small force, are compelled to act solely on the defensive, and continued shut up in the forts of Macassar and Boelicomba, the vicinity of which places have so recently been the scenes of active warfare, and cost the Dutch so much blood and treasure to maintain. It is reported that the Java Government purpose abandoning their possessions in the island of Celebes entirely. The measure we would consider, under present circumstances, to be one of sound policy.—[*Ibid.*]

NAVIGATION OF THE STRAITS OF MALACCA.

The importance of our possessions, and the ascendancy which the late treaty has given us in these straits, render any information which may prove beneficial to the navigation of them highly useful and interesting, and we have much pleasure in publishing the following remarks and directions, regarding the passage from Malacca to this port. These are from the notes of Capt. Rous, and the officers of H.M. Ship *Rainbow*, and may be relied on as correct.

"In beating up against a southerly wind, it is recommended to commanders of ships to stand further in shore on the Malay coast, than Mr. Horsburgh approves of. In his chart he delineates an extensive bank from Formosa point to Pulo Pisang, running parallel to the shore at the distance of four or five miles, and directs ships not to approach the Malay peninsula under twelve fathoms. The line of approximation here appears to be quite erroneous, and ships may stand in with perfect safety within two miles of the beach, any where to the north of Pulo Pisang. By this means advantage is taken of the tide, which is weak and irregular in the common track of ships.

On reaching Singapore straits, if a vessel is unable to weather Barn Island, with the wind from the southward, she should

bear up for the passage, through Selat Sinki or New Harbour. This will be found safe and expeditious for vessels under 600 tons burthen, but for ships of a larger size it is too narrow and confined. The entrance of the passage bears E. N. E. from Sultan's Shoal, and is bold on either side, the only danger being a two-fathom bank on the south side. After clearing the narrows, and opening Singapore harbor, steer along Trumba Trumbaya reef, a table's length off, and when well to the southward, edge away for the anchorage.

The passage above described was effected with success by H. M. S. *Rainbow*, the first vessel that has ever come through intentionally. The *William Parker* (a free trader), passed through by mistake some time ago, and it was generally considered a very dangerous experiment. The enterprise of Capt. Rous has, however, established its practicability; and these notes and observations, which were taken with great care, will render the passage easy and safe for future navigators. In these operations, we understand that Capt. Rous was ably assisted by Mr. Bernard, agent to Lloyd's, who came in the *Rainbow* from Malacca, and whose practical knowledge of the straits and islands, made his suggestions and information highly useful, in exploring this unfrequented track.—[*Ibid.*

Malacca.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

Samuel Garling, Esq., late of the Bencoolen service, to be provisional member of council and resident of Malacca.

Netherlands India.

We insert the following from a London paper, but without much faith in its authenticity:

The following disastrous account has been received from Batavia, under date the 9th of October.

About the 1st of Oct., a battle took place between the Dutch forces, commanded by General Van Geen (who is second in command, and next to Gen. De Kock, who is Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief) and the insurgents, commanded by Djupo Nagoro, in person, and we lament to add, that the Dutch forces were totally annihilated, and the General only saved his life by hiding himself. He returned to Samarang without a single follower. The battle was fought between Solo and Samarang; the greatest consternation prevailed at the latter place. When the account came away, every exertion was making for the removal of property.

Palambang, on the coast of Sumatra, which caused the Dutch so much blood

and treasure, is again in the hands of the natives.

The Dutch had withdrawn a great part of their forces from the Celebes; and the Queen of Boni, taking advantage of the circumstance, had taken the field with great force, and it was feared the Dutch would be expelled that island.

"We know not," observes the writer of the letter from which the above account is derived, "what troops are coming from Europe, but if five or six thousand men do not arrive in a few weeks, twenty thousand will not save Java, for every mile the insurgents advance, their strength increases."

Persia.

THE WAR.

The *Algemeine Zeitung* contains an article, dated St. Petersburg, January 17, which gives some intelligence respecting the operations in Georgia. It appears that the Persians have entrenched themselves in the impenetrable ravines and defiles of their frontier, and consequently hostilities must be suspended till the return of spring, when the war will be renewed with great vigour on the part of Russia, unless a peace, in the meantime, should be concluded through the mediation of England.

The following is taken from a St. Petersburg paper of January 24:—

On the 12th (24th) December, General Yermoloff, falling back from the province of Scheken to the river Alazan (in Kaketia), sent to Tiflis a part of the troops that accompanied him, and with the remainder effected his junction with the forces stationed near the villages of Tchary and Gogami, under the command of Lieut. General Prince Eristoff.

A party of Lezghis and mountaineers, who had been plundering in Kaketia, fearing the punishment which they merited, had placed themselves in ambush near the village of Tchary, on an eminence named Zakataly, surrounded by steep mountains, and covered with forests; depending on the strength of their position, they persevered in their disobedience till the arrival of General Yermoloff, when they changed their minds. The Elders of Tchary waited on the General, and asked pardon for their crime. They restored the prisoners they had taken, gave hostages chosen from the best families, and engaged to send away the mountaineers whom they had invited to join them, and to indemnify the inhabitants of Kaketia for the injury they had done them.

General Yermoloff, granting in the name of the Emperor the pardon they solicited, has ordered the woods surrounding their village to be cut down, in order to render the access to it more easy for the troops.

Tranquillity prevails on the frontiers of Persia.

Persia. A detachment of Persian cavalry, which attacked one of our Nomade camps; near the Araxes, could not do any injury to the inhabitants, and was even repulsed with loss. In order to prevent similar attempts, part of our van-guard has gone from Akouglane towards the bridge of Koupopernisk, to be better able to protect the banks of the Araxes. Towards the Steppe of Mougan, the inspection of the frontier is confided to the detachment of Colonel Mistchenko, placed near the ford of Djavat and on the Koura.

The Persian Gulf.

Accounts from the Persian Gulf, brought by the H. C. cruiser *Nautilus*, mention that the Imaum of Muscat had continued to seize the vessels and property of the Shiek of Bushire, but no fighting had taken place. It is said the presence of our Resident at Bushire is the sole cause of his refraining from attacking the place.

The Imaum has also announced his intention of sending a frigate and small vessel of war to blockade the mouth of the Euphrates, until the demand of a lack and twenty thousand piastres made by him on the Bussorah chief is complied with. He does not, however, interfere with European vessels.

In other respects the gulf is nearly quiet; there being nothing more than petty fighting among the chiefs on the Arabian side as usual.—[*Bom. Gaz.* Oct. 4.

St. Helena.

REGIMENTAL LIBRARIES.

General Order by the Governor in Council, dated 31st Aug. 1826.

The Hon. Court of Directors having most indulgently and liberally sent out books to form a Regimental Library for the St. Helena artillery and infantry, the commanding officers of those corps will be particularly careful to see that the following regulations are rigidly attended to.

Regulations for the Regimental Libraries of the St. Helena artillery and infantry.

1st. A suitable room and book-cases being provided, the regimental school master to be appointed librarian.

2d. The room to be furnished with tables and forms, and sufficiently lighted until nine o'clock at night, for the accommodation of such men as are prevented by duty or employment during the day. A catalogue of the books to be always on the table.

3d. The librarian will keep a register of the men who attend, with proper columns

ruled, in which are to be inserted the book, the date of delivery, and the date on which it is returned.

4th. Two book-cases will be in the library, one for the books not in use, the other for the books engaged or in use. The librarian will keep the key of the former, the latter to be opened until nine o'clock, when he will examine and ascertain if the books in it agree with his register, as no book is permitted to be carried out of the library.

5th. In order to assist in defraying the expense of lights, &c. it is proposed that a subscription of five-pence per month shall be stopped from each soldier, who avails himself of the opportunity afforded for instruction and amusement. The librarian, at settling time, will furnish the captains of companies with lists of subscribers, the amount of whose subscription they will stop, and pay to the treasurer of the regimental fund.

6th. The librarian is held responsible that no man is found there in a state of intoxication; that smoking is not allowed in it; that those who attend are particularly clean in their persons and dress, and orderly in their behaviour; and that none shall disturb others by reading aloud, unless by the concurrence of all present. The officer on guard will attend to any report the librarian makes to him on the subject.

7th. Any man defacing a book will be stopped the value of it by the captain of his company.

8th. A record book will be kept, in which will be entered the rise and progress of the library, with a list of donors of books, which will be received from officers, non-commissioned officers, and others. The whole to be under the management of the Committee of the regimental fund, who will meet annually, on the first Monday of December, to inspect the books, &c., and to record their observations thereon. This book, with the librarian's register, will be laid before the Commander-in-chief at the half-yearly inspections.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

April 15, 1826.—2d-Lieut. G. Mellis, St. Helena artill., to be 1st-lieut., v. Desfontain resigned.

Cadet S. Armstrong to be 2d-lieut. of artill., v. Mellis prom.

Cadets J. Mason, T. J. B. Knipe, and T. S. Reed, of inf., to be acting ensigns.

May 15.—Cadet C. E. Smith to be 2d-lieut. of artillery.

June 1.—Ens. C. Bond, St. Helena regt., permitted to proceed to England on account of his health.

Aug. 31.—2d-Lieut. Johnson, of St. Helena artill., to be 1st-lieut., v. Meade dec.; date 29th Aug. 1826.

Oct. 16.—Capt. H. Cole permitted, at his own request, to retire from service on regulated allowance granted after expiration of 24 years.

Lieut. Jas. Bennett, to be capt., v. Cole resigned. Ens. M. O'Connor to be lieut., v. Bennett prom. Cadet Bond to be ens., v. O'Connor.

OBSERVATORY.

OBSERVATORY ON LADDER HILL.

The foundation stone of the Observatory on Ladder Hill was laid on the 13th September last, by the Governor, Brig. Gen. Walker, in presence of a large assembly, under a royal salute from a brigade of guns, and a *feu de joie* from the St. Helena regiment. Upon this occasion the Governor delivered the following address:—

Ladies and Gentlemen: I cannot suffer the present occasion to pass without addressing a few words to those, who have honoured this ceremony with their presence; but more particularly to the gentlemen who are members of the Military Institution. A society under this title, has been established with a view to promote individual and mutual improvement, to assist in revising and prosecuting such studies, as were left from necessity unfinished at home.—Some instruction in mathematics is a necessary branch of military education, and is absolutely requisite to form the character of an officer. To every gentleman in private life, this knowledge is an ornamental, a gratifying, and a useful accomplishment. One great object of the institution therefore, is to promote the study of mathematics, both pure and mixed. The object is not to fatigue the mind by intense application; but to afford an opportunity of becoming gradually familiar with the sciences, and of rendering them the paths of amusement and recreation. Although mathematical instruction must form the basis of all the sciences, yet there are other liberal arts to which the members of the Institution will direct their attention. The number of young gentlemen who have enrolled their names in the Military Institution, and the zeal with which they prosecute their studies, afford at once a convincing proof, that its beneficial effects are duly appreciated, and will demonstrate that it is capable of producing many advantages to the public.

The situation of St. Helena naturally suggested the pursuit of astronomy. The elevation of the island, its insular advantages, the general clearness of the atmosphere, and being the resort of the mariner in his intercourse between most of the regions of the earth, pointed it out as a place eminently suited for observing the heavenly bodies. The suggestion was encouraged, and adopted by the Hon. Court of Directors. In the liberal spirit with which they nourish the pursuits of science, they sanctioned the erection of this edifice, at their expense. It will be the first building that has been erected in this part of the world, for purposes purely scientific.

It would be easy to indulge, and, perhaps it would be excusable to indulge, in the agreeable anticipation of the advantages about to be derived from an observatory, the foundation of which has been

laid on a bed of lava 600 feet above the level of the ocean; but, I check this natural desire. I cannot, however, refrain from expressing my sanguine expectation, that it will be a source, at present, of intellectual amusement and instruction, and a seminary of great consequence to the rising generation. I shall therefore hail the completion of the St. Helena observatory as the precursor of an important service to the present and to future times.

Most of you, (I speak to the gentlemen of the Institution,) entered the service, or left your native country, at an early period of life, and before you could have advanced far in the cultivation of science. By the instruments and books with which the institution is supplied, you have it in your power to refresh and improve your minds in those branches of study, in which you have formerly been engaged. The munificence of the Company has already furnished the observatory with some excellent instruments, by the aid of which, you will be enabled to make easy and rapid progress in astronomy and natural philosophy; and we cannot doubt that these which may still be necessary, will be provided by the same spirit of liberality. Many of you are already conversant with these sciences, and I am well assured that you will feel pleasure in imparting your knowledge to others. You will become the instructors of each other. Well regulated minds rise far superior to the meanness of jealousy, or the contracted idea of selfish appropriation.

The subjects of scientific investigation are boundless; but, although I would not propose to limit your researches, I would recommend that they should be directed in the discovery of truth, through the sure means of experiment and induction, rather than by fanciful and theoretical speculations. The presumption and rashness of man, in endeavouring to ascertain how the world has originally been formed, has attempted what was most probably above his power to solve; but by investigating attentively the mineral productions and the organic remains with which we are surrounded on this island, some very important operations of nature might be discovered which would neither be devoid of interest nor of utility. It is only by the united efforts of different observers in different parts of the world, that a mass of facts will be collected and a rational system formed, grounded as it were on demonstration, and resting on a more certain basis than mere theory and speculation. It should be the object of every society, however small, to contribute their mite to general improvement, and the advancement of science.

The St. Helena Observatory is intended to promote the cultivation of astronomy. Geography and navigation depend much upon

upon this science, and in their turn, assist astronomy. It is chiefly by voyages of great length, that a more perfect knowledge has been acquired of various parts of the earth, and the daring navigator is guided in his perilous course, by observing the heavenly bodies. You have already had the pleasure of performing an important service to navigators, by assisting them in correcting their chronometers, and in return, several very intelligent commanders have afforded you valuable scientific information. When this building is finished, the mutual assistance and intercourse will become more intimate and more extended. It may not be necessary to stimulate your love of science by placing before you the example of others; but your exertions may be animated by the recollection that St. Helena was selected and visited, for astronomical purposes, by Halley, Cook, and Maskelyne. It was here that Halley, from the moisture that collected on the glasses of his instruments during his observations, entered on a course of experiments with regard to evaporation, from which he formed his rational theory on springs.

Great exertions are at present making to promote astronomical science in the southern hemisphere. The splendid national observatory now erecting at the Cape of Good Hope, will serve you as a model, and without comparing small things with great, mutual advantage may be derived from simultaneous though unequal exertions. The atmosphere may be favourable in one place for observation, while it may not be so in another; but you will always look up to this national institution as a guide.

We owe a large debt of obligation to the Astronomer Royal at the Cape, the Rev. Mr. Fallows. He has not only furnished us with the plan of this observatory, but with much useful and interesting information. He is ready, from a genuine devotion and respect for science, to assist us in rightly applying those rules that lead to astronomical truth. It will be of great importance to the gentlemen of this institution to cultivate with the Rev. Mr. Fallows a close intercourse and correspondence. His observations will throw light on subjects with which you cannot yet be familiar, and by his advice you may regulate your severer studies. It is not necessary that I should explain to you the advantages of study; but experience allows me to say, that its advantages are felt from infancy to old age. Cicero observes: "it nourishes the youthful mind; it delights the old; it adorns prosperity; is a comfort and consolation in adversity; it dwells with us at home, and is easily carried abroad; accompanies us, and converses with us in solitude and retirement."

I shall conclude by offering my sincere

and fervent wishes for the success and permanency of the St. Helena observatory.

BENEFIT SOCIETY.

This society has been established for the relief of the free coloured population of the island, in sickness, old age, infirmity, or distress; they contribute to a consolidated fund, at the rate of six shillings per year for each full grown person, and three shillings per year for each child under fifteen years of age. A portion of the fund is appropriated to the education of the children of the subscribers. Loans are, likewise, made to individuals, to the extent of £30, at five per cent. interest. The society is under the patronage of the Governor and Council, and also managed by a board.

At a general meeting of the Society, held at the church, James Town, on the 19th October last, at which the Governor and Council, as patrons and trustees, presided: a report of a Committee was read, wherein it is stated, as a proof of the good likely to be derived from this institution, that there were then 640 subscribers, 280 *above*, and 360 *under* fifteen years of age. The subscriptions amounted, for the preceding twelve months, to £133. 7s. Twenty applications had been made for assistance, of which only four had been rejected. Twenty children received education at the expense of the society.

The Governor then addressed the meeting. In the course of his observations to the subscribers, on the subject of education, he expressed himself as follows:—

"Another proof of that fitness is shown by your desire to appropriate part of your subscriptions to the purpose of educating your offspring at the excellent schools provided by the beneficence of the Hon. Company, and by that class of inhabitants who are more wealthy than yourselves, to whom your gratitude is justly due. It is not merely reading and writing that is taught in these schools. The children are, likewise, instructed in a still more important matter, namely, their duty to God and man. The knowledge and practice of these duties form the most essential part of education both for the rich and poor. I would, therefore, wish to impress upon you, that it is much in your own power to improve your children in this knowledge and duty, although you may not be enabled either to read or write. This is to be done chiefly by your example, by showing a proper reverence to the sabbath-day, and other religious duties; particularly in your regular attendance at church, and by warning them against idleness and bad company. The great enemy of mankind, the devil, is always ready to find work for idle hands to do. But it is not only to your children that you may thus prove useful. You have it in your power to do much good to those

those of your companions and neighbours, who have not as yet perceived the necessity of following your example, in becoming subscribers to this excellent institution, or of lodging a part of their earnings in the Savings Bank. You should point out to them, that however strong and healthy they may feel at present, a time may come when they may be unable to work, and they will then lament in vain, that they have foolishly spent the whole of their earnings instead of laying by a small portion for a period of need.

"I have spoken to you in the name of myself and colleagues, with the earnestness and sincerity of a friend anxious for your happiness. Consider what I have said only as a stimulus for further exertion, and as an excitement never to forget the duties you owe to yourselves, as mem-

bers of this society, and to the community at large. A new era has dawned. You have an opportunity by industry, care, and prudence, of improving your condition, and of increasing the comforts of life."

A vote of thanks then passed to the Governor and Council, for their liberal patronage, support, and paternal regard for this society, which owed its improved state to the unwearied and successful exertions of the existing Government, to promote the happiness, comfort, and respectability, of the lower class of inhabitants."

The treasurer laid his accounts before the meeting, by which it appeared that the funds of the society amount to £1439 16s. 11d.—viz. £1298 4s. Od. in bonds bearing interest—and £141 12s. 11d. in cash.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Sept. 14, 1826.

Government Securities.

Buy.] Rs. As.	Rs. As. [Sell
Prem. 27 0 Remittable Loan 6 per ct. 26 0 Prem.	
Disc. 0 16 Five per ct. Loan 1 0 Disc.	
Prem. 0 4 New 5 per cent. Loan . . . 0 0 par.	

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per Sicca Rupee.

On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.

On Bombay, ditto, 98 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,200 to 5,400.

Madras, Sept. 20, 1826.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350 Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. 28½ Prem.

At a Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 100½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 26½ Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350 Madras Rs., per 335 Sa. Rs. ½ Prem.

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 100½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 2½ Disc.

Bombay, Oct. 7, 1826.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.

On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 102 Bom. Rs. per 100 Sicca Rupees.

On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 98 Bom. Rs. per 100 Madras Rs.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

Bombay *Couriers* to the 7th October have been received; they state that the Bombay army had been augmented by two additional regiments. These papers contain accounts from Calcutta to the 12th September.

The *Enterprize* steam vessel had arrived from Rangoon with twenty-three lacks of rupees, the second instalment from his Burman Majesty. The *Enterprize* also brought two lacks on merchants' accounts. The money, it is said, was raised by the Burmese with great difficulty.

The following is an extract from the Calcutta *Government Gazette* of Sept. 11:

"The Burmese authorities at Rangoon had endeavoured, it is said, to dissuade Mr. Crawford from going to Ava, as it would be sufficient to meet the Woonghee at

Heuzada. Their object was supposed to be, apprehension of the exposure of the deceptions they had been practising on the king, to whom they had reported that the second instalment had been paid in full some time before. Mr. Crawford, of course, paid no regard to dissuaves which were incompatible with the treaty, and left Rangoon for Ava on the 1st Sept., in the *Diana* steam-vessel. He was accompanied by Lieut. Chester, Dr. Stuart, Lieut. Cox, Lieut. De Montmorency, Mr. Judson, and Dr. Wallich, and Capt. Crawford, the commander of the *Diana*. The escort was composed of twenty-five men of H.M. 87th Regt., and fifteen men of the 38th Madras N.I., all picked and steady men, and equipped in the handsomest manner.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPER.

THE CURRENCY OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

(Printed by order of the House of Commons.)

Extract of a letter from Mr. Secretary Herries to Mr. William Horton, dated Treasury Chambers, 13th May 1826.

The Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration the petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of Cape Town, which accompanied your letter of the 1st February 1826, and also several other papers transmitted to their Lordships by the direction of Earl Bathurst, or addressed to them by parties having an interest in the rate at which the paper rix dollar has been made exchangeable at the Cape of Good Hope for British metallic money by his Majesty's Order in Council of the 23d March 1825; I am commanded to convey to you, for the information of Earl Bathurst, the observations and opinion of their Lordships thereupon.

Before my Lords advert more particularly to the reasons for which they must refuse to admit the validity of the objections urged by any of the parties who remonstrate against the measure adopted by this Board, they think it right to recall the attention of Earl Bathurst to the principle on which that measure was founded, and the object it was intended to accomplish: it was part of a general measure for reforming the currency of all the colonies, by the gradual introduction of British silver money, as the basis and standard of the circulation in all of them. As a preliminary step to this operation, it was necessary to fix the rates at which the various existing currencies, both metallic and paper, in the several colonies, should be exchanged for the coin to be introduced.

The currency of the Cape of Good Hope consisted chiefly of colonial rix dollars, a paper not convertible into coin at the will of the holder, and not subject to any special obligation of payment or redemption; the valuation of which in British money is the subject of the representations now under consideration. The object of the British government was to make these paper rix dollars convertible into the silver money to be introduced into the circulation of the Cape, at the fair current value of the paper, and at no other. It was not the purpose or intention of the Treasury to pay off this colonial paper-money as a debt due by Great Britain to the colony. There existed no just claim upon Great Britain for such a payment. The debt represented by the paper was purely colonial, contracted and expended for colonial purposes, and therefore not a charge upon the public funds of this

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country. But for the sake of remedying the inconveniences occasioned to the colony by the fluctuating value and increasing depreciation of this paper currency, the Treasury thought it right that the mother country should make the sacrifice of providing such a quantity of metallic money as might be necessary to create a solid and fixed circulation at the Cape, by supplying the place of this paper money to such extent as should be sufficient to give a fixed and permanent value to the remainder. It was in the highest degree important for the real interests of the whole colony that this operation should be effected so as to create, if practicable, no change whatever in the real value of the existing circulation, and thereby to occasion the least possible disturbance in the current transactions between buyer and seller, debtor and creditor.

It will be evident that in undertaking this measure for the benefit of the colony, the government at home was making a considerable sacrifice, and had no interest of its own in view; while on the other hand, it appears to my Lords, from the accounts which have been before them, that the Government of the colony was so circumstanced with respect to the paper money, that if any advantage had been sought for it, in fixing the rate of convertibility for the paper, it would rather have been found in raising than in lowering it; because the sums due to that Government, in the paper currency, through the Lombard bank, constituted the larger proportion of the whole amount in circulation; and because it would, besides, have profited by the increased value of all the taxes payable at fixed rates in rix dollars by the colonists, upon whom such an augmentation of their burthens would have fallen heavily. But the peculiar interests of the colonial Government in these respects formed no part of the considerations on which the measure was adopted; the only object kept uniformly in view, when the Treasury came to their determination, was that of assuming the real average value of the rix dollar, as nearly as it could be ascertained, and fixing its price accordingly in the silver money of Great Britain.

Having thus recalled the attention of Earl Bathurst to the principle and object of the measure, I am to advert to the two different grounds on which it has been objected to.

First,—It is contended by those who do not dispute the principle or policy of the

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measure,

measure, that the rate fixed upon has not been correctly assumed. These parties state, that the rix dollar should have been valued at 2s. instead of 1s. 6d.

Secondly,—It is maintained by others, and these appear to be principally landed proprietors and capitalists, that no other rate than 4s. of British money, equivalent to a metallic rix dollar of Holland (the nominal value of this paper currency) ought to have been fixed for the exchange of the paper rix dollar.

The former of these objections My Lords do not find to be supported by any reference to facts or documents, of sufficient weight to counterbalance the grounds upon which the judgment of their Lordships was founded. They adopted as the best criterion to which they could refer, the average rates at which bills upon England had been negotiated in rix dollars, in the last three years, in fixing the value of the colonial paper; and they find the valuation assumed upon that ground fully confirmed by the Commissioners of Inquiry at the Cape, who give, as the result of their researches on the subject, the same average, even for a more extended period, *viz.* that of five years instead of three.

If My Lords have correctly stated the principle upon which their decision was founded, it must be apparent that they could not, consistently with that principle, have been led by any views of expediency, or of conciliating any class of the holders of this paper, to fix any other than the just and true current value of the rix dollar, as nearly as it could be ascertained on the average of the last few years, during which it had been subject to no material fluctuation. They have endeavoured, in this arrangement, to hold the balance even between debtor and creditor. If they had fixed a higher rate, the remonstrances of those who had obligations to discharge would probably have been more loud than are now the representations of the parties who have monies to receive; and apparently with much more of justice on their side.

Upon the second head, *viz.* the claims of those who maintain the right of receiving 4s. for the paper rix dollar, My Lords need hardly do more than refer to what they have already stated with respect to the object and principle of the measure which is complained of.

My Lords will not undertake to pronounce an opinion as to the legal right or equitable title of any individuals or class of persons, being holders of colonial paper or of obligations payable in Cape currency, to have such obligations discharged or such currency converted into coin at the

rate of 4s. for the rix dollar. They conceive that such right or title must depend upon the nature of the special engagements, where any such exist between the parties and the government, or between one individual and another. But they are clearly of opinion, that no general claim of the kind can be maintained, or ought to be entertained, as against this country; while, on the other hand, it appears to them that the steps taken by His Majesty's government at home for the introduction of a sound and permanent system of circulation at the Cape, do not necessarily preclude or prejudice any such peculiar titles as have been alluded to, if they really exist; more especially as the provisional measure judiciously adopted by the government of the Cape (whereby all parties dissatisfied with the payment of 1s. 6d. for a rix dollar, under the Order in Council, are enabled to exchange the money so paid for colonial paper at the same rate) will afford the opportunity to all such parties of retaining the means of prosecuting their particular claims, notwithstanding the general introduction of the new regulations. My Lords must however observe, that if upon any grounds not now known to them, it should be deemed that any holders of the paper currency have a just right to be paid by the colonial government at the rate of 4s. or at any other rate higher than the present actual value of the rix dollar, it must rest entirely with the colony to find the means of making the payment; and it appears to their Lordships that the parties who petition under this head, the freeholders and proprietors, are probably those upon whom the burthen of any taxes, which it might be necessary to impose for such a purpose, would principally fall.

But, whatever may be the judgment and determination of Earl Bathurst with respect to the mode in which the special title or claims of any of the colonists in these particulars may best be prosecuted and secured to them, My Lords trust that upon a view of the injustice to individuals, and of the obvious inconvenience and possible distress which might arise to the colony, from any attempt to effect the introduction of British silver coin in lieu of the paper currency now in circulation, upon any other principle than that which has been adopted by this Board, Earl Bathurst will concur with them as to the expediency of maintaining the measure upon its present footing, and giving no encouragement to the parties interested in the applications now before him, to expect any alteration in the rate at which the rix dollar has been made convertible into coin in the execution of that measure.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

February 3d.—The general meeting was held this day at 2 o'clock P.M.; H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., director, in the chair.

The minutes of the last general meeting (Dec. 16, 1826), and also the notices of the adjournment of the two meetings in January last, were read and confirmed.

Donations were presented from

Baron de Sacy, the Second Volume of his *Chrestomathie Arabe*.

M. Caussin de Perceval, his *Grammaire Arabe Vulgaire*, and *Précis historique des Guerres des Turcs contre les Russes*.

M. Othmar Frank, the first No. of *Vjāsa*, a periodical work on the Hindu Philosophy, &c.

W. Ainslie, Esq. M.D., his *Materia Indica*.

Lieut. Col. G. Fitzclarence, his *Memoir on the Duty of Picquets*.

The Horticultural Society, Part IV. of the Sixth Volume of their *Transactions*, and List of Members.

Major John Smith, of the Madras N.C., a splendid folio copy of the Korān, in Arabic, with a Commentary in Persian; 2 vols.

Lieut. Col. J. M. Coombs, some MS. Registers of the Thermometer and Barometer at Prince of Wales' Island.

Major Lambton's MS. Journal of a Route through the Coorg Country.

Thanks were ordered to be returned to the respective donors.

Major John Smith, elected Dec. 16, having made his payments and signed the obligation-book, was admitted a member of the Society.

Anthony White, Esq. was elected a member of the Society.

The translation of a Cufic inscription, with remarks upon the same, by the Rev. Dr. Lee, was read.

The stone from which this inscription was copied was discovered by Sir A. Johnston in the course of forming a collection of copies of all the ancient inscriptions in the island of Ceylon. It had been taken from a Mohammedan burial-ground, and then formed a step to the door of a gentleman's house.

Two copies of the inscription were made, and both were communicated by Sir Alexander, with a number of others, to the Society. The inscription is in the ancient Cufic character, of which it is not known that there are any published specimens. The copies are on different scales; both are in some parts defective, and they differ from each other in some important particulars. Dr. Wilkins and Col. Stewart had examined the copies previously, but Dr. Lee has attempted to decipher the whole of this curious inscription, of which he has given a version in modern Arabic, besides the English translation. The inscription mentions the death of the person it is intended to commemorate, in the year of the Hegira 337, and apparently also contains a reference to some work of piety executed just twenty years before (A.H. 317). A reduced fac-simile copy of the inscription will be printed, to accompany the paper, in the next part of the Society's *Transactions*.

The reading of the fourth part of Mr. Colebrooke's Essay on the Philosophy of the Hindus, "On Indian Sectaries," was concluded, and thanks were returned to Mr. Colebrooke for this communication.

February 17th.—The Society met this day at the usual hour; the Right Hon. Charles W. Williams Wynn, president, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Donations were presented from the following Societies, viz.

The Geographical Society of Paris, Vol. I., and Part I. of Vol. II. of their *Recueil des Voyages et Mémoires*.

The Royal Society of Literature, Part I. of Vol. I. of their *Transactions*.
The Linnæan Society of London, Part I. of Vol. XV. of their *Transactions*.

Thanks were returned to the donors.

The Rev. Joseph Parsons, M.A., was elected a member of the Society.

The official account of the destruction of two wild elephants of uncommon size, at Hazaree Baugh, in 1809, was read.

This is the affair to which allusion is made in Williams' Bengal Native Infantry, Appendix N. p. 383. The present document was communicated by Col. H. Worsley, to whom thanks were returned for the communication.

The next paper was communicated by Lieut. Col. W. Francklin, viz. his Journal of a Route from Rajmahal to Gour, comprising an account of the ruins of the ancient city of Gour.

The Society then adjourned to Saturday the 3d of March.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

LAW.

ADMIRALTY COURT, Feb. 17.

The Atlas.—This very important case has stood over for some time for the opinion of the Court, as to the validity of a bottomry bond executed in the East-Indies, and consequently as to the jurisdiction of the Court.

Lord Stowell stated, that he had seen the opinions of two law authorities, for whom he entertained the highest respect, but they had not divested his mind of doubt as to the Court's jurisdiction. On the next Court-day he would state his reasons for retaining his opinion, and the cause might go before the High Court of Delegates, if his opinion as to the want of jurisdiction was appealed from. If that Court thought differently, they might retain the cause for consideration; or if they remitted it to this Court, he (Lord Stowell) would proceed with it to the best of his ability. He should not give the grounds of his sentence to-day, but it was to be understood that he decided there was a want of jurisdiction.

February 27.

Lord Stowell delivered this day his final sentence, which was a dismissal of the suit, on the ground of want of jurisdiction, and also on account of the involved and complicated nature of the facts and merits of the case. He recommended the parties to refer the question to a body of merchants.

[This is a decision of great importance, inasmuch as its effect is to invalidate all the bottomry-bonds executed in this form, which, it is understood, is the customary form in India.]

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, Feb. 14.

Eastwick v. Thornton.—This was an action brought to recover from the defendant the sum of 64*l.* 1*s.*, of which 60*l.* were

for his passage from China to this country, and 4*l.* 1*s.* for goods sold to him during the voyage. It appeared that the plaintiff was captain of the ship *Asia*, the defendant had also been the captain of a ship which traded in the Indies. Both parties met at Canton, in China, at a period when the plaintiff was about to sail for this country, and on learning that the defendant was reduced in his circumstances, and wished to come to England, he proposed to take him for 60*l.*, being half the usual fare, and accordingly landed him at Portsmouth, and he (plaintiff) set sail thence to Hamburg, and his ship was lost in the passage. He made several applications subsequently to the defendant for the amount here sought, who always promised, but still failed to pay it. The passage of the defendant, and his several promises to pay the 60*l.* having been proved, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages 60*l.*

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Feb. 22.

Johnston v. Pope.—This was an action of assault and battery committed on the defendant, a seaman of the ship *Asia*, by the commander, in a voyage between England and India. The defendant pleaded the mutinous conduct of the plaintiff.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages 100*l.*

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT, Feb. 22.

Thomas Shepherd, formerly of Calcutta, merchant, came up to be heard on his petition to be discharged. His debts and liabilities amounted to 24,000*l.*

Messrs. Pollock and Heath (who held briefs of about seventy sheets) opposed the insolvent's discharge, on behalf of Mr. Nash and others, the consignors of goods to India to the amount of upwards of 20,000*l.*

Mr.

Mr. Cooke supported the petition.

After a long examination, the insolvent was remanded until an amended balance sheet should be filed and the schedule was amended, with an order that the opposing creditors should have four days' notice before the next application.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HINDOO WIDOWS.

A general meeting of the inhabitants of York, and its vicinity, took place at the Guildhall in that city, on the 19th January, to take into consideration the expediency of petitioning Parliament on the subject of the immolation of Hindoo widows; the Lord Mayor of York in the chair. The meeting was numerous and respectfully attended.

The Lord Mayor (W. Cooper, Esq.) stated the object of the meeting.

Robert Sinclair, Esq. (the Recorder) then addressed the meeting, and submitted several resolutions, as the basis of petitions to both houses of Parliament, amongst which were the following:—

“That the practice existing in British India of burning widows on the funeral piles of their husbands, is a gross violation of the law of God and the feelings of humanity, and, in its tendency, highly demoralizing.

“That this meeting, whilst it gratefully acknowledges the steps which have already been taken for the moral and religious improvement of the immense population of India, is of opinion, that it is expedient to petition Parliament to adopt such measures, in the spirit of the above resolution, as it may, in its wisdom, deem most expedient, for abrogating a practice so highly injurious to that character of humanity, and veneration for the Divine Law, which they trust will ever distinguish the Government and people of this happy country.”

The Rev. John Graham seconded the resolutions in a speech of some length, in which he drew a forcible picture of the horrid practice, and the monstrous delusion of the suttees.

Mr. Pritchett argued that, as we had violated one of the strongest prejudices of the Hindoos, in punishing Brahmins when guilty of a crime, we could incur no greater risk in putting a stop to this practice.

—Wemyss, Esq., the Rev. J. H. Cooke, Nadir Baxter, Esq., and the Rev. Jonathan Crowther, severally addressed the meeting: after which the resolutions were unanimously adopted, and a petition to each house of Parliament was agreed to.

MR. WYNN'S WRITERSHIPS.

Mr. Williams Wynn has given one of the *writerships* which have devolved upon him, as president of the Board of Control,

as a prize to one of the boys of the Westminster school. The competition took place on the 7th and 8th of February, when Mr. Escombe was declared the successful candidate. The subjects of examination were the Greek and Latin Classics, Geography, and Roman History. The examiners were Dr. Batten, Principal of the E. I. College, and Messrs. Tyler and Cramer, of the University of Oxford. These gentlemen expressed themselves most favourably upon the performances of all the candidates. Mr. Wynn and many other gentlemen were present during the examination.

SIR ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

Major-Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell, it is said, has been nominated to the government of the Burmese Ceded Provinces.

VACANCY IN THE EAST-INDIA DIRECTION.

The Court of Directors have given notice, that a general court will be held at the East-India House, on the 7th March, for the election of a Director, in the room of Jacob Bosanquet, Esq., who has disqualified.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

We understand that the resignation of Lord Amherst as Governor-General of India has been received by the Court of Directors, and that his Lordship is expected to quit Bengal in the latter end of this year. We believe that the severe family bereavement which Lord Amherst has suffered in the loss of his eldest son, has led to an earlier abandonment of the office than he previously contemplated.

No successor to Lord Amherst has yet been fixed on, but it may be stated, we believe, as the universal wish of the Directors, that the choice should be guided only by fitness for the office, being convinced that the security of India never so much depended as at the present moment, on placing at the head of its government an individual of the highest talent and character. Several names have been mentioned as expectants of that high office, or whose merits are under consideration. The principal are, Lord William Bentinck, the Duke of Buckingham, Mr. Wynn, and Lord Melbourne. To the last, it is said, the post has been offered, but declined. It is a singular coincidence, that vacancies have occurred in all the three Indian presidencies, Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, nearly at the same time. The Duke of Manchester and the Speaker of the House of Commons have been also mentioned for the post. At the three seats of Indian government the chair will be simultaneously filled, about the end of the present year, by individuals new to the office.—[*Times*.

THE 67TH FOOT.

His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 67th Foot bearing on its colours and appointments, the figure of a royal tiger, with the word "*India*" superscribed, in commemoration of its services in that part of the world from the year 1805 to 1826.—[*Lond. Gaz.*]

CAPT. MONTEITH.

The King has been pleased to grant unto William Monteith, Esq., Captain of the Corps of Engineers on the Madras establishment, his royal licence and permission, that he may accept and wear the insignia of the Persian order of the Lion and Sun of the second class, which His Majesty the Shah of Persia has been pleased to confer upon that officer, in testimony of his royal approbation of his conduct whilst he had the honour of being employed in the service of that sovereign.—[*Ibid.*]

SCOTS CHURCH AT THE CAPE.

At an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, held on the 14th Feb., the committee, on the selection of a minister for Cape Town, unanimously recommended Mr. James Adamson to that office, which was approved of by the Presbytery, who appointed to Mr. Adamson subjects for trial to be delivered at next ordinary meeting previous to his ordination, which is to take place on an early day thereafter, to allow him to proceed to Cape Town about the beginning of March.

DR. GILCHRIST.

This gentleman has declared his intention of becoming a candidate for the post of Director, at the annual election, in opposition to the "House List," and has intimated, in a letter to the Secretary of the Court of Directors (which Dr. G. has published), his resolution to offer himself at every annual election. "Success or defeat," he says, "in an enterprise of this extraordinary nature, must be matter of trivial moment to an honest man, who is aware, that although he may sooner or later deserve the smiles of fortune, he never can command them, either as a visionary enthusiast, or a sober reformer of vested abuses, to which blind prejudice, founded on prepossessions alone, can give even the semblance of legitimacy."

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES
IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

31st Foot. Asst.surg. T. E. Ayre, from 83d F., to be asst.surg., v. Sheppard dec. (18 Jan.)

46th Foot. Capt. T. H. Elliott, from h.p., to be capt., v. Ryan prom. (18 Jan.)

45th Foot. Asst.surg. W. Brown, from 87th F., to be surg., v. W. Smyth, placed on h.p. (18 Jan.)

59th Foot. Hosp. Asst. Thos. Foss to be asst. surg., v. Stewwright, app. to 11th L. Dr. (18 Jan.)

83d Foot. Hosp. Asst. G. R. Watson to be asst. surg., v. Ayre app. to 31st F. (18 Jan.)

The undermentioned Lieuts., actually serving upon full-pay in regiments of the line, whose commissions are dated in or previous to the year 1811, have accepted promotion upon half-pay, according to G. O. of 27th Dec. 1826:—

To be Capt. of Infantry. Lieut. C. Stewart, from 38th F.; Lieut. Hans Morrison, from 46th F.; Lieut. T. Pilkington, from 6th F.; Lieut. R. Hughes, from 48th F. (all 13th Feb.)

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Jan. 24. *Providence*, Brown, from Manilla (for Hamburg); at Cowes.—25. *Padang*, Rogers, from Padang and Mauritius (for Antwerp); at Crookhaven.—26. *Albion*, Proctor, from Singapore 27th Aug.; off Scilly.—28. *Flora*, Lemming, from Batavia 1st Oct.; at Cowes.—29. *Columbine*, Tait, from Bombay 7th Sept.; at Deal.—30. *Croton*, Baird, from Bombay 12th Oct.; at Greenock.—also *Thames*, Fraser, from Batavia 15th Sept.; at Cowes.—31. *Security*, Ross, from Batavia 13th Sept., and *William Pitt*, Roberts, from the Mauritius 30th Oct.; both at Deal.—also *Lavinia*, Brooks, from the Mauritius 3d Oct.; off Dover.—Feb. 1. *Good Hope*, Douglas, from Bengal 22d Aug.; at Deal.—also *Cape Packet*, Kellie, from Van Diemen's Land 5th Sept.; off Portsmouth.—15. *Greenock*, Miller, from Batavia and Singapore (for Antwerp); off Dover.—24. *Claremont*, Honner, from Bombay 13th Sept. (for Greenock); off Crookhaven.

Departures.

Jan. 21. *Sir William Wallace*, Wilson, for Bengal, and *Warwick*, Gibson, for Rio de Janeiro and Bombay; both from Deal.—23. *Andreo MacKenzie*, Earle, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—Feb. 1. *Houbonzie*, Gullhand, for the Mauritius; from Liverpool.—also *Lucy Ann*, Dacre, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; from Cove of Cork.—6. *Buckinghamshire*, Glasspole, for Bengal and China; from Deal.—10. *Marmion*, Petrie, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—11. *Scalby Castle*, Newall, for Bengal and China, and *Wina*, Tait, for Cape of Good Hope; both from Deal.—13. *Intrepid Packet*, Slemmer, for Penang and Singapore; from Deal.—15. *Windoor*, Proctor, for Bengal and China; *Ingila*, Serle, for ditto; and *Jurprie*, Mandels, for the Mauritius; all from Deal.—16. *John Dunn*, Hicks, for the Mauritius; from Portsmouth.—17. *Competitor*, Jackson, for Ceylon and Bombay; from Deal.—18. *Hythe*, Wilson, for Bombay and China; *Vansittart*, Dalrymple, for Bengal and China; and *Egyptian*, Lilburn, for Bombay; all from Deal.—also *Hilfeman*, Hawkins, for the Mauritius; from Liverpool.—20. *Lady East*, Evans, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—25. *Charles Grant*, Hay, for Bombay and China; from Portsmouth.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per *Columbine*, from Bombay: Capt. Shaw, H. C.'s service; Ens. Crockett.

Per *Thames*, from Batavia: John Morgan, Esq.; Mr. Van de Boegard.

Per *Greenock*, from Batavia and the Cape of Good Hope: Mr. Thos. Thornton.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per *Repulse*, for Bengal: Rev. A. Simkins, chaplain; Mrs. Simkins and two children; Miss M. Gribble; Misses Georgiana and Maria Wiggins; Mrs. M. Douglas; Major Laird, Lieut. Douglas, and Lieut. Stewart, H. C.'s service; Mr. M. Franks; Mr. R. Buller, writer; Messrs. G. R. Sodons, W. P. Robins, W. Cookson, S. J. Saunders, and S. J. Richardson, cadets; Messrs. J. Burt and Jas. Brockman, free mariners; Mr. C. Montrainier, volunteer; B. B. Marine; Mr. J. T. Chalke, volunteer pilot service; 94 recruits Company's artillery; 206 recruits Company's infantry; 18 females, wives of ditto: 13 children.

Per *Scalby Castle*, for Bengal: Major Tovey, H.M.'s 31st Foot; Mrs. and Miss Tovey; Mr. George Parbury; Mr. Duncan M'Leod, writer; Mr.

Mr. R. M. Robertson; Mrs. Mackenzie; Miss M. A. Terry; Miss S. Morton; Messrs. W. Humphrey, E. Christie, A. McIntosh, C. J. T. Perrenu, W. H. Ellis, and E. McNugent, cadets; Mr. J. Dance, pilot service; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce; Lieut. Hughes, in charge of recruits; 50 recruits, H.C.'s service; 3 soldiers' wives; C. Cashmere and G. Hudson, mechanics for the Company's Mint; Mrs. Cashmere; Margaret Eddie and three children; 2 native servants.

Per Buckinghamshyte, for Bengal: Bev. A. Hammond, chaplain; Messrs. M. McMahon and Q. St. Quinton, writers; Messrs. D. Robinson, S. R. Lumley, H. Fleming, T. C. Walker, J. Turton, and W. Caddell, cadets; Capt. Sutherland, H.M.'s 38th Foot; Ens. Lowther, H.M.'s 44th Foot; Ens. Fisher, H.M.'s 46th Foot; 171 soldiers of H.M.'s 38th, 44th, and 57th Foot; 21 soldiers' wives; 38 children.

Per Windsor, for Bengal: Mrs. Abbott (wife of Capt. Abbott); Messrs. P. Frances, H. F. James, C. Mackenzie, and T. P. Woodcock, writers; Messrs. W. H. Graham, T. B. Bainbridge, W. Hore, and G. B. Tremehere, cadets; Mr. R. Mackenzie, cadet, for Madras; Maj. Moore, Capt. Abbott, Lieut. Harley, Lieut. Hon. A. Bevan, Ens. J. R. Turner, and Assist. Surg. J. Bryden, H.M.'s 54th Foot; 300 soldiers, H.M.'s 54th Foot; 36 soldiers' wives; 23 children; 2 Company's recruits in charge of horses.

Per Ingis, for Bengal: Messrs. W. H. Martin, W. Bracken, W. J. Oswell, and T. Bruce, writers; Messrs. E. Stevenson, J. H. Beck, J. J. Wilcock, H. Pereira, T. Riddell, and W. F. Alexander, cadets; Mr. A. Bryce, assist. surg.; Mr. J. W. Alexander, free merchant; Mrs. Mintic and child; Mrs. Taggart; Mrs. Butler and daughter; Thos. Luttrell, Esq., H.M. Consul at Brazil; Mrs. Luttrell and servant; Mr. J. Kymor, volunteer pilot service; Lieut. Benzon, and Assist. Surg. Stephenson, H.M.'s 13th L. Dr.; Cornets Elton, Gelhen, Thorold, Parker, and Mollet, H.M.'s 13th ditto; Capt. Cole, Lieut. Butler, Lieut. Mintic, Ens. Lengram, and Ens. Elliott, H.M.'s 45th Foot; 260 soldiers, H.M.'s 13th L. Dr. and 45th Foot; 26 soldiers' wives; 23 children; 2 Company's recruits in charge of horses.

Per Hythe, for Bombay: Messrs. J. W. Renny and E. F. Lynch, cadets; Mr. D. Burdoo, assist. surg.; Mr. J. G. Johnstone, volunteer Bombay marine; Messrs. J. W. Eastwick, W. Johnson, N. Gosling, W. A. Hamilton, J. G. Ginet, W. Hamilton, R. Hudson, W. C. Mitchell, L. Brown, and H. J. Woodward, cadets; Messrs. W. Burn, C. F. Collier, C. Lush, R. Brown, and B. White, assist. surgeons; Mrs. White; Miss I. Ellis; Masters Henry and Alfred Blair (sons of Capt. Blair); Lieut. Burnett, H.C.'s service; Mrs. Burnett; Mr. J. H. Storer, Capt. Ellis, H.M.'s 4th L. Dr.; Capt. Blair, Lieut. Bruce, Lieut. Carr, Lieut. Hanna, Ens. Isaac, and Assist. Surg. Paterson, H.M.'s 3d Foot; Capt. Taylor, Capt. Debon, Ens. Stephens, and Ens. Chamber, H.M.'s 90th Foot; 305 soldiers H.M.'s 4th L. Dr., 3d Foot, and 90th Foot; 37 soldiers' wives; 16 children.

Per Lady East, for Madras and Bengal: Major Yates; Mr. Powney; Judge Harris; Messrs. Edwards, Tibbs, Hay, Bromalith, Amalnick, Thomson, Clarkson, Roper, Chalmers, Shepherd, Lindsay, Dowling, two Hatfields, Mc Donald, Harford, Hutchings, Bevan, Leland, Allan, and Watson.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The *Caroline*, Kildson, which sailed from Saugor on 14th July for London, put back to Calcutta

on 9th Aug. totally dismasted. Her letters for England were transferred to the *Elizabeth*, Cock, which left Calcutta on 11th Aug. for the Mauritius and London.

The *Sir Edward Paget*, Geary, from London to Madras and Bengal, experienced a heavy gale of wind in the Bay of Biscay on 21st Jan., which drove in her bulwarks, carried away all her topmasts, and the rigging was cut to save the masts; one man injured and the third mate drowned. She arrived at Lisbon on the 28th, had been surveyed, and the leak was found to be above water. It was expected that her repairs would not be completed till the end of February.

The schooner *Sally*, Crabtree, which sailed from Van Diemen's Land on 24th June, was totally lost on the 30th, near Waterhouse Island, and thirteen people drowned.

BIRTH, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTH.

Feb. 14. In Harley Street, the lady of James M'Dowell, Esq., Bengal medical service, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 14. At St. George's, Bloomsbury, J. Moor, Esq., of the Bombay artillery, to Mrs. M. A. Sealy, relict of the late Capt. C. Sealy, of the Bombay marines.

29. At Calderbank, Scotland, James Howison, Esq., of Hill-end, M.D., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Jane, youngest daughter of the late T. Watkins, Esq., Linlithgow.

Feb. 6. At St. George's, Hanover Square, the Rev. Joseph Wolff, late missionary to the Jews in Palestine, to the Lady Georgiana Mary Walpole, fourth daughter of the late, and sister to the present Earl of Orford.

— At Clifton Church, W. M. Meade, Esq., of Mesenarra, county of Kilkenny, and of Marchington, Staffordshire, to Eliza, only daughter of the late P. Maitland, Esq., of Calcutta, and of Kilmarian Castle, Fifehire.

14. At St. Mary's, Bryanstone Square, Marybone, H. Burn, Esq., youngest son of the late Maj. Gen. Burn, Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Eliza Mary, widow of the late H. Bellingham, Esq.

22. At Cheltenham, Capt. W. H. Foy, of the Hon. E. I. Company's artillery, to Mary, eldest daughter of Col. W. A. S. Boscawen, of the Coldstream Guards.

DEATHS.

Jan. 30. At Old Aberdeen, Margaret Glenny, wife of John Anderson, Esq., late of Calcutta.

Feb. 9. In Nottingham Place, Gen. Wm. Cartwright, Colonel of the 1st or King's Regt. of Dragoon Guards.

— At Eltham, Mrs. Sarah Debusche, wife of L. Debusche, Esq., of the Island of Ceylon.

21. In Paragon Buildings, Bath, after a long and painful illness, Amelia, wife of Major Charles Stewart, late Professor of Oriental Literature in the East-India College, and sister of Sir Orford Gordon, Bart., of Embo, N.B., aged 54 years.

23. At Exmouth, Devon, Capt. R. Horwood, late of the ship *Mitford*, of Bombay.

Lately. At sea, on board the *Dindem*, on the passage from Bombay, Lieut. Tudor, of the Madras army.

— At Singapore, on board the *Duchess of Athol*, C. G. Houlton, Esq., of the Bombay civil service.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 6 March—Prompt 1 June.

Tee.—Bebes, 750,000 lb.; Congou, Pekoe, and Seechoing, 8,350,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson Skin, 1,200,000 lb.; Hyson, 900,000 lb.—Total, including Private-Trade, 7,500,000 lb.

For Sale 14 March—Prompt 8 June.

Company's.—Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Longcloths—Sallampores—Blue Sallampores—Baftacs—Nankeens—Pallampores—Cotton Romals—Bandannoes—Neckcloths—Madras Handkerchiefs—Ventapollam Handkerchiefs—Shawl Handkerchiefs—Shawls—Scarfs—Cape Single Handkerchiefs—Cape Shawls and Scarfs—Cape Gown Pieces—Silk Piece Goods—Damasks.

PRICE CURRENT, Feb. 23.

FAST-INDIA PRODUCE.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Coffee, Java	cwt			Galls, Blue	5 5 0	6 0 0
— Cheribon		2 11 0	2 14 0	Judigo, Blue and Violet lb	0 13 2	0 13 4
— Sumatra		2 3 0	2 6 0	— Purple and Violet	0 12 6	0 13 0
— Bourbon				— Extra fine Violet	0 11 9	0 12 0
— Mocha		3 0 0	5 0 0	— Violet	0 9 6	0 11 6
Cotton, Surat	lb	0 0 5	0 0 6	— Violet and Copper	0 9 0	0 11 0
— Madras		0 0 5	0 0 6	— Fine Copper	0 10 0	0 10 6
— Bengal		0 0 5	0 0 6	— Copper	0 8 9	0 9 9
— Bourbon		0 0 9	0 1 0	— Consuming sorts	0 7 0	0 11 0
Drugs & for Dyeing.				— Benares and Oude	0 5 6	0 10 0
Aloes, Epatica	cwt	16 0 0	21 0 0	— Low and bad Oude	0 3 0	0 5 0
Aniseeds, Star		0 3 10		— Madras	0 8 9	0 11 0
Borax, Refined		2 4 0	2 5 0	— Do. mid. ord. and bad	0 5 0	0 8 6
— Unrefined, or Tincal		2 5 0	2 6 0	Rice, Bengal White	0 15 0	0 18 0
Camphire		9 5 0	10 0 0	— Patna	0 18 0	1 1 0
Cardamoms, Malabar	lb	0 9 0	0 10 0	Safflower	2 0 0	10 0 0
— Ceylon		0 1 0	0 1 2	Sago	0 15 0	1 5 0
Cassia Buds	cwt	8 13 0		Saltpetre	1 3 6	1 4 0
— Ligna		5 10 0	6 0 0	Silk, Bengal Skein	0 8 1	0 9 8
Castor Oil	lb	0 1 0	0 1 10	— Nova	0 11 1	1 0 4
China Root	cwt	2 0 0	2 5 0	— Ditto White	0 11 0	1 0 0
Coculus Indicus		3 0 0	3 10 0	— China	0 14 9	0 17 4
Dragon's Blood		11 0 0	24 0 0	Spices, Cinnamon	0 3 3	0 7 0
Gum Ammoniac, lump		3 0 0	5 0 0	— Cloves	0 2 6	0 3 0
— Arabic		2 0 0	3 10 0	— Mace	0 4 0	0 6 0
— Assafetida		6 0 0	8 0 0	— Nutmegs	0 3 6	0 4 2
— Benjamin		40 0 0	50 0 0	— Ginger	0 16 0	0 18 0
— Aniini		3 10 0	8 0 0	— Pepper, Black	0 0 4	0 0 5
— Gambogium		22 0 0	23 0 0	— White	0 3 0	
— Myrrh		6 0 0	8 0 0	Sugar, Bengal	0 13 0	1 19 0
— Oilbanum		3 5 0	4 15 0	— Siam and China	1 12 0	2 0 0
Kino		15 0 0	16 0 0	— Mauritius	1 6 0	1 19 0
Lac Lake	lb	0 1 0		Tea, Bohea	0 1 5	0 1 11
— Dye		0 4 4	0 4 8	— Congou	0 2 2	0 3 5
— Shell	cwt	2 10 0	5 0 0	— Souchong	0 3 3	0 4 8
— Stick		2 0 0	3 0 0	— Campol	0 3 0	0 3 5
Musk, China	oz	0 10 0	1 0 0	— Twankay	0 3 0	0 3 10
Oil, Cassia	oz	0 0 5	0 0 6	— Pekoe		
— Cinnamon		0 12 0	0 15 0	— Hyson Skin	0 2 10	0 3 11
— Cloves	lb	0 0 3		— Hyson	0 4 9	0 5 9
— Nutmegs		0 2 9	0 3 0	— Young Hyson	0 4 0	0 4 3
Opium				— Gunpowder	0 4 10	0 5 5
Rhubarb		0 2 3	0 5 0	Tortoiseshell	1 14 0	2 10 0
Sal Ammoniac	cwt	3 0 0	3 3 0	Wood, Sanders Red	10 0 0	
Senna	lb	0 0 9	0 2 0			
Turneric, Java	cwt	1 14 0	1 18 0	AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.		
— Bengal		1 8 0	1 10 0	Oil, Southern	30 0 0	
— China		2 2 0	2 5 0	— Spermaceti	67 0 0	
Galls, in Sorts		4 5 0	4 10 0	— Head Matter	75 0 0	
				— Wool	7b	
				— Wood, Blue Gum	ton 0 7 10	0 8 10
				— Cedar	0 0 4	0 0 5

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,

From the 26th of January to the 25th of February 1827.

Jan.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N4 Pr. Ct. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.
26	201 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2
27	—	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2
28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	202 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2
Feb.	202 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
1	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
2	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
3	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
4	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
5	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
6	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
7	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
8	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
9	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
10	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
11	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
12	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
13	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
14	208 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
15	208 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
16	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
17	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
18	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
19	—	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
20	208 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
21	208 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
22	208 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
23	207 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, Feb. 7, 1827.

A Special General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held, pursuant to requisition, at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

INSTRUCTION IN THE HINDOOSTANEE
LANGUAGE.

The routine business having been gone through,

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson) acquainted the court that it had been specially summoned, in consequence of a requisition addressed by nine Proprietors to the Court of Directors; which requisition should now be read.

The Clerk then read the requisition, as follows:—

"To the Hon. the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

"We, the undersigned Proprietors of India Stock, duly qualified, request that a Court of Proprietors may soon be called, to which it is our intention to submit the following propositions:—

"1st. To deliberate on the present state of Oriental education, connected with the absolute necessity for the whole of the Company's servants in Hindoostan to acquire, at least, some colloquial knowledge of its popular tongue.

"2d. To determine whether the elementary acquisition of Hindoostanee, in this country, be not indispensable to candidates for official appointments, previous to their nomination by the Court of Directors, in order so far to secure the future good government of British India, and the durable prosperity of that vast empire.

"3d. To decide also on the propriety of the proposed preliminary qualification for free merchants, mariners, and others, before granting them a license to reside among a hundred millions of native subjects, in daily contact with those European inhabitants, who, in general, know nothing of the Hindoostanee, and consequently may injuriously impede, through the multifarious transactions of public or private life, not only the local authorities, but the common weal of the people and state.

"4th. For a copy of the regulations issued by the Court of Directors, relative to the public examinations, at home or abroad, of persons intended for the Company's service in India, on their respective acquirements as Oriental scholars, with the view of securing efficient servants for the effectual management of numerous important affairs in our extensive and extending domains in the East.

"5th. To compare the real expense of the two systems of Oriental tuition existing—

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ing here since 1818, with the notorious disproportionate results of each: the total charge of one mode of Oriental instruction alone having amounted to £64,000, for 560 students, while that of the other was only £4,000, for communicating similar information to 1600 pupils, at the Hindoostanee and Persian lecture rooms in London; many of whom are now not only very useful interpreters, &c., but are able and ready to execute other responsible functions in the East-India service.

"6th. To recommend the adoption of some plan here for the immediate encouragement of appropriate military education and Oriental literature, with colloquial proficiency among the King's officers, the Company's cavalry and infantry cadets, &c., to the serious attention of the Executive Court, which has done nothing yet to enable those youths to proceed hence as officers or linguists to India, well qualified to command numerous bodies of brave men, by speaking the most current local dialect, and being at the same time as well instructed as the engineer and artillery students have long been at Addiscombe, in those arts of war and tactical exercises, inseparable from the due performance of their respective duties in the Indian army.

"JOHN CAPRON,	J. B. GILCHRIST,
Finsbury-sq.	J. PATERSON,
"JOHN NEILL,	W. MAXFIELD,
"JOHN LEDGER,	W. MASON,
"JOSEPH HUME,	L. STANHOPE,
"R. SLADE,	J. KIERMAN.

"London, 23d January, 1826."

The requisition having been read,

Col. L. Stanhope rose, and said he wished, before the court proceeded with the discussion, to give notice of a motion on the subject of Persia. The gallant officer was proceeding to state the nature of his intended motion, when he was interrupted by

The *Chairman*, who said, the gallant proprietor would, he was sure, excuse him; if he took the liberty of requesting that the most perfect regularity should be observed in their proceeding. (*Hear!*) A habit had lately prevailed in that court, which was fraught with very great inconvenience; and he feared he had too much indulged the wishes of gentlemen, in answering the variety of questions which were, from time to time, put to him at the opening of the court. This he considered to be a very inconvenient and irregular proceeding. (*Hear!*) The present was a Special Court, met for special purposes, which had been publicly announced; and the proprietors

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were called on to discuss the business before them, in preference to any extraneous topic. It was, however, perfectly competent for the gallant proprietor to give notice of any motion, after the business of the day, for the consideration of which the court had been specially summoned, was disposed of; and he hoped the gallant officer would see the propriety of that course, rather than persevere in an irregularity which he (the Chairman) blamed himself for having permitted on former occasions.

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"The practice in parliament is to give notice previously to the business of the day being entertained; and it was as a matter of convenience that I rose to give notice of a motion, not to ask any question."

The *Chairman*.—"I admit that the gallant proprietor has a right to give notice of a motion. All I object to is the doing it at this time. When the business of the day is over, I shall be extremely happy to hear the gallant proprietor." (*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* hoped he would be allowed to make one or two observations on this subject. So far as he was concerned, he would willingly give way to the gallant officer. He was ready to hear the gallant officer, provided the hon. Chairman chose to listen to him. He recollected the gallant general (Thornton) on his right hand stated, at the last court, that if any notice were to be given, any question to be asked, or any incidental matter to be discussed, it ought to be before the regular business of the day had commenced; and for this very good reason, namely—that, if the business of the day were disposed of, no attention would afterwards be paid to questions, or to any incidental matter. Besides, no one would remain in the court to hear questions; for he had often observed, at the close of the day, that there were not more than four or five proprietors present. Therefore, as the gallant general had very properly said, they ought to allow questions to be asked when there were many proprietors present, instead of putting them off until the court was empty.

The *Chairman*.—"I must contend, that I am perfectly regular in the course which I wish to adopt. It is quite clear that there is no necessity, in giving notice of motion, for the presence of any given number of proprietors. (*Hear!*) It is sufficient that the intention of the individual giving notice is duly specified, in order to have the notice recorded; therefore it matters not whether the court be full or otherwise, when the intention is declared. I hope the court will support me in this course of proceeding; which is the more particularly necessary, as so very extended a discussion is proposed for the present day." (*Hear!*)

General *Thornton* felt it necessary, in consequence of what had fallen from the

learned proprietor, to re-state his opinion. The opinion which he had expressed at a former court he still adhered to. The plan which he wished to be adopted was so good, that in the House of Commons it was uniformly acted on. (*Cries of Order!*)

The *Chairman*.—"I must desire the regular business of the court to proceed."—(*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"I trust, Mr. Chairman, you will allow me to make one slight deviation from the course proposed. (*Loud cries of Order!*)—In explanation, at least, I ought to be heard. At the last court I inadvertently said"—(*Cries of Order!*)—*Mr. Hume spoke to the learned proprietor.*)

The *Chairman*.—"I am sure the hon. member below (Mr. Hume) must perceive the propriety of the course I have recommended; and I feel much obliged to him for his assistance, in calling on the learned proprietor to conform to regularity."—(*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* then proceeded to the business of the day. He observed that he stood before the court with several propositions, as the person mainly interested in bringing them forward; not interested, let it be understood, as an individual, but as a member of that great Company, the prosperity of which he had very much at heart. He therefore requested the patient attention of the court, while he disclosed and defended his opinions on the subject which they were met to discuss. If they examined the history of the world, they would find two nations, the Roman and the English, particularly distinguished for colonization. The Romans preceded us in forming colonies, and their system was different from ours. They sent their armies all over the world, they founded colonies, and to those colonies they gave the language of Rome, and the gods of Rome. In some instances, however, they incorporated within the pale of their own mythology the deities of the people whom they had conquered, on the principle, he supposed, of "the more gods the merrier." If he understood the subject rightly, they copiously disseminated the Latin tongue, while they abstained from studying the languages of those foreign nations amongst whom they resided, with the single exception of the Greek. Whether this was, or was not, a stroke of sound policy, circumscribed as the Romans were, he would not pretend to say; but they all knew very well what the fate of those colonies had been. Time rolled on; and, in the lapse of a few centuries, the colonies founded by the Romans were humbled in the dust. Still (though, like ourselves, they were often birds of passage) they left behind them many traces of their greatness and grandeur. He believed, that future ages would in vain search for any such traces
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after us; and the feathering of our own nests, in the shortest possible time, appeared to be the *ne plus ultra* of all our pursuits and efforts. Gentlemen went out to India, anxious to accumulate a fortune; they staid there for a certain period, and they came home as rich as they could. (*Hear!*) He must, on this occasion, deprecate one idea which was too prevalent in that court. It was customary to view every individual who stood up manfully for the purpose of exposing that which he deemed to be erroneous, as a libeller of civil or military servants, when he was, in fact, only pointing out the defects of a bad system. Such a proceeding was most unjust. He could safely say, that he did not wish to traduce any person. His great object was, to speak the truth: and to prove from documents, drawn both from India and from this country, that what he asserted was founded in fact. He held in his hand a *Gazette*, published under the authority of Lord Amherst; and he would quote some passages from it, because they referred particularly to the subject now under discussion. The remarks were made, in consequence of a debate in this court, on the 25th of January, 1826, on the propriety of giving instruction in the Oriental languages to military officers. "Al-though," said the writer, "fully prepared to admit the force of much of Mr. Hume's reasoning, with regard to the necessity of acquiring that knowledge of the native languages by which alone any officer in this country, civil or military, can do his duty conscientiously and well, we neither wonder nor regret that the motion was lost."

An hon. *Proprietor*.—"I wish to know, is it in order to read pamphlets in this court? I think it is contrary to order. If it be allowed, every gentleman may take a pamphlet from his pocket, and thus uselessly consume the time of the court."

Mr. *Hume*.—"The hon. proprietor is mistaken as to the practice of the court. I, or any other person, may read any document as part of our speeches. I have seen newspapers and pamphlets quoted by ministers of the crown; I have known them to be quoted within the bar, and without the bar; and that a proprietor, who has grown grey, as a member of the Company, should make such an observation as we have just heard, is to me the most extraordinary. I protest against such interruptions. If there be any thing wrong, it ought to be left to the hon. Chairman to correct it. I must deprecate, most strongly, these unnecessary calls to order." (*Hear!*)

The *Chairman*.—"I do not think the learned proprietor is wrong in quoting from the pamphlet." (*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* continued.—In addition to what had been said by his hon. friend

(Mr. Hume), he begged to call the attention of the court to a circumstance which had occurred some time ago, during the discussion of a subject which had been long debated; he meant Mr. Buckingham's case. On that occasion a gentleman (Mr. Poynder) took out a paper, that would reach from this to St. Paul's (*a laugh*), and read the whole of it. He (Dr. Gilchrist) declared at the time that he was happy the hon. proprietor did so, because he meant to follow the example, as soon as he had an opportunity. The article which he was quoting went on to state, "The object [of the motion] was clearly, as intimated by the Deputy Chairman, to promote the pecuniary interests of a particular individual. It was to benefit Dr. Gilchrist, not the junior members of the military service; and, however highly we may estimate the merits of that individual, we think he would have been advantaged in this, only at the expense of the young officers intended for the military service of India."—Now this accusation he wholly denied, notwithstanding what had been hinted by the Deputy Chairman; and here he must observe, that his hon. friend (Mr. Hume) mistook him altogether, when he spoke of his (Dr. Gilchrist's) readiness to enter into a contract, to instruct the young men at so much a head. (*A laugh.*) He had never said any such thing. His great object was to have proper establishments, in which the Oriental languages could be acquired, in every part of the empire. He wished to see institutions of that description created in Dublin, in Edinburgh, in London, &c., so that a young man might receive instruction in the Oriental languages, under his own roof, as it were; therefore it was clear that he was looking for no exclusive benefit for himself. He wanted no jobs—he detested jobs of every description; and, he thanked God, he was in such a situation, as rendered it unnecessary for him to hunt for places, for pensions, or for any thing of the kind. The author of these strictures went on to say: "At the age at which cadets usually come out, they have barely had time to perfect those acquirements which are indispensable to the station they are likely to hold through life; and it would, in our opinion, be very inexpedient to make the little opportunity they enjoy, of prosecuting European study, less. But a serious objection to the measure is its inefficacy; and, notwithstanding the high sense Mr. Hume entertains of Dr. Gilchrist's tuition, we have no hesitation in asserting, that he could qualify Hindoostanee scholars only at an enormous expenditure of time, as compared with what would be required in this country, even if he qualified them at all, which we should strongly doubt; for it should be known, that

that experience has established the little comparative utility of the kind of Hindoostance taught by him; and that a very different dialect is necessary to communicate with the large majority of the population, and particularly with the military class."—He read these observations now, because he would have occasion to refer to them, at length, by and by; and he hoped the military officers from Madras, or elsewhere, would remain in court, and attend to the documents which he would produce, in opposition to the assertions contained in the paragraph which he had just quoted. The writer proceeded to state: "The necessity of acquiring this knowledge somewhere is admitted by all; but a capital error seems to have been committed by the opponents of Mr. Hume's motion, in taking it for granted that it is actually obtained. The Chairman indeed argues, that to say that the officers were negligent, and did not use diligence to acquire a language, a knowledge of which was so important in the discharge of their military duties, was a very pointed libel upon the army of India." Now it would appear by what followed, that this very species of libel had gone forth to India, had gone through the whole military service, by means of an article in the *Government Gazette*. What must Mr. Hume or himself feel, were officers, knowing their opinions on this subject, and believing that they had been libelled by the promulgation of those opinions, to call on them in a threatening manner, perhaps with a horsewhip in their hand? (*Laughter.*) There was an instance, he believed, where a Mr. Clarke, who had overhauled a Court of Directors for highly improper conduct, was thus threatened. Mr. Wilbraham declared that he would horsewhip Mr. Clarke, but the latter was too strong to permit such an indignity. Now he (Dr. Gilchrist) was not a very strong man; but if any of those who thought themselves aggrieved by his honest exposition of his sentiments, came to him armed with a horsewhip, he would shoot his assailant through the head at once (*laughter*); so he warned them not to molest him. The writer in the *Government Gazette*, it would be seen, argued against himself in the very next paragraph, and also sent forth what the Chairman had denominated "a pointed libel upon the army of India." He said, "Notwithstanding this, we are rather afraid that the study has been very much neglected of late years, and that the rising members of the military service are imperfectly grounded in the knowledge of the language of the country. We do not attribute this, however, to any lack of zeal or diligence, but to another obvious cause—the want of the means of study." This was perfectly true. The subaltern could not prosecute his studies in the Oriental languages, in

consequence of the want of pecuniary means in India. "It may," continued this writer, "be said indeed, that this is scarcely reconcilable with the fact; that the facilities of acquiring a conversancy with the languages of India have been much augmented of late years, and that there is now no scarcity of elementary books, or competent instructors. This may be granted; but how is a cadet to avail himself of the existence of either, when the salary of the latter would swallow up half his allowances, and the cost of the necessary books would be equal to a year's purchase of the remainder? Besides, a young man, on first joining his corps, is not likely to feel much inclination to apply; the opportunities and aids of sober study are not within his reach; and he has no helping hand to lead him over the first impediments of the course." Here it was admitted, that "the opportunities and aids of sober study are not within the reach of the young officer in India;" an admission which militated strongly against the idea of studying to much advantage in that country. (*Hear!*) This statement was not his: it had appeared in the government paper, and it spoke volumes in favour of the principle which he was anxious to have adopted. He was accused of being an *egotist*; but, when he was attacked, what else could he do, except refer to what he had himself performed; and thus prove, by the unerring test of experience, that his views were as sound as they were disinterested. And, after all, the Court of Directors were the greatest egotists in the world. What was their conduct, when they came before the proprietors, and requested their votes? Did they not recommend themselves by a reference to past services? Did they not say, in turn, "I have acted in such a capacity, in such a place; my exertions have been honoured with approbation; my experience is such, that I am confident I could manage your affairs satisfactorily?" And was it not on these grounds, thus egotistically put forth, that they were raised to their high situation? Was he then, when this was the case, to be sneered at as an egotist, when he stood forward, and declared what his claims to support were—claims which he could substantiate even from their own records, and from the acts of their own government abroad? "We think," (continued the writer in the *Government Gazette*, for gentlemen had become thoughtful in India, since the press was a little more free than it had been; indeed, even the judges of Bombay were growing thoughtful)—"therefore, it is not wonderful, if he [the young man] contents himself with such chance phrases as he cannot dispense with, and never becomes acquainted with the language of India, so as to communicate, beyond the word of command, with those under his authority."

authority." Where, he wished to know, were the officers of Madras and Bombay, when such a statement as this was made? Why did they not come forward and declare it was all a mistake? Why did they not prove that they were well acquainted with the native languages, and that they were perfectly capable of performing such and such functions with ability and efficiency? "This applies, however," observed the writer of the article, "only to the junior members of the service; some of their seniors have had the benefit of instruction in the College of Fort William, and a still greater number at Baraset; an establishment which, with all its vices, was eminently serviceable in fitting the cadets for their military duties, and rendering them, after their wild career had ceased, highly efficient officers: prepared not only to communicate freely with the native officers and soldiery, but able to understand their character, and appreciate their feelings. It is an idle mistake to suppose that the study of languages acquires words alone; it unavoidably acquires, what is vastly more material, the thoughts of the people by whom those languages are spoken." Now his most anxious desire was, to give to "the junior members of the service" such an insight into the native languages, before they left this country, as would render comparatively easy their perfect acquirement of those languages, when they had arrived in India. The learned gentleman then adverted to the malversations by directors of a variety of joint-stock companies, and arguing the necessity of examination into the conduct of directors of all companies. It was, he conceived, for the proprietors, as shareholders in this Company, to look after their own interests. This had not always been the case. If they had done their duty properly, at a period somewhat remote, there would have been no Board of Control at this day. The proprietors were the legitimate Board of Control. This was, perhaps, the only Company in which a select few swallowed all the loaves and fishes; whilst the many received only the offal, which a certain per-centage would secure, with neither risk nor trouble, in various other ways. 'Tough this was, as the Company was formed, a prescriptive and legal right, yet he held it, morally, to be an imposition. It was most unfair that the few should secure all the loaves and fishes to themselves, whilst the mere refuse was left to the proprietors. After the *lions* had taken what they deemed to be their share, the proprietors, as the *jackals*, were allowed to possess themselves of a little. The learned gentleman again adverted to joint-stock speculations, and read from an English newspaper a long report of some proceedings in an American court. He also referred to the exposures made by Mr.

Clarke, of London. It had been, he observed, often stated, as a matter of reproach, that writerships, cadetships, and a variety of other ships, were positively sold in the market, by persons connected with this Company. He did not assert the fact, but he knew it had been stated in the papers—whether truly or not he could not tell. Now, if an oath were not taken to the contrary, there was, in his opinion, no moral turpitude in the act. Indeed he did not know but that all posts and places ought to be sold for the benefit of society; provided that, as in the army, church, and state, those who made the purchases were ascertained to be qualified for the situation. They would be much more rich men than they were if this system were adopted; for it had gone abroad, that the Directors had from £5,000 to £20,000 per annum, on an average, of patronage. He did not mean to say that this was really the case, but he knew that it was thus stated. This was the reward given to them for managing the Company's business; and certainly it was the lion's share, with a vengeance. In his opinion, the purchase or sale of those situations had not half the moral turpitude in it, that was connected with the act of inundating British India annually with hundreds of ignorant functionaries, or adventurers; who, if previously qualified by examinations to purchase their places, would become infinitely more efficient servants and subjects of the Company, than the great majority of those who had never yet been put to the test of a fair trial in this country; the only one, in fact, where the elements of future proficiency, and habits of persevering industry, could most advantageously be acquired by nineteen out of twenty persons who went to India. At present they sent out young men, ignorant of the language, ignorant of the country, ignorant of the habits, manners, and feelings of those amongst whom they were to reside. Individuals thus situated were manifestly unfit to superintend the Company's affairs. Did any man ever enter into the profession of the law, of physic, or of the church, without undergoing a rigid examination, after much previous study?—Undoubtedly not. And that principle, which had been found to operate beneficially with respect to those professions, would surely be found exceedingly useful, if applied to the candidates for employment under that Company, of which they, the proprietors of East-India stock, were the members. If, in this country, they gave to a young man, at a very early age, even the elementary parts of practical Oriental knowledge, they would do a great deal of service to the individual sent out to India, and to themselves. This was the proper mode of proceeding; for he knew, from experience, that industry was

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not likely to be acquired in India. That the Company's forces were brave, no man could doubt for a moment; they performed their military duties admirably; but that the officers, speaking generally, understood the language of those whom they commanded, he denied. He did not blame them, however: it was the system which he had to blame. That system had been going on for eight years; and though orders, on this momentous subject, had been sent abroad from this country, they appeared to have been treated as dead letters—they were never acted upon. Generally, when he gave lectures, or, as some would say, when he preached a sermon, he always carried a sort of brief with him, lest, in the multiplicity of objects which his discourse embraced, he might chance to forget any thing of importance.—(The learned proprietor then referred to a work which he held in his hand, called "The Tuitionary Pioneer.")—In consequence of his reports, published in this work, some alterations had taken place in the scholastic instruction of those who were destined to proceed to India; and he was induced to believe that the institution of the London University would lead to still more extensive changes. Rigid examinations were now the order of the day at the British universities, and at most of the collegiate, or other literary institutions in the United Kingdom; in all the higher professions, including divinity, law, physic, military and naval tactics, &c. He must here be allowed to observe, looking to the mode of education which prevailed in this country, that the English had abused a dead language, and prevented it from becoming a living one. There was scarcely a country to which an individual could go, where he did not find a lawyer, a medical man, a clergyman, or a man of letters. Well, if the person visiting that country were not acquainted with the language, what course must he pursue? Why, let him speak to any of those individuals to whom he had alluded in Latin, as a Scotchman would pronounce that tongue, and he would be perfectly understood; but, if the foreigner were addressed in Latin, as it is pronounced by Englishmen, he would not know the meaning of the person who spoke to him. Much, therefore, it was evident, depended on the correct pronunciation of a language. If the following remarks on a knowledge of French were worthy the notice of British officers, how much more must they become so, were Hindoostance substituted for that military tongue of the Western World; since the latter was equally, nay, infinitely more useful, in the eastern hemisphere, to every public functionary, without exception, and in cases of hourly occurrence there, night and day, in all the official and private walks of life. It

was related by Smollett, in his history of George II., that on the night which preceded the battle on the heights of Abraham, General Wolfe and his army, who were sailing down the river St. Lawrence in the dark, were saved from eventual defeat by the readiness of an English officer, who replied so skilfully to the challenges of the French sentinels, that they mistook the British troops for a French detachment, and suffered them to pass. The historian remarked, that the consequence of discovery, at that moment, would have been the total destruction of the army. Here, in the history of their own country, was an instance where a British officer was enabled, by being well acquainted with the French language, to save the whole of the army to which he was attached. Here was an instance which shewed, in the plainest manner, the utility, nay, the necessity, of having their officers skilfully instructed in the Hindoostance dialect, which was so generally spoken in India. This one solitary fact—(a fact, however, on a grand scale)—was as good as a thousand; because, though it had occurred but once in a century, in Europe, it might, under the peculiar circumstances in which we were placed, be of daily occurrence in India. That interesting fact should teach the rulers of British India a great moral lesson, of daily application in that valuable empire; where adequate proficiency in the native languages was the one thing most needful, to render every other official and local qualification truly valuable to its possessor, or to his employers, whether they be, in that capacity, kings, companies, practitioners of any description, or common commercial adventurers. If the Duke of Wellington, the present commander-in-chief, were to propose that a number of French or German officers, whom he had met on the Continent, should be entrusted with commands in the British army, although they did not understand a word of the English language, would such a proceeding be tolerated? If he nominated foreign officers as ensigns, &c. in our army actually in the field, on the faith of their afterwards learning to mangle and murder our mother tongue, would, could, or should he be permitted, under a well-regulated government, to act so absurdly? The thing was impossible; and yet the Company were in the daily habit, through their Executive Court, of committing a similar offence, against common sense and common prudence, with respect to their native army. They were constantly sending out young men to command companies in India, who were not able to call for the most ordinary thing they wanted in the native language. Was it not most absurd to send out persons, who were not qualified for the performance of the duties that devolved on them? One most lamentable

mentable circumstance was, that the cavalry cadets, who came under his immediate eye, were the most lazy and idle of his pupils. And why was this? It was because they were the sons or nephews of individuals high in that court, or the relations of the lofty aristocracy, or connected with very rich people. They, therefore, did not deem it necessary—they thought it below their dignity—to apply themselves to study; of course, they made the least progress of any of his pupils in the acquisition of the native languages; though, from the nature of their appointments, there rested on them a moral obligation, far greater than that which applied to the infantry, to acquire a knowledge of the Oriental dialects. It should be observed, that every private in the native cavalry had been, or was, a gentleman; he spoke the language of a gentleman; and great must be his surprise, when an English officer came out with a language which might be compared to that of Wapping or Billingsgate, placed in opposition to what would be taught at a respectable seminary. The very grass-cutters amongst the natives expressed themselves in a clear and good style. What then must the people, with whom the English officers had to converse, think of the race of young and of old jargonists? What must they think of officers who, after thirty years' residence in India, could not speak the language moderately well, not to say fluently? He should like to have a few of these gentlemen under his hands for a short time.—*(A laugh.)* To shew what sort of a knowledge of the native language some of these officers possessed, he would relate a story which would make the court smile. The word *phoonka* meant "to blow, to puff," &c., and came from *phoo*, the natural effort, and *kurna*, "to make," which were compressed into that word. It happened that, in the course of his Oriental studies one morning, he had applied himself to, and mastered the derivation, of this word. He happened to dine the same day with a colonel who had been for many years in the Company's service, and he was much surprised when he heard him call out to a servant, whom he wished to blow the fire, "Funk, you rascal, funk!" instead of "*Phoonk, phoonk*!"—"Blow, blow!" *(Laughter.)* He could hardly believe that this old officer had substituted "funk, funk," for the word which he had been analyzing all the morning. Such, however, was the fact; and he began to think that a few months of study in India had placed him at the head of the army, so far as philological knowledge went. If, as he had before observed, the Duke of Wellington were suffered to nominate young foreign officers to commands in the British army, on the faith of their cultivating the English language afterwards, was it possible to deny that such a proceeding would be

fraught with mischievous consequences? It could not be doubted; and just such consequences were occasioned by the conduct at present adopted in sending out young men to join the Indian army; they did not understand the language of the natives, and the natives were equally ignorant of English. It was proper to expose those errors; but the misfortune of the matter was this, that when an individual like himself endeavoured to shew the atrocity of such measures, he was scouted as a malignant leveller, or a self-interested reptile, at least; and, as he had before remarked, he ran no small risk of a horse-whipping, for telling the truth. But he would take care of those gentlemen with whips—that was his look-out. Every dog had his day; and, as the world went, the radical dogs appeared likely to have their day; for the *MacSycophants* of the Holy Alliance were now branding one of the cabinet ministers, as the arch-radical of Europe. The Hon. Company themselves adorned the list of radical reformers; they were the greatest levellers and reformers in the world, and he would prove it. Since the time when they first went to India, they had effectually levelled the aristocracy of that country—they had razed it to the ground; and, he must confess, with the greatest possible advantage to many millions of subjects who were now under their dominion. *(Hear!)* For he was perfectly sure, from the experience which he had had in India, that the people of that country were in a much worse situation under the native aristocracy than they were under the Company's management. *(Hear!)*—This must ever be the case, provided their administration of the affairs of India was founded on justice, and that high sense of honour, which should fill the breast of every conqueror, though the history of the world proved that such principles were not unfrequently forgotten. They had the physical force of the natives at their command; let them, in addition, do every thing that tended to win their hearts; and they might rest assured that the people of India would not desert the interests of the Company in any emergency. Even that engine, which was lately considered so dangerous, he meant a free press in India, began to be viewed with a less hostile eye. He was perfectly convinced, if the press were placed on the same footing in India as it was in England, that, instead of doing the Company mischief, it would, on the contrary, effect great good. A recent lamentable event would not have occurred, had a free press existed. Government would have been told that unpleasant circumstances had happened; murmurings, where there was any ground of complaint, would have gone abroad; and means would have been taken to avert mischief. He was sorry that, when he last spoke on this melancholy

lancholy subject, he had misrepresented an individual, the interpreter who acted on that occasion. He had since been told, that the interpreter had nothing to do with the business—that the parties confessed their guilt—and that, therefore, no blame could be attached to him. What, however, he really meant to say was, that the origin of the mischief arose from the conduct of the individual officially connected with the battalion, in not explaining to the men the necessity of submission, and the impossibility of Government doing more than they had done. He thought, therefore, he had a right to assume that there was some defect here. With proper care, he conceived, the catastrophe might have been prevented; for he knew, that though the natives were, in some instances, precipitate, yet they became tractable if coolly reasoned with. He was himself, at one time, in a district, in the midst of riotous ryots, and one of them even had his sword lifted for the purpose of cutting him down. At that moment he called on the enraged native to desist, and he immediately obeyed; he then heard what the people had to complain of—the grievance was at once redressed, and quietness was restored. He felt quite sure that much mischief, nay, that bloodshed was caused, in consequence of the general ignorance of the native language under which Europeans laboured. [The learned member then quoted some passages from a panegyric on the Duke of York, subjoining some reflections, at which the impatience of the court was manifested by loud coughing and stamping.] If (continued the learned proprietor) gentlemen imagine that they can, by this noise, prevent me from going on, they never were more mistaken in their lives.

Mr. S. Dixon—"It is all approbation."
—(A laugh.)

Dr. Gilchrist cared not whether it was approbation or disapprobation; but, till he was called to order by the Hon. Chairman, there he would stand.—(He then proceeded to comment on the acts of the departed Duke.)

An Hon. Proprietor (amidst much noise).—"I rise to order. Nothing but the patience and loyalty of this court could have allowed gentlemen to listen so long to matters, which have nothing to do with the question before us."

Dr. Gilchrist contended, that what he was now stating had the nearest connection with the subject under discussion. He was shewing the proprietors that even a late royal Duke was a reformer, and discountenanced abuses wherever he found them. This, he thought, was giving the Company a good lesson in the very highest school which the country could afford.

Mr. Pattison.—"I have taken the chair only for a moment, in the temporary ab-

sence of the Chairman. Placed in this situation, I must say, that I think it would be better if the learned proprietor would abstain from these irrelevant topics, and confine himself to the question before the court. The sooner he gets back to the real subject of debate the better." (Hear!)

Dr. Gilchrist said, there was one subject connected with this day's business on which he must say a few words. It had cost him six long weeks before he could get nine names signed to the requisition, which had caused the proprietors to be called together. Various were the excuses made by different gentlemen to whom he had applied. One said, "do you think I would cut my own throat by putting my name down, and thus offending the directors?" Another declined on account of the expense. Now he did not know what expense was alluded to. If it were for refreshments, he certainly did not participate in them. All the expense he put the Company to was for a glass of water. Some other gentlemen declined signing, on account of the supposed responsibility of the subscribers for the matter sent forth. Others disliked to appear lest they might be considered ringleaders of reform—and some pleaded ignorance of the subject. In short, any specious subterfuge from the frown of the powers that be was resorted to. Some of the special pleaders, who advocated the cause of the Court of Directors, would probably in the course of this very debate get up and assert, that those who refused to sign the propositions, did so because they considered them unreasonable and absurd. So far, however, from that being the fact, not a man to his knowledge dissented from the justice or expediency of a single measure proposed. They refused, because, as they stated, they did not choose to come forward as part of a forlorn hope. But a forlorn hope might be successful at last; it might be useful in storming a battery of error, or making a breach in any strong hold, where corruption might chance to exist. He feared, however, that the great body of proprietors of that court were looking up for favours to be disposed of by the gentlemen behind the bar; and, therefore, they were more lax in their efforts for the general benefit than they would otherwise have been. Some proprietors, he believed, had absolutely received favours—and were, of course, so bound and fettered in the adamantine chains of gratitude, that they could not oppose their benefactors. Gratitude, he admitted, was a beautiful virtue, but, if it led to servility, it became a vice. The learned proprietor proceeded to observe, that he had been described by some persons as mad. And in what did his madness consist? It consisted in doing that which no other man in the court would endeavour

endeavour to do. He had spent ten years of his life, and laid out £10,000, in acquiring a thorough insight into the native languages. He had worn a long black beard, black whiskers, and mustachios; he had blackened his hair, and changed his European appearance as much as he possibly could; and this he did, in order that he might go more freely amongst the people, and thus acquire a proper knowledge of their language. He knew very well, that if he published a book on the subject, inquiry would be naturally made as to the author; and, if it were ascertained, that the volume was the work of a young man, it would as naturally be observed, "what can he know about the matter?" Therefore, he adopted that course which was most likely to impress individuals with the feeling that he was competent to the difficult task, which, at an early period, he had commenced in India. He had also been called a fool; and some of those whom he asked to sign the requisition said, "do you think I am such a fool as to come forward for the public good—I had best take care of myself." Now, if folly consisted in not possessing what was called "worldly wisdom," then perhaps he was a fool:—for he despised worldly wisdom; he was not haunted by any such narrow principle; he had none of it in his composition. But it was lucky for him, while he was described as mad or foolish, that no man had reason to point at him as a knave. He believed his character was so far removed from what was called knavery, that no human being could taunt him with any feeling of that kind. He had before stated, that the Court of Directors were the greatest egotists that ever existed, and now he would add, that they were also the most consummate *nostrumists* in the world. They possessed the nostrum of self-election (he meant the house-list), by which they continued themselves in office as long as they pleased.

Mr. Gahagan, to order—"I appeal to you, Mr. Chairman, to stop this extraordinary deviation. What the election of directors has to do with teaching Hindoostanee, I really cannot conceive."—(Hear!)

The Chairman—"I perfectly agree with the hon. gent. as to the irregularity of the speech of the learned proprietor.—(Hear!) I will venture to say, that there has not been a sentence pronounced by the learned proprietor, since he got on his feet, that has touched the subject which the court is assembled to discuss. In the situation in which I am placed, I feel myself under an obligation to devote my time and attention, without any feeling of impatience, to the remarks which gentlemen may think fit to offer. I am very unwilling to interrupt any proprietor, but I am extremely

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sorry that there should have been inflicted on the proprietors the severe punishment with which the learned gent. has visited them.—(Hear!) I must repeat, that from the commencement of his speech, he has not said one word applicable to the proposition which he has introduced.—(Hear!) And really, without meaning to give offence, I would, as a friend and an individual much interested in the regularity of the proceedings of this court, recommend to the learned proprietor not to tire the patience of his auditory, but to come to the point at once.—(Hear!) There has been a complaint made, and I think very justly, that gentlemen were frequently wearied by long deviations from the subject proposed for discussion; and that, in consequence, the court on such occasions becomes extremely thin, when the merits of a question come to be decided on.—(Hear!) I wish those merits to be decided in a court as full as possible, but I cannot expect that gentlemen will attend for the purpose of giving their votes on the merits of a question, when the whole day is consumed with matter which has no relevancy to it."—(Hear!)

Dr. Gilchrist said, he was about to shew, that but for the system of self-election, much more would have been done for the general benefit of the Company than had been done, or could be done while that system existed. And he took this opportunity of declaring, that at the very first election, even though he were left alone, he would, if no better person offered, endeavour to make a breach in that system of self-election. He would do so, even if there were not a single vote for him.—(Disapprobation.) He was determined that every revolving year, while he lived, should witness a reiterated blow from one battering-ram against that self-built house of Jericho, which had already too long existed as a mere prescriptive imposition on the proprietors. At large, who, by a few manly efforts in self-defence, would soon open a practical breach for the common good of every independent stockholder.—(Considerable uproar.) He certainly thought it was better to tell the directors his intention to their faces; instead of keeping it concealed from them. He now came to his first proposition, which might now be deliberately entertained without giving the smallest offence to their own executive representatives: the question here being, whether this species of knowledge should be procured at home or abroad. It might be said, that they were not a deliberative court; that assertion he denied, and when they had an opportunity for deliberation, they were bound to deliberate, and to state their opinions, as forcibly as they could, to the executive body. The point in dispute was this, whether it was better to learn the Hindoostanee language in this country or in India. On that ques-

tion he would endeavour to throw some light, which light should be extracted from other persons besides himself; persons who had no interest in stating their opinion, as they had honestly done. At a meeting which took place some time since, of what was called "the Language Institution in aid of the Propagation of Christianity," Lord Bexley, he believed, being in the chair, the following opinions were delivered on this subject: the Rev. Professor Lee was of opinion, that the rudiments of any foreign language could be acquired as well, and even better, in this country, than any where else, even where it is currently spoken. And the reasons were, first, the difficulty of understanding a native teacher before you know something of his language; and that something therefore would, at all events, be better acquired first from one of your own countrymen. Secondly, the difficulty of acquiring the technicalities of grammar in the Oriental tongues, in which they are so much more intricate and perplexing, especially to beginners, who very imperfectly understand these languages. He himself knew an instance of a gentleman, who, with all his industry, and the aid of native teachers in India, took twelve months to acquire the syllabication of the Sanscrit, though the same thing might, under a proper system, be acquired in England in a few weeks. Thirdly, a more rapid progress could be made here from philology and the philosophy of language being better understood in England, where a better mode of teaching was consequently practised. And so many persons from abroad had now brought home the true pronunciation of the Oriental tongues to this country, that no difficulty need any longer be felt on that head. Here also the climate is favourable to a vigorous prosecution of study, as much as that of India is against it. Here, where copies of every useful work can soon be multiplied by the press, the diligent student has extensive libraries at command; whereas, abroad, books are thinly scattered, and difficult to reach."—W. H. Trant, Esq., "strongly felt the great importance of young men, about to proceed to India, being made acquainted with the languages, customs, and opinions of the people among whom they are going; that they may not, from ignorance, shock their prejudices, outrage their feelings, or commit any of those excesses or improprieties, which, with a more perfect knowledge of their character and of their speech, would be avoided."—The Rev. H. Townley stated, "that the Brahmans, who are usually had recourse to, as native teachers or pundits in India, take no care whatever to teach their pupils properly. To flatter them, and render themselves agreeable by their complaisance, so as to retain their situations, and draw their salaries;

is the object of these obsequious teachers. They would rather applaud their pupil in an error than contradict or correct him; so that to make sure of their doing their duty faithfully, it is necessary to err occasionally on purpose, in order to shame them if they do not correct the mistake. He was enabled to state some remarkable instances which had lately occurred, of the advantage of studying the Eastern language in this country. Letters had been received from Bengal, respecting Mr. and Miss Befard, in which the other Missionaries, who are the writers, say, that their knowledge of the languages had completely astonished all of them. Such was the proficiency of these two individuals, that in two months after their arrival in the country, they were able to open schools for instructing native children. Thus they were able almost immediately to turn their talents to account, instead of wasting a long period in that climate, acquiring the proper qualifications. But if they had not been taught *here* previous to their departure, on their arrival in India they would have found themselves afflicted with three great diseases—deafness, dumbness, blindness, or what is equivalent to it, they could not have understood what they heard; they could not have deciphered what they saw, when native books were presented to them; and they could not have spoken so as to be understood by the people they went to teach. Instead of teaching they would have consumed their time, and wasted their health, in learning what they might have learned at home. Among other advantages of studying the Oriental languages in Europe, it inspired the minds of the students with an ardent desire to visit the countries where they are spoken, and to commune with the people. Had not the Tamil language been taught in Germany, the pious labours of Swartz would have been lost to the world. Young men felt their hearts gladdened, and encouraged to go forth, by knowing that they possessed the elements of the language and would be able to address a native audience." The Rev. Gent. farther argued in favour of the elements of the Oriental languages being taught at home, because that preparatory knowledge enabled individuals to prosecute their studies during the long voyage to India. He also observed, that able tuition in several of the Eastern languages might be procured in this country, and expressed his opinion, that those who were *beginning* the study of the Oriental languages, would make a more rapid progress under an English, than a native instructor. Here, then (continued Dr. Gilchrist), were the opinions of a body of most intelligent men—persons of the highest reputation and character for learning and moral worth—decidedly in favour of the principle which he defended.

fended. Indeed those opinions were so entirely accordant with his own, that he almost supposed that his spirit had inspired the gentlemen who delivered their sentiments before the "Language Institution." He would next call the attention of the court to a letter which he had received from one of his pupils, who was now serving in India. He held the original of that letter in his hand, and any gentleman was welcome to inspect it, after he had torn off the name of the writer; because he was unwilling to be the instrument of doing mischief to any man. He made this observation, because, on a former occasion, an illiberal attempt was made in that court (when he had no right to be present) to charge him with the fabrication of similar epistles. This accusation he had ever denied, did now deny, and would continue to deny, while he lived. He never fabricated a letter in his life; and he who made the accusation did so when he was not so well acquainted with his (Dr. Gilchrist's) character, as he now was. The suspicion was quite unworthy of those who harboured it; and, though he had powerful motives for pardoning the offence, it was one which he could not forget.—This circumstance, connected with another not less reprehensible, the actor in which was a member of the executive body, induced him to become a proprietor; because he was at all times able and willing to look friend or foe boldly in the face. (The learned proprietor then read the letter referred to.) He had here adduced two species of evidence in support of the propriety of acquiring the rudiments of the Oriental tongues at home—the former furnished in England, the latter coming from India; and, by referring to the two, they certainly might arrive at the truth. He well knew the character of the young man who had written the letter which he had just read, and he was certain that he would scorn to state any thing which he did not believe; for he (Dr. Gilchrist) had made it a rule, in all his lectures to his pupils, to teach them not to pin their faith on the sleeve of any man; not even to give credit to what he himself told them, unless they were convinced that it was founded in fact. With respect to the second proposition, he thought it was indispensably necessary, for the security of British India, that candidates for official appointments should, before their nomination by the Court of Directors, acquire at least the elements of the language spoken by the people amongst whom they were going to reside. It could not be asserted that such instruction was not attainable in England. There were, on the contrary, many places in this country, where the elements of the Oriental languages could be acquired. It might be said, that the pleasures of the metropolis would prevent them from making

any progress; but they had an antidote at hand, which would effectually counteract that danger. If rigid examinations were instituted, if rigid tests were exacted, if young men, before they received their appointments, were obliged to answer satisfactorily, such a system would remove every reasonable ground of fear. Amongst other establishments which he hoped would soon be opened for the study of the Oriental languages, was the London University. He trusted that a professorship of the Oriental languages would form a part of the institution. (The learned proprietor then proceeded to eulogize certain societies and individuals.)

Mr. Rigby—"I rise to order. I beg leave to observe, that the learned proprietor is consuming, most uselessly, the time of the court; his speech is rather an advertisement for different academies, where persons may learn the Oriental languages, than an argument on the question we have been convened to discuss; the whole forenoon, which is very important to many gentlemen present, has been consumed to no purpose. (*Hear!*) I appeal to you, Sir, to put an end to this irregularity, if the feelings of the learned proprietor himself will not prompt him to do so."—(*Hear!*)

Col. L. Stanhope—"I conceive that the hon. proprietor who spoke last is himself out of order, in interrupting the learned doctor; who, however devious he may have been in the beginning of the discussion, is now speaking directly to the point; which was, whether Oriental instruction can, or cannot, be procured in this country?"

Mr. S. Dixon—"I think the learned proprietor is perfectly in order; for how are we to know where those great advantages are to be found in this country, if the learned proprietor does not tell us? I think we ought to thank him for his information."

The Chairman—"I am of opinion that the hon. proprietor in this instance is not out of order, and for this reason:—one of the objections taken to the proposition, which he has brought forward is, the difficulty of obtaining, in this country, the instruction which he recommends; and he is now arguing, and endeavouring to shew that the necessary facilities do exist. Although, therefore, I am anxious that the learned proprietor should arrive, as early as he can, at a conclusion; yet I cannot say that, in this instance, he is out of order."

Dr. Gilchrist thanked the hon. Chairman for his decision.—Young men were at present, it was said, sent out to India, without any Oriental knowledge, on account of the impossibility of procuring instruction in this country. Now he was arguing that such instruction might easily be commanded. There were various seminaries

in the vicinity of the metropolis, and in different parts of the country, where the elements of the Oriental languages were taught. He had received a letter from Lord Robert Kerr, who was intimately connected with the "Scottish Military Academy," which had been recently established in Edinburgh; and he was proud in the opportunity of informing Scotchmen, resident in London, that, in the capital of their native city, there was an institution, where every description of knowledge might be acquired.—(The learned gentleman then began to dilate upon the mode of instruction at this academy.)

The *Chairman*.—"The learned proprietor will allow me to say, that this is very much in the nature of an advertisement. (*Hear!*) If he confined himself to stating, that the Oriental languages were taught at this particular institution, he would have been in order; but he is certainly out of order when he reads an entire prospectus." (*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* was sorry that he had been out of order. After some further remarks upon the same academy, and upon the London University, the hon. proprietor came to his third proposition. He was very well aware of various objections that might be made to it, but he was nevertheless prepared to answer the whole of them. Every one must be convinced, that it was much for the safety of all states, rather to prevent than to punish crime; and it was certainly melancholy to contemplate the number of assaults, homicides, and murders, which had been occasioned in India, from inability to speak to the people, or to comprehend what they said. To shew what mistakes an European, who went out to India, in a civil, military, or mercantile capacity, without a knowledge of the language, was likely to commit, he would state what had occurred to himself; and he hoped they would take it on the veracity of a man, who would scorn to tell a lie. He had not been long in India, when a native, who was then his servant, used language which, in his (Dr. G.'s) ignorance, he was led to think disrespectful. He asked the servant, *Kis ne kiya?* "Who did it?" and the man answered, *Tere glotam ne hiya*, "Thy slave did the deed;" which, as a species of *tutoyer* (for so he viewed it), he resented, by giving the poor fellow such a blow as felled him on the ground, as flat as a flounder, and dead as a herring. (*Laughter.*) He here, through ignorance (for the expression was the very reverse of disrespectful), ran the risk of being found guilty of manslaughter or murder. He immediately bled the man, and he was very happy when he saw him come to himself. He ultimately recovered, but he continued to spit blood for some time. This he acknowledged as one of his sins of ignorance. No gentleman,

he was convinced, could go to India ignorant of the language, without, in a very short time, reaping the fruits of that ignorance, in a way similar to that which he himself had done. They would very soon find out, that what he now said was founded in fact. But it might be alleged, that if this proposition were carried, it would be the means of throwing an additional expense on free merchants and free mariners going out to India, which they could not well bear; that it would be imposing a fresh burden, where one already existed. He was ready to admit, that this class of persons, if men of good character, and especially if they had acquired a knowledge of the native languages, ought to be encouraged, instead of being depressed. But surely the expense of £10 in money (which would procure instruction in the elements of the language), and a few weeks of time, could be no object to the free merchant, who could afford £30, on account of papers and fees at the India-House; and who was, at the same time, obliged to give £2000 security for his proper conduct while resident in British India. Such initiatory studies might ultimately save the individual concerned, as well as the government, from a great deal of needless misery and trouble, for months and years afterwards. Even the free mariners, who paid only £3 for their indenture, and gave £500 security, would be great gainers by learning rudimental Hindoostanee in England. Information of this description would prevent those who had acquired it from coming in collision with the constituted authorities, which, in the absence of that species of knowledge, they were very likely to do. No one who considered the subject could, he thought, object to the propriety of the free merchant's acquiring a certain knowledge of the popular language, when it was recollected that he was going to settle in the interior of the country. It might be argued, that the popular language of India, strictly speaking, was not Hindoostanee, because there were a variety of provincial dialects in that empire. He admitted that the Hindoostanee language, though general, was not universal; neither, be it observed, was the English language universal in the three kingdoms. They had various dialects in these countries: the Gaelic, the Erse, the Welsh, the Manx, &c., but the English was the predominant language; and, therefore, those who argued against learning Hindoostanee, because there were other dialects in India, might just as well say, that because there were different dialects in this country, there was no use in studying the English language, for the purpose of enabling a man to pursue any profession to which he might wish to devote his attention. A knowledge of the Hindoostanee, however, made the acquirement of the other languages

guages comparatively easy; and he could produce letters from India, which proved, that gentlemen who went out with what he called an analytic, synthetic, and inductive knowledge of the Hindoostanee, were able, in three months after, to learn the Bengallee, or any other dialect with which they came in contact. If, therefore, any man proceeding to India with an elementary knowledge of the Hindoostanee, could, in so short a time, master any of the provincial dialects, did it not clearly substantiate the necessity of receiving, at home, that preliminary instruction, which he wished to be extended to all the Company's servants, civil and military; and to all those who, as free merchants or free mariners, visited our eastern territories? He here begged leave to refer to a book which had lately been published, to shew the necessity of individuals, connected with particular professions in Ireland, studying the Irish language, which was generally spoken amongst the peasantry of that country. It was there especially recommended, that the Irish judges should cultivate the native tongue; and it was stated that one of them had done so, to prevent him, in forming a judgment on any case, from depending wholly upon an interpreter. This was a wise and prudent recommendation; and, if such a precaution were considered necessary in Ireland, how much more necessary was its adoption in England? He would now proceed to the fourth proposition, which had, in some degree, been already anticipated, but not, in his view of the case, notified properly to this court, according to promise. They were, therefore, still so far in the dark at present. In noticing the course of examination which had been laid down for young men, not educated at Haileybury, he would rather extract the statement from their own authorised publication, "*The East-India Register*," than from any other; but, as it was there a long story, and as they were all in the habit of reading that book, he might perhaps be allowed to give a more brief version of it, selected from another quarter, as follows:—"Those who have not studied at Haileybury," which is no longer a *sine quâ non*, "being to undergo an examination by two professors from Oxford or Cambridge, specially appointed for that purpose, the following are the prescribed tests of proficiency by which their acquirements are to be tried; and it is necessary to premise, that in these a *maximum* and a *minimum* is fixed, the latter being indispensably necessary; but those who prove themselves to be possessed of the greater, being entitled to rank higher on the list of appointments. **MAXIMUM: Greek.** To read some of the works of Homer, Herodotus, Demosthenes, or a Greek play.—**Latin.** Part of Juvenal, Tacitus, Livy, and Cicero.—**History.** Rus-

sell's Modern Europe, and Paley's Evidences of Christianity.—**Science.** Arithmetic, Algebra, Plane Trigonometry, Logarithms, Mechanics, the four first and sixth books of Euclid's Geometry.—**General Reading.** History, Geography, and Philosophy.—**Oriental Literature.** Hindoostanee and Persian languages. These, however, being quite voluntary, and not strictly required even in the *maximum*, though it will be considered as raising the candidate a step higher in the order of merit.—**MINIMUM:** To read the Greek Testament, and possess a competent knowledge of, at least, two of the Greek and Latin authors, Elements of Arithmetic and Algebra, including Simple Equations." Now it did not follow that he or others despised classical learning, when they asked to what good end so much of it was required in this instance? Why, he wished to know, were they so anxious to cram the minds of the young men going out to India with such a quantity of Greek and Latin, while (and most extraordinary was the fact) not a word was said about acquirements in their own language? What was the use of all this classical learning he could not conceive, unless it was intended to enable a game cock, a captain at Harrow, or some *rara avis* of Westminster, to play off occasionally a set of lofty airs on Virgil's Æolian harp, nay, something still worse perhaps from the pastoral reed of that bard, or the seductive notes from Anacreon's polluted lyre, which are more congenial with the classic ground of Greece and Rome, than with the purer soil of Old England, whose mother tongue was undoubtedly the very best language in the world for all the purposes of useful knowledge, beneficial science, and salutary arts. He was quite sure, that many of the young men, who were sent out with a sufficient store of classical learning, could not answer grammatical questions in their vernacular tongue; and well convinced he was, that those who were so situated could not make an efficient progress in any other language. Washington, a general whose name and whose achievements were well known to them all, understood no language but English; and did he, on that account, act worse as a statesman or a soldier? No; through him America obtained her liberty, and became possessed of all those great advantages which she at present enjoyed. If, then, Washington could thus go forward, without Greek or Latin, and the Lord knows what, he could see no reason for cramming these young men with those languages. Washington managed, through the means of the English tongue alone, to launch a Yankee harpoon at his scholastic opponent, John Bull, who once ventured to send forth this boasting line, "*Luceo discedens aucto splendore resurgam.*" The

poor

poor animal was stricken by the uncouth instrument; and it may be said, "*Hæret latere adhuc lethalis arundo.*" So much for mere legitimate literature, weighed in the scale against common sense, and the skilful application of sterling English to all the ordinary and extraordinary concerns of life. While he was speaking on this topic, he would ask, whether there was any thing in the Greek and Latin authors, worthy of being translated, that had not appeared in an English dress? That question, he believed, must be answered in the negative. He thought it would have been desirable, if the noble prize, given by Mr. Wynn, to be contended for by the Westminster students (a prize worth £5000), had been allotted as the reward of the best English scholars. For his own part, he thought that those who were well skilled in their own language always turned out to be the most useful members of society; and, indeed, he had often observed, that the more Greek and Latin a man had, the less was he remarkable for common sense. (*Disapprobation.*) Long experience, and some late experiments had convinced him, that the *as in præsentis*, with similar antiquated dogmas, often made learned doctors perfect asses, in *perpetuo*; and the number of beardless young boys, with brainless old ones, whom, for eight years past, he had known under that title, made him most anxious to *undoctor* himself, and to become what he wished to be considered, rather a plain honest member of that court, than an honourable limb of any profession upon earth; because every step which he took in the acquisition of real knowledge, served but to convince him of his own real ignorance, and that the epithet "learned doctor," applied to him, was a palpable misnomer; almost as equivocal as "professor," on which, some years ago, at his expense, one of their arch-directors cracked a few good jokes in that court. He and that hon. gentleman were, thank God! more on a par with each other at present; and, in the genuine spirit of grateful benignity, he should try to return him a Roland for his Oliver any day that they might both laugh and get fat together; for all idea of malignity, on this old score, never was once harboured in his breast. He perceived that, amongst the Latin books in which the young men were to be examined, Juvenal was mentioned. He should be glad to know of what use a knowledge of Juvenal could be to a youth going out to India? Let the court hear and mark what was the character of Juvenal's writings: "He spoke with virulence against the partiality of Nero for the pantomime, Paris; and though all his satire and declamation was pointed against this ruling favourite of the emperor, yet Juvenal lived in security during the reign

of Nero. He is particularly severe upon the vice and dissipation of the age he lived in; but the gross and indecent manner in which he exposed to ridicule the follies of mankind, rather encourages than disarms the debauched and licentious. He wrote with acrimony against all his adversaries, and whatever displeased or offended him, was exposed to his severest censure." Now he would maintain that this was a book which ought not to be placed in the hands of young men just starting for such a country as India. The test which the Hon. Directors had provided for the young men, included, in the *minimum*, a competent knowledge of at least two of the Greek and Latin authors; but their proficiency in English was wholly overlooked, neither was there a word said about Oriental studies. There was, as he conceived, a most glaring absurdity in sending out youths to fill the places of consuls, pro-consuls, prators, quæstors, satraps, &c. in Hindoostan, without the least proof that they knew either the current speech of that region, or even their own, upon rational principles. He could speak from ample experience on both heads; and he must honestly observe, that juvenile deficiency, in English, was almost incredible, when compared with their seeming proficiency in classic lore. To a *utilitarian*, as he was, the *minimum* in the dead languages was more than enough; when it could easily be demonstrated that a boy, who might stammer tolerably well through the Greek Testament, would cut a very lame figure if fairly examined in our vernacular version of it. To history, science, and general reading, as they now stood, no reasonable being could object, provided the examinations were publicly conducted in that court, and every proprietor was at liberty to ask a few questions of the probationers, prior to any nomination whatever. He believed that a knowledge of the principles of grammar was also included in the test. He was pleased with this, because there was something like common sense about it; and perhaps the Court of Directors would explain to him, whether this part of the test applied to the English language, or merely to the Greek and Latin. He should be glad, if some of the gentlemen to whom the concoction of the test had been entrusted, would give some information on this point, in which they were all interested. Things of this kind ought not to be settled in holes and corners; because, if they were done openly, they would be done efficiently. If this part of the test applied to the Greek and Latin only, there was little use in it; but, if it referred to the English it would undoubtedly be beneficial. It did, however, seem to him that many gentlemen thought there was something in the word "English,"

not

not learned nor dignified enough for their elevated views. The calculations connected with the *fifth* proposition, were rather hypothetical than strictly correct. This arose from various accounts connected with this branch of the subject having been refused, when moved for last year by his hon. friend, Mr. Hume. Those calculations could not, however, be very far wrong, when they adverted to the handsome salaries, pensions, board, house-rent, tea, sugar, and sundries, assigned to the whole body of Orientalists, attached to the Company's two colleges, the visitor, and native teachers included; also their contingent printing charges, with sums advanced on the publication of various works, in first, second, or third editions, to a considerable amount; wear and tear, interest of capital sunk, with a fair proportion of salaries to the principal and other high functionaries at both establishments. When all these items were enumerated, with the cost of each, £8,000 per annum would rather fall below the actual expense than rise above it. It was right here to observe, that he confined himself entirely to the Oriental department. He did not include the charges in the Latin and Greek department. After all, if he had erred on either side of the question, the blame lay at the door of this court, which negatived seasonable information on those points. True, the Company, it would be asserted, did not defray this Oriental burden, as it was shifted to the pupil's shoulders, which was almost robbing Peter to pay Paul. It was a needless imposition by one-half; and for what? Why, to send out, in the course of twenty years, a score of embryo pundits or Musluwees, with perhaps an equal number of practical Linguists and Orientalists in the same period of time; which, if his reckoning were just, would have cost the Company, or somebody else, the round sum of £160,000! for so moderate a share of Orientalism alone, viz. twenty profound scholars, and twenty practicalists, at home; independent probably of the expenditure abroad on this very account, of more or less, as circumstances, *pro tempore* there, might require. He suspected, if the whole expenditure were looked to, that it would not be much under £320,000; for (they might grant) the creation, ultimately of 200 to 300 Eastern literati or colloquists at most; of whom nearly 100 had been with him, for he kept his doors open to all. Many of his 1,600 pupils, it was true, were rather covenanted subjects, than servants of the Company; but every body would allow, that their ability to converse with the natives was, is, and ever would be, "a consummation devoutly to be wished." He would now address himself to the *sixth*, and last proposition, on which little need

be said, beyond recommending that certain reasonable tests should be first required (to enable any one to receive an appointment), that such tactical, philological, scientific, classical, moral, or local knowledge must be brought to the place of examination, at certain fixed periods; without any restrictions as to particular seminaries; and if found existing, to be received accordingly. It certainly was of no consequence, whether a man brought the requisite portion of information, classical, scientific, military, or naval, from London, Dublin, or Edinburgh. If the classical knowledge of the candidate was similar to that acquired in Scotland, or Ireland, so much the better; because the Greek and Latin Languages were pronounced in Scotland and Ireland in a way much nearer to the manner in which they were spoken on the Continent, than they were in England. He therefore would hail those who were thus taught, as the best classical scholars. Where an individual could not speak the languages of the continent, it frequently became necessary for him to converse in Latin; and even that resource must fail, unless the language was properly pronounced. It happened, at the conclusion of the Duke of Marlborough's wars, that an Englishman, a Scotchman, and a German, met at a place in Germany. The Englishman, addressing the German, said, "*suntne omnia pacata in Germania?*" but he pronounced the *a* in *pacata*, so as to make the word sound like the substantive *pacata*, instead of the passive participle of *paco*. The German, supposing him to have asked, "are not all the *sins* in Germany?" answered, "*nulla sunt peccata in Germania—sed spero non omnia*;" there are many sins in Germany—but I hope not all sins. Sandy, however, pronounced the word properly, and there ended the dispute. It fortunately happened, that the regulation which he wished to have carried into effect, with respect to probationary test, was, to a certain degree, observed before any youth could be admitted at Haileybury or Addiscombe. Whence there were numerous instances of rejection, not only once, but even a second time, after an interval of several months. There were, however, two glaring defects in the existing system of exclusion and admission. First, the examination was not sufficiently solemn, deliberate, and public. If these things were done in holes and corners, they could not be expected to produce the desired effect; but, if the examination was prosecuted in an open, straightforward manner, in the hearing of all who were interested in the business—in a short time the system would be found perfectly efficient. He could not conceive why such an examination should not take place before young men

men were sent out to India. Medical men, before they were allowed to practice, were obliged to undergo an examination at Surgeon's Hall; and he recollected, that, when he went there, he took care to prepare himself properly. The second defect was, that little, if any thing, was ever asked about the candidate's proficiency in his mother tongue; without which, he would affirm, that it was next to impossible he could ever make, during his juvenile days, a rapid, efficient progress, as a rational creature, in any Oriental or Occidental language, however profound he might be, memorially, in Greek or Latin. He really believed, that if the sisters of some of those young men went out instead of their brothers, they would, as English scholars, throw the latter into the shade. He would now briefly advert to his own 1600 students, who might be thus classed:—in the first class, 239; second class, 204; third class, 269; fourth class, 400; fifth class, 221; sixth class, 216; and in a class of which he could make neither head nor tail, in truth, he did not know how to place them, nine. The great majority of the junior proficient in this last were civilians, cavalry cadets, relatives of directors and aristocrats, or wealthy people. Of the whole 1600, ninety-eight were civilians, 482 assistant-surgeons, 857 cadets, thirty-two King's officers, forty-seven free-merchants and lawyers, six chaplains, and thirty-six equivocal. From the above number, including the Company's servants alone, 242 had been appointed to responsible situations, viz. fifty-seven interpreters, and 185 staff, and other situations, where a knowledge of the language appeared essential; and had not a particular order been sent by the Directors to India, to prevent any officer holding such posts, until the expiration of two or three years after his arrival, he felt perfectly convinced that, by this time, his students would have enjoyed at least 334 among them. In one point of view, the regulation to which he had alluded was excellent. The not allowing individuals to take office until some time after their arrival in India was a very proper rule; but all rules (and this of course) were subject to exception. The object of the regulation was to prevent the eldest officers, when returning to commands in India, with their young sons or relatives, from making them their *aides-de-camp*, &c. very soon after landing; which practice was, of necessity, a great annoyance to the senior subalterns; who, *ceteris paribus*, had the best right to such windfalls in the service—and the executive court so far wisely put a stop to that practice. This, however, he understood was considered as encroaching too much on the military patronage; and, therefore, the pe-

riod had, with respect to military appointments, been since shortened to one year; but the interdict, with respect to interpretership, was suffered to remain in full force. It sometimes happened, however, that state cobblers, like common tinkers, often mended one bad hole, while they made another much worse in its stead; and so it turned out in this instance. This fact he should thus illustrate:—the moment he found that the old interpreters were all to be examined *de novo*, at Bengal, it naturally struck him that the same rule would pervade the two other presidencies, and hence he concluded, that there soon would be a number of vacant interpreterships, from conscious inability to stand the menaced trial, or the mere risk of rejection for incapacity, after having previously enjoyed the office for some years. His expectations were at once communicated to his pupils, and this hope stimulated many of them to the most active exertion. The result for a while was quite visible; but so soon as they afterwards heard, that the proposed regulations never were carried into effect, and that two previous years were required in India to qualify them to hold any office whatever, a general apathy succeeded, and hard study was given up in despair of doing the smallest service, in the teeth of the two very discouraging events just stated, which never till then he could have anticipated. Young men who went out to India, after being instructed by him, and who expected to be employed immediately, on finding that the term of two years must first elapse, grew careless. They said, "we will enjoy our horses and dogs during these two years, and never mind the language;" and they seldom got rid of the feeling of apathy and carelessness which was thus generated. That the probation of two years in India, without the chance of gaining an interpretership, (which several of his first students obtained there in a few months), would damp the ardour of youth so situated, nobody could deny, especially when it was known, that numbers of them, by fagging hard in London and during the voyage, had reached their destinations with more colloquial and grammatical acquirements, in both Hindoostanee and Persian than most of their senior officers, not excepting some who had been interpreters for years. Now to keep such youths, if ready for examination, out of functions they were thus able and willing to execute, and to retain their seniors in them, who, after long experience, would not or could not submit to the pending trial proposed by the Commander-in-chief, was the very worst plan which could have been adopted by the directors to encourage the general study of the native tongues, either in the United Kingdom or the Asiatic peninsula. It

It might be said, that what he had just stated rested solely on his own unsupported assertion; but, in support of his statement, he would call in the authority of Capt. M'Naghten, an individual whom he never saw, and of whom he knew very little, but who had been kind enough to send him a book which he had published in India, from which he would read an extract. That extract would fully bear out what he had already said, namely, that the supposed aptitude for studying the Oriental languages in India was a complete deception, an argument founded in falsehood, and which could not stand. If India were a good place for studying Hindoostanee efficiently, how did it happen that the Bengal artillery corps, all educated at Addiscombe, could hardly produce a single candidate for an interpretership? The following extract from a communication made to him proved this fact: "After the public promulgation in general orders, of an artillery interpretership's existence, six weeks elapsed before any candidate applied to execute the duties required in such an office; and when this at last took place, there being no other competition, one officer was nominated, rather on the slender plea that he would forthwith strive to qualify himself, than that he actually knew any thing of the Hindoostanee tongue. His immediate success was the result of necessity alone, without another particle of official merit, or private interest, having operated in his behalf." The infantry were nearly as deficient, on the promulgation of general orders, few, if any, having come forward for examination on that occasion. Capt. M'Naghten, in his *Annotations on the Mutiny Act*, thus expressed himself:—"Our regular body of interpreters is an establishment, I believe, *sui generis*; and one, consequently, the duties of whose members, or their qualifications, have never been considered by any military writer. They were formed into a component part of our military establishment, shortly after the arrival of the Marquis of Hastings; and, as is usual on such occasions, the order which gave them being was so drawn up, that from merit alone, as evinced by extraordinary proficiency in Eastern literature, might any candidate look forward to success. But it soon became otherwise; and perhaps this was unavoidable, though the effect of the visible influence of interest, in its competition with desert, very speedily was to allay that ardour for study which had been excited, and to make all, but the mere amateur linguist, relinquish a pursuit, in which it was evident an ignorant man might be as successful as a scholar. I do not mean to give offence to any one by the remarks I make, nor have I the slightest personal interest in the subject; but, from the cause already stated, an effect occurred,

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which was soon rendered manifest by a large majority of the appointments being filled by very insufficient officers. It went on in this way for several years; but the inefficiency of the body had long been observed, and one of the earliest acts of Sir E. Paget was to issue a remedying order, directing a general and a strict examination of every interpreter then on the list, and rendering an ability to pass such an ordeal a *sine quâ non* in regard to all future preferences. Those already holding the situations had, however, one year allowed them to prepare for a trial, on the issue of which their situation depended; and surely nothing could prove their unfitness more completely, nor better bear out any assessor of it, than the circumstance of allowing so long a time for preparation to those who were supposed to have been perfect on their first appointment, agreeably to the tenor of the original order." Here (continued the learned proprietor) was an instance of officers who had been holding the situations of interpreters to different regiments for five, six, and seven years, being subjected to an examination to ascertain their competency; and even then they were allowed twelve months to prepare themselves for the examination. This was a proof that those individuals had not learned much in India. How different had been the case with regard to several of his first students, who were appointed to the situation of interpreters after they had been only one or two months in India. [Here the learned proprietor read a long extract from Capt. M'Naghten's work on Courts-Martial, letters from his own pupils, and from his *Pioneer*.]—The learned doctor then proceeded to state, that if his system of instruction were adopted, he would stake his credit as a utilitarian orientalist, that in twelve months the Company could procure proficient *protégés* in abundance for every branch of their service. The learned proprietor then again referred to Capt. M'Naghten's observations on the general orders issued by the Commander-in-chief for improving the qualifications of interpreters; and praised that writer's proposition, for establishing a well paid body of division interpreters. He had made a similar proposition to the government thirty or forty years ago, but it was objected to on the score of expense. The government at that time seemed to be quite indifferent as to the persons who filled the situations of interpreters. That idea was now, however, drummed out of them. (*Interruption.*) He thought it was very hard that it should thus be attempted to cut him short in his opening speech. (*Much laughter.*) He now called the attention of the court to an extract from Capt. M'Naghten's letter to Sir E. Paget, published in Calcutta in Nov. 1825. [Here Dr. G. read another

long extract.] The learned proprietor proceeded to say, that he defied any person to pick holes in his coat. There was a powerful array of erudition against him, but he had for his panoply common sense, reason, and justice. There were fearful odds against him, but he hoped to be able to refute any objections which might be made to his proposition. Having now gone fully over most of the topics connected with this question, it was his duty to apologize to the court for occupying so large a portion of time, even on a matter which, in his humble opinion, was deserving of the most grave and deliberate attention. He concluded with moving, "That the six propositions this day under discussion be earnestly recommended for immediate adoption by the Executive Court, and carried into effect with the least possible delay, if found, upon due inquiry, perfectly practicable in all or any of their provisions for the common good of the Hon. Company, and the permanent welfare of British India; and that the result of this serious recommendation be communicated, at the first quarterly meeting, by the Hon. Court of Directors to their constituents, for such ulterior proceedings as shall then be deemed indispensable by the proprietors."

Col. Stanhope seconded the motion.

Mr. S. Dixon asked whether the question was to be taken upon the resolutions in the aggregate, or separately.

Dr. Gilchrist replied, that the court were at liberty to adopt as many as they pleased.

The Chairman said, that after the learned proprietor had occupied four hours in the production of his motion, he was certain that he should best consult the wishes of the court by making the observations which he felt it necessary to address to them, on the present occasion, as short as possible. (*Hear!*) It was quite impossible for him to travel through the various topics which had been introduced by the learned proprietor in the course of his address, but he was gratified to think that it was by no means necessary that he should do so. (*Hear, hear!*) The question, as he conceived it, between the learned proprietor and himself was this, whether the object which both the learned proprietor and himself were equally desirous of attaining, namely, the extending of the knowledge of the Oriental languages among the servants of the Company (for he begged to be understood as not including persons not in their service, and with whom, in this respect, they had no right to interfere), should be sought after by means of proscription or of encouragement. He (the Chairman) maintained, that the object in question was most likely to be attained in India rather than in this country; and also, that it was better to endeavour to at-

tain it by encouragement, rather than proscription. (*Hear, hear!*) Further, he was quite satisfied that he should be able to convince the court, that it had been the most anxious and ardent desire of the Executive Body to afford, to the utmost extent, encouragement to the cultivation of the Oriental languages. He was certainly disposed to give the learned proprietor credit for the ardency with which he had prosecuted this question: but at the same he thought that he had exhibited a degree of enthusiasm, which naturally excited doubts as to the correctness of his judgment. (*Hear, hear!*) Enthusiasts were not generally the best judges. He would now read to the court the regulations which had been established by the Bengal government, with regard to the qualifications of the interpreters, which had been so much found fault with. It was proper the court should be informed, that it was in consequence of a special injunction of the Court of Directors that interpreters were appointed to every native corps. The Hon. Chairman then proceeded to notice the regulations in force at each presidency, respecting the qualification of officers in a knowledge of the native languages. These regulations, continued the Hon. Chairman, shew the anxiety of the Executive Body that no persons should be allowed to fill offices requiring a knowledge of the native languages, but persons properly qualified. How far the officers appointed to examine candidates for such appointments adhered to the strict letter of the regulations he could not say, but if they did their duty, those who came before them must be perfectly well acquainted with the language before they could be allowed to pass. And here he would say a word upon what had fallen from the learned proprietor, as to exceptions stated to have been made with respect to some of his pupils. The learned gentleman had said, that no officer was allowed to be nominated to any staff appointment until he had served some time with his regiment. This, as a general rule, was really the case: the Executive Body were justly desirous to take care, that no officer should be appointed to posts of favour until he had, by serving some time with his regiment, become acquainted with the general nature of his military duty. From this regulation, however, an exception was made in favour of persons qualified to act as interpreters and adjutants, who were eligible for such appointments immediately on their arrival in India.

Dr. Gilchrist begged that the hon. Chairman would have the goodness to repeat the last sentence, which did not reach him very distinctly.

The Chairman repeated, that exceptions were made from the regulation to which he had adverted, in favour of persons who might

might be qualified to act as interpreters and adjutants, and who were competent to fill staff appointments immediately on their arrival in India. The hon. Baronet hoped that he had now said enough to convince the court of the care taken by their Executive that no person should be appointed to posts requiring a knowledge of the Hindoostanee tongue, without proper qualifications.

Mr. Hume.—“Will the hon. Chairman have the goodness to favour me with the dates of the regulations he has just read?”

The Chairman.—“I have not the dates by me at this moment, but I understand that those to which I have referred are the existing orders, that they are the regulations in force at the present time.” He then proceeded to observe, that he was not at all disposed to deny the great advantage likely to accrue from the acquisition of an elementary knowledge of Hindoostanee in this country. It must be admitted, that the sooner the language was acquired the better; but the question was, whether there exists that state of proficiency in teaching the language in this country, and that degree of opportunity of acquiring it which would warrant the Court of Directors in making it obligatory on every young man going out to India, to qualify himself in it before he left England. For his own part, he thought it impossible that they could complete their establishments in India with persons thus qualified, even with all the means mentioned by the learned proprietor. That hon. gentleman had pointed out several places where the Hindoostanee language might be acquired here; but he (the hon. Chairman) thought it impossible that the inhabitants of England, Scotland, and Ireland, could be required to send their relations, intended for the Company's service in India, to the specific establishments where that language might be professed to be taught. He considered that the inconveniences of such a plan, if at all practicable, which he much doubted, would greatly outweigh any possible advantages it might be supposed to possess. Under these circumstances he must say, that any order requiring men to qualify at those places would be highly inexpedient, as it would have the effect of proscribing a vast number, who otherwise might be found fit and proper servants. We had long experienced the abilities of our servants, civil and military, in India. Our territory had spread into an immense dominion—much greater, he regretted to say, in point of extent, than he would have wished to see it; we had found no failure in any duty on the part of those employed in the acquisition or the preservation of our great possessions. There had been no want of ability, either in the conduct of our wars or in our civil transactions; and

he was sure that the Executive Body would be able to do all that was necessary, in respect to the qualifications of the servants of the Company, without adopting the enthusiastic notions and visionary plans which the learned proprietor had so perseveringly urged upon them. In the firm conviction that those plans would be productive of much injury, without any countervailing good, he should meet the motion by an amendment. The hon. Chairman concluded by moving the following amendment: “That, in the opinion of this court, it is wholly unnecessary and inexpedient to adopt the propositions before the court, as due attention appears to have been given by the Court of Directors to the important objects therein specified, and that the prosecution of them may therefore most properly be left in the hands of the Executive Body. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Pattison (in the absence of the Deputy Chairman) said he felt great pleasure in seconding the amendment, because he was convinced that in doing so he best consulted the Company's interests. The Court of Directors were perfectly alive to the importance of a competent knowledge of the Hindoostanee language among the Company's servants, and the measures which they had adopted were, he thought, calculated, by encouragement, to effect that object in the most desirable way; while the plan proposed by the learned proprietor would have a decidedly injurious tendency, and would, he was convinced, be found, if adopted, to fall far short of the end in view. In leaving the matter in the hands of the Executive Body, he thought the court would be doing that which would tend most to the general efficiency of the Company's servants. (*Hear, hear!*)

The Chairman begged to add one word which he had forgotten in his address to the court. He had the greatest desire to do justice to the intentions of the learned proprietor, and to give to his suggestions every weight to which they might be entitled by his knowledge and experience; but, much as he might respect his (Dr. Gilchrist's) opinions on this subject, he must be excused if he hesitated to put them in competition with those contained in a document he then held in his hand: that document was an extract of a letter which had been received from Sir Thomas Munro, an authority to which, he was sure, every member of that court would look up with the highest respect. (*Hear, hear!*) In that letter Sir Thomas, alluding to a discussion which had taken place in that court on a former occasion, respecting the qualifications of cadets, observed, “I agree with you entirely, that a great deal too much importance has been attached to a knowledge of the Hindoostanee language, and therefore I was very glad to learn that the proposition for the examination of

cadets in that language, before their departure from England, was rejected in your court."—(*Hear, hear!*) Such an opinion, he thought, was an additional reason why the court would not be justified in giving their assent to the propositions of the learned proprietor.

The original propositions and the amendment having been read—

Capt. *Marfield* said, it seemed to be agreed on all sides, that instruction in the Hindoostanee language was necessary for the Company's civil and military servants; and the question was, whether it would be best in point of economy that they should receive that instruction here or in India. It appeared from the statement of the learned doctor, that he could for £500 a year, qualify for India more than three times the number which were at present qualified at Haileybury, at an immense expense. This was a question that called for the serious attention of the court. It was clear that something should be done to facilitate the qualification of cadets, and other public servants, going out to India; for in an act of Parliament recently passed, it was stated that the college of Haileybury was not sufficient to qualify persons rapidly enough for the demands of the service. The hon. Chairman had said, that great anxiety existed amongst the Court of Directors to encourage the cultivation of the Hindoostanee language by the Company's servants. He thought that too much credit was given to such statements; and he had always found, that much more was promised in this way than was ever performed. He was aware that there were many salutary regulations made for enforcing the study of the Hindoostanee, but his complaint was that they were but very imperfectly observed. The consequence was, that some of the oldest and highest officers in the service were ignorant of the language. They might, perhaps, know enough of it to enable them to call for wine, or water, or bread, but as to interpreting the articles of war, or translating other matters connected with military regulations, he would venture to assert, that there was not one officer in ten in the service who could do it. He thought the learned doctor had made out a strong case, but he had lost a great deal of time in firing salutes, instead of pouring in his heavy shot where it might prove effective.

Colonel *Lushington*.—The hon. proprietor had stated, that there was not one officer in ten who could translate the articles of war; now the fact was, that the articles of war were already translated, and in the possession of every officer of every regiment, and were frequently read to the different corps by the interpreters.

Captain *Marfield*, in explanation, said he had not stated that interpreters could

not translate the articles of war; it was well known they could. In fact, interpreters had nothing to do with the question. Many officers, he admitted, might be acquainted with the articles of war, and might be able to repeat them as a parrot might do; but that had nothing to do with the general competency of officers.

Mr. *Hume* was anxious to say a few words upon this question, and he begged to assure the court that his observations would be brief; the more particularly as, upon a former occasion, he had stated his opinions at considerable length upon the subject. It appeared to him that there had been throughout the discussion, an attempt made to mystify the question of education entirely, by confining it to interpreters, and leaving other servants of the Company out of sight. The practice with respect to interpreters was not attacked; neither were all the regulations with respect to other officers complained of; but he did complain that those regulations, such as they were, were not enforced. Still, however, he was glad to hear it admitted, even now, in the eleventh hour, that it was necessary that officers should be qualified in the native language with as little delay as possible. If the papers for which he had moved some time since had been laid before the court, it would have been shewn that the Directors had, at length, tardily admitted the great importance of giving the young men sent out to India the necessary instruction in the language of the country. This was, in point of fact, admitting the whole question, which he had been pressing on the attention of the court for years; and the Directors making this admission, were bound in honour to follow it up, unless they could shew that they did not possess the means of giving that instruction here. If a doubt had ever existed, he believed that such doubt was now removed. That if India had risen by the talents of the officers employed there, she had done so, not because of the ignorance of those officers, but in spite of the disadvantages under which they laboured. It was incumbent, therefore, on the Directors (and it was an awful responsibility imposed upon them), to see that all the persons employed in the Company's service were competent to carry on the great work entrusted to them. The hon. Chairman was satisfied with every thing as it existed. India, according to him, had risen and flourished under the present system, and the conclusion to be drawn from his argument was, that it had so flourished, not in despite of, but because of the ignorance of its servants in many matters with which he (Mr. Hume) contended they ought to have been acquainted.—(*Cries of no, no.*) He maintained that he was correct. If any man doubted the im-

policy of the course pursued by the Directors, he would ask him whether he would conduct his private business in the same way? Would any merchant who had business to transact in France, or Spain, send out thither a person who was utterly ignorant of the language of the country in which he was to be engaged? Would any man who had business to transact in France, send out a person to act for him who had first to learn the language of the country, and afterwards to apply it to the business on which he was sent? Or would he not rather select a person well acquainted with the language, and therefore competent to proceed at once upon the business of his mission?—(*Hear, hear!*) And yet the first of these courses was precisely that adopted by the Court of Directors, whose zeal and attention to the Company's interests had been so highly praised by two of their own body. It would be admitted, that we had an immense establishment in India, in the various departments of which, civil, military, judicial, and commercial, the most important duties were to be performed; and he would ask any man, applying the argument he had used, whether a less degree of prudent attention, in selecting persons properly qualified for the administration of those duties, should be observed by a public body, than would be by an individual in the management of his private affairs?—(*Hear, hear!*) He might be told, that in the great extent of the Company's affairs, there was a variety of circumstances in which no analogy to the affairs of a private individual could exist. It was true that this might be the case in some instances, but those instances were not sufficient to destroy the general principle for which he contended. When he saw his hon. friend's exertions to remedy the evils he had pointed out, he could not but regret hearing the hon. Chairman, while he complimented him on his good intentions, apply the terms "visionary," and "enthusiast," to him (Dr. Gilchrist). He (Mr. Hume) begged to deny that either of those epithets was applicable to his learned friend. If ever any man deserved well of the Company, he (Dr. Gilchrist) had, who throughout a long life had devoted his best energies to forward their most important interests.—(*Hear, hear!*) In the particular branch in which he had exerted himself, he (Mr. Hume), would venture to assert, that no man had done more than his learned friend to merit the thanks and approbation of the Company. Let them only look for a moment to the improvements which had taken place in the mode of teaching the Hindoostanee, within a few years. Why even at the time that he (Mr. Hume) went out to India, there were only two works of instruction in the language extant: these were the works of

Hadley and Ferguson, and their jargon was considered as a standard of the language, until his learned friend had produced his work, a book which was the result of long and laborious application: and which no man up to the present day had been able to improve.—(*Hear, hear!*) The difficulties opposed to his learned friend, in the publication of that work, were almost innumerable; but when they were at length removed by his diligent and persevering exertions, and when it had been productive of such real advantage to the Company, it was too much to hear the learned Doctor now spoken of as a visionary and an enthusiast. He thought that, instead of blaming him as an enthusiast, it ought to be a matter of congratulation to the Company, and to India generally, that there should be found a man possessed of enthusiasm sufficient to carry him through so arduous an undertaking. Now that that undertaking was accomplished, he regretted much that it should have met with no better return than that which had this day been heard from within the bar. Since the period of his learned friend's return from India, his conduct had been marked by the most disinterested exertions to promote the cultivation of the native language. He had done nothing to advance his personal interests, and it was matter of regret that the Company had done nothing, by which this neglect of his pecuniary resources might have been supplied. This was the more to be lamented, when he saw others who did not possess a title of his claim to the gratitude of the Company, receiving salaries of £500 and £700 a year, as professors of the Oriental languages. He had, indeed, received a paltry sum for his exertions for a short time, but it was totally inadequate to the benefits he had rendered to the Company. Seeing his learned friend's services thus unrewarded, he must observe, that it was highly injudicious in the hon. Chairman to use the terms he had that day applied. It was, at the same time, highly unjust towards his learned friend, of whom he would say, that if certificates or testimonials were to be taken as proofs of proficiency in any science, no man living stood higher than he (Dr. Gilchrist) did in the knowledge of the Hindoostanee; and it was not to the credit of the Company that he should remain thus unrewarded.—(*Hear, hear!*) As to the question before the court, he thought that his hon. friend had made out a strong case; and after what had fallen from the hon. Chairman, he thought the Directors were bound to take some steps to advance the cultivation of the native language amongst their servants in India. If what was stated in the *Calcutta Gazette* was correct, then he would ask, were not the Directors highly culpable in not having strictly enforced the regulations

gulations respecting the qualifications of their servants? It was stated in the publication referred to, that before praise was bestowed upon young officers for their improvement in the Hindoostanee, inquiry ought to have been made as to whether such was the fact. An inquiry of that kind would have shewn, that the assumption of improvement was quite erroneous. He (Mr. Hume) had some calculations as to the number of cadets sent out to India within the last twelve years, and it appeared that of 3,174 sent to the three presidencies within that period, so far from all having qualified, only 422 had attended the college of Addiscombe. Of this number it was to be presumed that some had attained a knowledge of the language, though from the imperfect mode of teaching there established, and from the want of that simple method pointed out by Dr. Gilchrist, it was reasonable to infer that that knowledge was not complete. But supposing that the whole of the 422 were perfectly qualified, let the court consider for a moment in what situation the service was placed. Of the whole number sent out, only 422 had had an opportunity of becoming acquainted, even imperfectly, with the language; so that there remained 2,752 young officers without any such qualification. Of these, it was well-known that many were appointed to regiments within twenty-four hours after their arrival; some of them being called almost immediately to go into action in the field, and this without the slightest knowledge of the language of the troops they were appointed to command, or the power of giving an order which could be understood. He would ask the hon. Chairman, having made the admission he had, how he could reconcile it to his conscience, after his oath of office, to allow such a number of the Company's servants to go out to India, totally unqualified for the performance of the duties they were called upon to discharge. For his own part, if he had taken such an oath, he could not give his sanction to such proceedings, and afterwards lay his head in quiet upon his pillow. He repeated, that he could not enjoy a quiet conscience, if, after having sworn to advance the Company's interests to the best of his power, he had allowed officers to go out in their service who were totally ignorant of the language of the country.—(*Cries of no, no.*) The hon. Chairman had talked of interpreters, and if the only duty which an officer had to perform was that of an interpreter, then the regulations he had read would, if properly enforced, be effective. But it was well-known that officers came into continual contact with their troops in a thousand ways, in which a knowledge of the language was necessary to a proper discharge of their duty. Some stress had

been laid upon the regulations made in 1823, but his complaint was that those regulations had never been properly enforced. One of those regulations was, that it be recommended to cadets to make themselves perfect in their military qualifications, particularly in the knowledge of the language, in failure of which they might be dismissed the service, and sent home at their own expense. Now, he would ask the Court of Directors, whether there was any single instance in which this regulation was acted upon? He maintained that no instance of the kind could be adduced. The Directors winked at the negligence of the cadets, and actually gave up the performance of a duty imposed upon them by a resolution of their own body. The hon. Chairman had expressed his unwillingness to resort to *prescription*,—(*a laugh*)—but he (Mr. Hume) contended that nothing short of the fear of *prescription* [*proscription*] could overcome the apathy of many young officers towards the labour of acquiring the native language. There was an idleness and an unwillingness to labour inherent in young minds, which it was necessary to correct by the operation of some powerful motive, and nothing short of that he had alluded to would be efficient. In the cases of civilians and medical officers, a knowledge of the language was essential to an appointment. Why not observe the same strictness with respect to cadets? The regulations in the case of the former were enforced with a strictness which amounted to *prescription*.—(*A laugh.*)

Dr. Gilchrist suggested, that the word used by the Chairman was "*proscription*."

Mr. Hume continued. Well, *proscription*—it was, he contended, *proscription* in those cases; and it ought to be so equally in the case of cadets; otherwise, the regulation would be always evaded. The enforcement of this qualification would be by no means a hardship upon the young men, as it would, in fact, be no more than the *minimum* of the information which it was their duty to acquire, and was within the reach of the most common intellect. The hon. Chairman had stated, that if they adopted the course pointed out by his learned friend, they would be unable to provide a sufficient supply for their service in India. This position he begged leave to deny. There were hundreds of families in the country, who would devote years to qualify their children, if such places were thrown open to competition. Let the Court of Directors imitate the example set by the rt. hon. President of the Board of Control (Mr. Wynn), who had given a writership as a prize to be contended for by the scholars of Westminster school; let them give to the universities of Oxford and of Cambridge, to the principal public schools, not forgetting

getting the five universities of Scotland (*hear, hear! and a laugh*), and those of the sister island, from which have emanated many men of genius and of learning, and they would soon find that they would have an abundant supply of young men, competent to discharge the different duties assigned to them in India, with credit to themselves, and advantage to the Company's interests. (*Hear, hear!*) This course, he contended, it was the duty of that court to adopt; it was they who were the governors of India, and not those within the bar; and it was their duty to recommend proper regulations to their executive, and to see that they were strictly enforced. He contended, then, that it was not in the power of an officer to do his duty without a knowledge of the language. There was no public act of his life, whether in cantonments, at courts-martial, in the more immediate intercourse with the troops under his command—in a word, in all the various relations in which he was mixed up with the natives, in which that knowledge was not indispensably necessary. It was the duty of the Directors therefore to make a stand at once, and to insist upon this qualification on the part of the young men whom they sent out; for they might depend upon it, that unless they did so, it would be impossible to get the better of that indolence so inherent in young minds, but particularly in the enervating climate of India. As a proof of the bad consequence of not enforcing the regulations in the first instance, he could mention cases where orders had been given for the examination of officers in the Hindoostanee language, and it was found that so many were unable to qualify, that the order was never carried into execution. It was impossible that they could ever go on well unless they made a beginning here. In this respect they should follow the example of a body not at all connected with them, he meant the Missionary Society, who would not send out any persons who had not in some respect qualified themselves here, by an elementary knowledge of the language of the country where their services were required. Indeed, all with whom he ever conversed on this subject admitted, that unless such elementary knowledge of the Hindoostanee language was enforced here, there were certain technicalities in it, which it would be otherwise extremely difficult to get over. These being his opinions, he regretted extremely the course which the hon. Chairman had taken in moving an amendment; and by the way he must observe, that a more extraordinary proceeding than that of the hon. Chairman he had never witnessed in any public assembly in England. Here was a motion which, he admitted, in some respect implied blame on the Court of Directors, and how was it

met? Their Chairman came forward with an amendment, praising himself and his colleagues, and this amendment was seconded by the Deputy Chairman,* who echoed the praises bestowed upon the Directors by the hon. mover. A more extraordinary proceeding, he repeated, he had never witnessed in any assembly, and therefore he entered his protest against the amendment, as he thought the praise it implied was wholly undeserved by the Directors for the part they had hitherto taken. He trusted, then, that the Court of Proprietors would not sanction such an extraordinary proceeding, and that too on the part of those whose culpable negligence, to say the least of it, had inundated India with hundreds of young men of all classes, without the necessary qualifications. The correction of this evil, however, was now in the power of the Court of Proprietors; and he wished here to observe, that instead of four or five establishments in this country for teaching the Hindoostanee, as had been mentioned by the hon. Chairman, there were thirty or forty, where the proper qualifications might be acquired. He repeated, let but sufficient encouragement be given, and there would be an ample supply for all the purposes of the Indian service. In conclusion, he would express his earnest hope that the court might negative the amendment, and by adopting the resolutions of his learned friend, remove from the Company the stigma which must otherwise necessarily attach to them.

The *Chairman* in explanation said, "The hon. proprietor asks whether I can be an honest man, and support this amendment? I venture to say, that I think myself quite as honest a man as he is (*a laugh*), and I shall sleep this night with as sound a conscience as he can, notwithstanding my warm support of the amendment. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) The hon. proprietor has compared this Company with an individual having to send persons to transact business for him in Spain or France, who would naturally select agents acquainted with the language of the country in which the business was to be transacted, and has asked, whether our affairs ought not to be managed upon this principle? I say that there is no real ground of comparison between the two cases; and though I do not differ from him in the opinion, that it would be proper to disseminate the native languages as widely as possible amongst the Company's servants, yet I contend that such knowledge is not absolutely necessary for every man and every woman (for I do not see why the fair sex should be excluded from a knowledge

* This was a mistake of the hon. member. The Deputy Chairman was not in court on this occasion; but Mr. Pattison, who seconded the amendment, sat for him for a short time.

ledge of the language any more than the other), who goes out to India. Upon these grounds I have moved the amendment, and also because I am opposed to the proscription which the original resolutions would necessarily create. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. S. Dixon said, that as he had been personally alluded to he felt called upon to make a few remarks. Without going into the subject to which allusion had been made, he would say, his doctrine was, that all the exploits of our gallant commanders in India had not arisen from their knowledge of the Oriental languages; neither could it be maintained, that the gallant achievements of our commanders at home had depended on the establishments at which they were educated, or upon their being educated at all; they were the result of circumstances wholly unconnected with systems of education. Indeed, in the example held out by the learned doctor himself (who, he admitted, was greatly skilled in Oriental literature), there was not much to encourage that court in requiring a very great perfection in that branch of knowledge from their servants, for the effect of the learned doctor's great learning in this instance seemed to be, that he took four hours to tell the court that which any ordinary man could have told them in a quarter of an hour. (*Hear, hear! and a laugh.*) If a great proficiency in the Oriental languages was to have the same effect upon all their servants, he did not see that it would be so very desirable. There seemed to be a strong desire with many gentlemen in that court to occupy as much time as possible, and he had noticed, that many gentlemen had shewn themselves great talkers, who would indulge in very few observations were they to carry on their debates with closed doors. (*Hear, hear!*) The original resolutions, he fully concurred in thinking, would, if carried into operation, have the effect of a proscription, and would shut out many active and efficient young men; and, in shutting out these, they would exclude numbers who would be of the greatest advantage to the Company's interests. It had been objected to the Chairman, that his amendment went to praise himself and his colleagues. He did not think it was the less entitled to support on that account. He, for one, was not ashamed to say that he had the greatest confidence in the wisdom of the Directors in the aggregate. (*Hear! and a laugh.*) By the word aggregate he did not mean to shut out the merits of private individuals; and he would say of the hon. Chairman, that no man who had filled that chair was entitled to greater credit for the zeal and ability with which he discharged the arduous duties of his important station. (*Hear, hear!*) But if the hon. Chairman had praised himself, he had only followed the example of the

learned doctor, who, throughout his speech, had been praising himself from the beginning to the end. (*Hear! and a laugh.*) He did not mean to deny that the learned gentleman was entitled to great commendation for his learning, and the assiduity with which he applied it to the benefit of the Company; but he thought that others, who had exerted themselves in a still greater degree, were more entitled to the confidence of that court; and amongst those others he had no hesitation in classing the hon. Chairman and his colleagues. After the length to which the debate had already extended, he would not trespass further on the time of the court; but feeling convinced that the original motion would, if carried, be injurious to the Company's interests, he gave his entire concurrence to the amendment.

Mr. Carruthers.—Though the subject before the court was one to which he had not given much consideration, yet he could not avoid saying a few words as to the grounds of the vote which he should give. The learned doctor claimed great credit for the disinterestedness of his views in bringing forward this motion. He (Mr. Carruthers) was disposed to give him credit for what he said of himself, but he could not listen with patience to the unfounded charge, that the members of that court generally were disposed to submit to the wishes of the Directors from motives of subserviency. He distinctly repelled the accusation; and he begged to add, that if the Directors, collectively or individually, sought to give an undue bias to the opinions of the court in their favour, they would wholly forget their duty to the Company. But the whole charge was most unfair; and for himself, as one member of the court, he claimed credit for as much independence in his vote as the learned doctor, or any of his friends, in their's. The learned doctor had—

Dr. Gilchrist.—“I beg to disclaim both the terms: I am not learned, neither am I a doctor.”

Mr. Carruthers proceeded.—He assured the hon. proprietor, that he respected him as much as any man, from the first moment of their acquaintance, and that he had not the slightest intention of offering any disrespect in the use of those terms; he had merely adopted the words, as he had heard them from others. But to the question. He was about to observe, that the hon. proprietor, in his very long speech, had introduced a variety of topics in no way connected with the business before the court. His speech was, in fact, “*tractatus de omnibus rebus.*” In that oration of four hours which had been inflicted on the court, and in the kind of postscript which followed it, in a speech of one hour long, from the hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume), who set out by stating that he had only

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a few remarks to offer, there was, he contended, an immense variety of matter which had nothing at all to do with the question. Amongst other irrelevant things, the hon. proprietor (Dr. Gilchrist) had introduced the subject of a departed prince (the Duke of York).

Col. L. Stanhope rose to order. The hon. proprietor had not himself yet said one word to the question.—(*Hear, and a Laugh.*)

Mr. Carruthers. "I say that many observations were made which did not at all bear upon the question, and to those observations I am now addressing myself."

The Chairman. "The hon. proprietor will recollect, that in making any reply to observations not relevant to the question before the Court, he is in fact as irregular as the person who first made those observations."—(*Hear, Hear!*)

Mr. Carruthers bowed to the decision of the chair. An hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume) had made a comparison between the mode of conducting the Company's affairs, and that in which a merchant would transact his private concerns. But it was well known that there were many English merchants who had realized large fortunes in the City of London by foreign commerce, and who yet were acquainted with no other language than their own. They, however, took care to employ persons who did know the necessary foreign languages, and their business went on well. Another point which had been urged was, that there existed in the human mind, and particularly in the minds of young men, a disposition to idleness and sloth, to eradicate which, a powerful stimulus was required. Now he had ever been of opinion, that the first principle in the mind of man, was to endeavour to do that which would advance his interests in the world, and secure prosperity to himself and credit to those with whom he was connected. This was a principle upon which the generality of men acted, and it was, he thought, a refutation of the position assumed by the hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume). He would not at that late hour detain the Court by offering any further observations, but would conclude with stating, that the amendment had his cordial support.

Mr. Trant. "As a pupil of the learned Doctor (Gilchrist) he begged to state, that he had the highest respect for him as a friend, as well as for his talents as a master of the Oriental languages. But he could not help expressing his surprise at hearing the learned Doctor say, that it was impossible to learn the Hindoostanee in India without previous instruction here. Now, without going out of that Court, he could adduce many instances in disproof of that assertion. There were at that moment before him, many persons who possessed as perfect a knowledge of the Oriental languages as the learned Doctor himself—

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(Dr. Gilchrist said across the Court, "I am very glad to hear it") although their knowledge of it did not commence in this country. He was willing to bear testimony to the great services of his learned friend, both in this country and in India, but he could not for a moment assent to the proposition, that no man could ever qualify himself in the language unless he began to learn it in England. Not being a military man he could not pretend to much experience in that profession, but he felt convinced that an order which would turn young officers out of the service at a short notice, because of certain alleged disqualifications, would be productive of serious injury to the Company's interests in India. From the statement of his learned friend (Dr. Gilchrist), it would appear as if he considered himself the only person qualified to teach the Oriental languages. Much as he respected him he could not assent to that proposition, and without meaning the slightest offence, he must remind him of a fact which would prove that however correctly Europeans might teach the language as to its rudiments, they might still be deficient in that correctness of pronunciation which could only be attained by a communication with the natives. The learned Doctor would remember an occasion where it was observed to him that he himself taught the language in so refined a manner that he ran a risk of not being understood by the natives. The learned Doctor, to convince the party that he had a perfect knowledge of the pronunciation, called his groom, who was a Hindoo, and gave him some orders in Hindoostanee: the groom, after listening attentively, and having the order repeated to him, begged to be excused as he did not understand the English language.—(*Much Laughter.*) From this it appeared that refinement in teaching the Eastern languages might be carried too far, and that a knowledge of the language, acquired in Europe did not necessarily enable a man to speak it intelligibly in India. He did not mean to deny that a knowledge of the language was very useful, but that he thought that a zeal for its promotion had carried his learned friend too far, and that he looked to language only as a qualification for the service of the Company, whereas experience had shewn that though always useful, it was not in every case indispensable. He concluded by expressing his entire concurrence in the amendment.

A Proprietor said he was unwilling to protract the discussion at that late hour, but he thought there was one observation made which called for an answer. It had been said, that not one officer in ten was sufficiently acquainted with the Hindoostanee to be able to translate the articles of war. This statement had hitherto gone uncontradicted. It was true that an hon.

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proprietor (Col. Lushington) had said that the articles of war were already translated, and that it did not require any knowledge of the Hindoo language for that purpose. This, however, left the fact where it found it. He contended that it would be a gross charge against that Court to have such a charge go abroad unexplained, if it admitted of explanation, and if it did not, it was a matter of serious accusation against their executive, that not one officer in ten knew enough of the native language to translate the articles of war. Those articles were so simple, that they might be as easily acquired as the Lord's Prayer, and an ignorance of them would shew a most deplorable deficiency in the qualifications of the Company's officers. He repeated that such a charge ought to be contradicted, if a contradiction could be given, and if it could not, it was high time that some remedy should be devised. Ignoramus as he was, he could not pass it over without remark, and he contended that that Court would be grossly negligent of their duties if they suffered so glaring an evil to go without a remedy.

Col. *Lushington*, in explanation, observed that what he had before said was wholly misunderstood. An hon. proprietor had observed, that not one officer in ten was able to translate the articles of war. In answer to that, he had remarked, that the articles of war were all translated; by which he did not mean to say that it was not necessary those articles should be understood by the officers,—on the contrary, he meant that the articles were so simple, and were so frequently read to the troops in the native language, (at least once or twice in every month) that even the least instructed officer must be acquainted with them, and instead of one officer in ten not being able to translate them, he believed that ninety-nine out of every hundred officers in the service, was perfectly competent to the task.—(*Hear, hear!*)

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, he entirely disagreed with the gallant officer as to the number of officers who understood the native language. It was true, that at courts-martial the judge advocate and the interpreter understood the language, but then the jury, that was the officers who were to decide upon the merits of the case, were he believed, in most instances, totally ignorant of it.

Col. *Lushington* said, that no European officer could be on a court-martial for the trial of a native soldier.

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose to reply: he began by observing that, as to the hon. Chairman's alleged ignorance of the native language, he could readily excuse it, because he had not professed any particular acquaintance with it. At the same time, that he did not mean to impute blame to the hon. director for his ignorance of Hindoostanee,

he could not avoid adducing that ignorance as an illustration of his argument. The hon. Chairman had risen to very high rank in the army, and he (Dr. Gilchrist) was willing to admit, that that rank was not greater than his merits, but he had attained it without that knowledge of the native language, which would perhaps have enabled him to translate the articles of war. He (Dr. Gilchrist) had translated the articles of war at Bengal, and that in so simple a manner, that even the least intelligent could, with a very little application, make themselves master of them. In these there was no difficulty, but suppose any new article should be added with which parties were not acquainted; why, he supposed there was not one officer in ten in the service who could translate or even understand it. This he repeated, and, would stand to, whatever were the consequences. He would even say, that if the trial were made of any ten officers in the service, it would be found that more than one, if even one could translate any new article into the native language, (unless indeed it was some officer who had studied under him.)—(*A laugh.*)—The hon. Chairman had called him a visionary and an enthusiast. He was neither surprised nor annoyed at such language. While in India, he passed for a mad Doctor, all the time he was there. Those who were anxious to lessen him in the estimation of others, and to make it be believed, that he was unable to convey instruction to others, circulated the report that he was a madman; yet mad as he was, he did more good than all their learned men put together. He meant on the ground of utility, and one ounce of that was better than a thousand learned speculations. Mad and visionary, and enthusiast as he might be represented, still even his enemies could not deny his merit in this respect. His hon. friend (Mr. Hume) had noticed those attacks upon him, but for his own part they gave him no concern, and he therefore "passed by them as the idle wind which he regarded not." His character could not be affected by such imputations. It would stand untarnished, long after he and the hon. Chairman, and all who heard him, should have passed away and been laid quietly in their graves. Posterity would, he was sure, do him justice, if it were denied to him in the present generation. As to the circumstance mentioned by his hon. friend and pupil (Mr. Trant) of his being unable to give the correct pronunciation, and of being misunderstood by some of the natives in consequence, he begged most positively to deny that any such circumstance ever took place. He had no recollection whatever of it, and had such an occurrence happened it was certain that it would not have slipped his memory. He would before he sat down explain the only circum-

circumstance which he supposed could have given rise to so ridiculous a story. His hon. friend (Mr. Trant) seemed to insinuate that he (Dr. Gilchrist) had been fishing for his vote on this occasion. Could any thing be more absurd than such an insinuation? What! fish for his vote, who was himself endeavouring to become a director? Why it would be folly in him to ask the vote, and it would be downright madness in his hon. friend to give it—for one vote in his (Dr. Gilchrist's) support, and against the director, would be quite enough to exclude his hon. friend for ever from any chance of a seat within the bar.—(*Hear and a laugh.*) He would indeed deserve, in some respect, the appellation of "mad" if he could have asked for his hon. friend's vote under such circumstances. But the fact was he had not sought for it in any other manner than that in which he solicited the suffrages of other hon. proprietors, that was by fairly and publicly submitting his propositions for their consideration and leaving them to decide on them as they should think proper. He would now say a word in explanation of the anecdote which his hon. friend had so facetiously told of him, but which he must say was altogether unfounded in fact. He had before remarked, that when he was in India, some of the *Jargonists* gave out that he was unable to teach the native language, or communicate the correct pronunciation. This was done with a view to detract from any merit he possessed, and to dissuade others from resorting to him for instruction. The story he was going to mention was this:—He on one occasion, happened to be with some friends, and was the caterer of the party: one day, in giving directions for dinner, he ordered among other things a young kid to be brought to him from the market. Some wags of his acquaintance, who wished to have a joke at his expence, went after the man and told him that it was a pig he wanted instead of a kid. The man obeyed the last order, and to his (Dr. Gilchrist's) great surprise, he heard the grunting of a young pig when he expected to have found a kid, and they wished to persuade him that the mistake arose from his own mode of giving the order. It was clear, however, to any person who had the least knowledge of the language, that he could not have made the mistake of a kid for a pig, because the words in the native language of India were totally dissimilar. The joke, however, such as it was, got abroad, and in its progress, owing to the kind additions of some of his very kind friends, was at last swelled into the form in which it had been so amusingly told to the court by his hon. friend (Mr. Trant). Those who knew his method of teaching would admit that he taught the Hindoostanee, not as it was spoken by the ignorant and vulgar, but as

it was known amongst the best informed. He did not teach the Billingsgate of the language. He taught in the purity with which it would be spoken at court. The vulgarisms into which persons not very carefully instructed were apt to fall, were very numerous. He could mention a variety of instances in which mistakes of this kind were made. (Here the learned proprietor mentioned several words of the Hindoostanee, as they were generally but improperly pronounced, adding their correct pronunciation.) An hon. proprietor had found fault with what he (Dr. Gilchrist) had termed the subserviency of hon. members of the Court of Proprietors to the views of the Court of Directors. He repeated the charge, and he had seen and could adduce many instances of such subserviency.

Mr. *Carruthers* expressed a hope that the learned proprietor would not make any personal allusions.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, he spoke generally and he would repeat the charge. Was it not a proof of the subserviency of the proprietors as a body, that he was six weeks before he could get his notice of motion signed by the proper number, in order to have the court made special for its discussion.—One man on being asked, expressed his willingness to sign it, but then he had a son who was going out to India, and for whom he expected a commission, and he was unwilling to prejudice the directors against him by voting for his motion. Another expected a writership for a friend of his, and he could not think of putting his name to a notice which he knew would disoblige the directors. A third had some other excuse, and so on with many.—Now what was this but subserviency to the directors, from the fear that they would visit their displeasure upon, by withholding their patronage from, those who opposed their wishes? But if any further proof were wanting of the subserviency of the proprietors, and the influence of the directors over their votes, would it not be furnished by the house lists in the election of directors, to supply the places of those who went out by rotation. Were not such lists publicly circulated, and were they not almost invariably adopted by the proprietors. However, he for one would set himself against such lists fearless of the consequences and on every occasion he would continue to oppose them though he should perish in the attempt. (*Hear! and laughter.*) It had been imputed to him that he had found fault with the regulations respecting the qualification of officers, and that he was anxious to introduce the system of proscription. This was not the fact, his objection was not to the regulations but to the circumstance, that they were not carried into effect. He was borne out in his allegations on this head, by the fact, that the senior subaltern was in most cases the interpreter. He had never for a

moment meant to contend, that language alone would be a sufficient qualification for an officer going out to India. It would be absurd to suppose such a thing. There were of course many other things which were necessary to constitute his qualifications, but what he contended was, that without a knowledge of the language, many other qualifications would be much diminished in value, and some of them would be rendered altogether useless in the Company's service. If the Company had prospered notwithstanding the great deficiency of many of its officers, in the necessary qualifications of language he would contend that it had prospered in spite of those disadvantages; and therefore such prosperity could not be urged as an argument in favour of the continuance of a system admitted to be bad. He would stake his existence on the fact that if the Court adopted his resolutions, they would in one year have 500 persons properly qualified, as to language, to fill situations in the Company's service as cadets. Let but the proper encouragements be held out, and they would soon see the advantage taken of them by our public schools. There were, as had been already mentioned, thirty or forty establishments, where the Oriental languages would be taught, in several of which instructions in it were already given. There was an establishment at Exeter, where Occidental education was given, but in which he was endeavouring to inoculate them with a taste for Oriental literature as well. Much good as must be apparent from his plans, to any persons who would look upon them without the eye of prejudice, still be despaired of seeing them adopted, knowing as he did that the adoption would have the effect of limiting the patronage of the hon. gentlemen within the bar. In that case, they would not have the opportunity of appointing a raw boy, who scarcely knew any thing, beyond the A B C of his own language, to a situation in a country, of the language of which he was altogether ignorant.—Appointments of this kind (which looked as if the offices were made for the men, and not the men for the offices) would soon be at end, if his plans were adopted, and instead of appointing a raw and ignorant youth to the command of troops, who were as ignorant of his language as he was of theirs, they would have only persons who were qualified by previous study to fill the important stations to which they might be appointed on their arrival in India.—Among other things which he had to regret on this occasion was that of having been much misunderstood (he did not suppose wilfully so) in the course of his speech. It had been attributed to him to have maintained the opinion, that, unless a man underwent a previous instruction in the Hindoostanee in this country, it would be impossible for him to acquire it in

India. He denied having ever made use of any such argument. What he said was, that many of the difficulties of the language would be removed by instruction here; that it would be more difficult to learn it in India, if some previous instruction were not received in this country. There might be instances as exceptions to this, and he mentioned himself as one (*Hear! and laughter.*) He did not mean to say there were not several others; for he would not pretend to think that others might not have zeal and ability for acquiring the language equal to his own. But those exceptions did not detract from the general principle he had maintained, that the difficulties of acquiring it were increased by not learning the elements of it in this country. He had now, he believed, adverted to all the topics which had been urged against him; he would not, therefore, farther trespass on the indulgence of the court (*Hear, hear!*); but, in concluding, would express a hope, that the court would give to his propositions that serious attention which their importance required. The question was now put from the chair.

The original resolutions and the amendment having been read, the amendment was put and adopted, as the main question, by a considerable majority, only six hands having been held up in support of the original motion.

The amendment having thus been substituted for the resolutions, was put and adopted by a majority equal to the former, only six votes being given against it.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON AT CHATHAM.

Mr. Poynder now rose, and said, he wished to give a notice of motion, but he was interrupted by

The *Chairman*, who said, that it was necessary in the first place, to dispose of the business for which the court had been convened. He then stated, that this court had been made further special for the purpose of considering a resolution of the Court of Directors, of the 27th of January 1827, appointing Mr. Robert Elliott, formerly of the Company's maritime service, to the situation of assistant-surgeon to the Company's military depot, at Chatham, with a salary of £300 a-year, and an allowance for house-rent, &c.; but with the understanding, that in case of a vacancy in the office of surgeon in the depot, the succession must not be looked to as a matter of course by Mr. Elliott, but be subject to any regulations which the court may make on that occasion.

The resolution of the Court of Directors having been read, it was moved that it be approved.

Mr. Hume said, that as he had not read the papers left open for the inspection of the proprietors on this subject, he was anxious to know from the hon. chairman, whether there was at present a surgeon resident

resident at the Company's depôt at Chatham; and, also, what number of persons were usually kept there?

The *Chairman* expressed his regret, that the hon. proprietor had not seen the papers, as they would have conveyed to him fully the information he now sought. The resolution of the Court of Directors was adopted, on the report of the surgeon, sanctioned by the commanding-officer, at the depôt. There was a surgeon resident at the depôt, but the duty had become too much for one medical officer to attend to; for instance, it was not to be expected that in the class of persons from which the Company principally drew its recruits, there would be that attention to their health, which might be expected from persons of more regular habits. The consequence was, that many of those who came to the depôt were found to be in that state of health, which, though it did not render them unfit for service, required much immediate care and attention. There were, sometimes, as many as seventy persons in the hospital at one time; and it was impossible that one surgeon could continue to give them efficient attention without some assistance, especially as the presence of a medical officer was also required on the embarkation of the recruits for India. It would be admitted, that the care of the health of the men was a most important duty on the part of the Company; and that no assistance should be withheld which its fulfilment required.

Mr. *Hume* was satisfied with the explanation. All he was desirous of on this occasion was, that the appointment of the assistant-surgeon might not be made the means of rendering the place of the surgeon a sinecure.

The *Chairman* assured the hon. proprietor, that nothing could be more foreign from the intentions of the Court of Directors than any such wish.

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, he would object to the appointment. As a military man, he would say, that in his opinion, seventy men ill, as the hon. chairman had stated, were not too many for the care of one surgeon; but if any such assistant were required, he thought he ought to be taken from the Company's own service.

The *Chairman*.—The gentleman appointed did belong to the Company's service.

Capt. *Marfield* understood this gentleman belonged to the Company's commercial marine. Now he wished to have some few points connected with this subject explained to him. First, he wished to know, whether the owners of the ships in the commercial marine, appointed the surgeons in the first instance; for if they did, he thought they could not be considered as surgeons belonging to the Company; or did the owners appoint, and the Company pay them after. He also wished to know

what length of service was required in the commercial marine, before a man was raised from assistant-surgeon to the rank of surgeon. If the surgeons of the commercial marine did not belong to the Company's service, in the same as those of the other branches of the service, he thought the appointment in question ought to be given to some of our own surgeons. There were many of our surgeons who returned from India in that state of embarrassment, that they would be glad to accept of this appointment at half the salary that had been mentioned.

The *Chairman* said, he had always considered, and, indeed, he had never heard to the contrary, that the surgeons belonging to the commercial marine were to be regarded as in the service of the Company. In the present case, the gentleman appointed had suffered from the effects of the climate of the east, and, if high testimonials to character and professional skill entitled an individual to consideration, Mr. Elliott was fully entitled to it. Some of those testimonials would be read to the court if it were desired.

Capt. *Marfield* said, one of his questions yet remained without answer. He wished to know whether the surgeons of the commercial marine were appointed by the Company, or by the owners of the ships?

The *Chairman* answered, that they were nominated, originally, by the owners, but they were examined, and their appointment was approved and confirmed by the Company.

Capt. *Marfield*.—"Then, am I to understand that they are adopted by you, but that afterwards, at the end of a voyage, they may go where they please, and when they please?"

The *Chairman*.—"No, indeed, you are to understand no such thing from what I have said, but quite the contrary."

Mr. *S. Dixon* observed, that after what had fallen from the hon. chairman, there could be no doubt of the qualifications of the gentleman appointed. The only doubt he had on the motion was, whether for a gentleman so qualified, and whose health had been impaired in the Company's service, the salary and allowance mentioned were not too small.

Dr. *Gilchrist* asked, was the head surgeon belonging to the Company's military service?

Mr. *Wigram* defended the appointment of an assistant-surgeon at the depôt, on the ground of necessity. The head surgeon at the depôt had been a military surgeon. His salary was, he believed, £500 a-year.

Dr. *Gilchrist* asked, whether he had any private practice?

The *Chairman* replied, that his practice was entirely confined to the depôt.

The motion was now put, and carried in the affirmative, without a dissentient voice.

THE PRESS IN INDIA.

Col. L. Stanhope said, he had two notices of motions, which it was his intention to submit for the consideration of the proprietors, at the next general court. The first motion of which he would give notice, was to this effect :—

“ That as the King of England's most upright and learned Chief Justice, Sir Edward West, and his Majesty's Judges, Sir Ralph Rice and Sir Charles Chambers, have declared in open Court at Bombay, that the licensing of the press in that settlement is unlawful and inexpedient, and have, therefore, refused to register the Calcutta regulations : and as no censor existed during the rule of W. Hastings, Lord Cornwallis or Sir John Shore ; and as the Marquis of Hastings, after having beat down the Mahratta confederacy, did on his triumphal entry into the metropolis, sacrifice the upstart monster, and set the public mind at liberty ; and as Mr. Canning, when President of the Board of Control, prevented shackles from being again fastened on the press, and was thanked by this Court for his wise administration ; and as no legal restraints on writing, under either native or European Governments, were ever till of late, enacted, except under the frightful inquisition at Goa ; this Court doth implore the Court of Directors not to extend this base monopoly over the mind, this curse to Bombay. By enthroning the licenser in that presidency, they would make Great Britain guilty of the inconsistency of depriving 180,000,000 of her own subjects of a blessing, which she has promoted in Portugal, and in South America.

WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

Col. L. Stanhope said that the second motion which it was his intention to bring forward, would be to this effect.

“ 1. That England, by the treaty of Gulistan, and by abandoning the wise measures of Sir J. Malcolm, in training a portion of Persia's troops to discipline, and placing her fortresses and passes in a state of defence, has laid that country open to the all-powerful legions of Russia.

“ 2. That Constantinople, on the Asiatic and defenceless side, is thereby endangered ; and British India, unsupported by the talents, the loyalty, and the valour of colonists, and having no public, could with difficulty oppose with her valiant sepoy the simultaneous, persevering, and wide-spreading attack of a swarm of Cossacks, Persians, Sieks, Mahrattas, and Burnnese, backed by a small corps of infantry and artillery, which would find magazines, fortresses, cannon, and gold on the field of their exploits.

“ 3. That though the conquests of Russia, from the germ of improvement contained in her institutions, might be advantageous to the Asiatic world in its present

backward and stationary condition ; yet, to civilized Europe it would prove fatal, because her Governments and society would sink to a level with the preponderating power, and insure to her a dark futurity.

“ 4. That under these circumstances this Court of Proprietors earnestly recommends the Court of Directors to consult his Majesty's enlightened ministers as to the military and diplomatic course which, in concert with France and Austria, they should pursue to check the march into Persia of the hardy soldiers of the good and active autocrat Nicholas.”

The *Chairman* observed, that it was the privilege of the hon. and gallant officer, as it was that of every member of the Court to submit what he thought proper to the consideration of the proprietors—but with the highest respect for the gallant officer, he thought that the introduction of the second motion, of which he had given notice, would be extremely injudicious at the present time, and would be calculated to do much more harm than good. He was sure it was the hon. and gallant officer's intention to do good, and such being the case, he put it to him to consider the subject a little more, and he was certain, that on farther reflection, he would perceive that nothing could be more injudicious than the step he proposed to take.

Col. L. Stanhope said, he felt much obliged for the suggestion thrown out from the chair. He would certainly give the subject serious consideration before the next general Court, and if it should appear to him in the same light in which it struck the hon. Chairman, he certainly would attend to that suggestion. In the mean time he would allow it to stand as a notice for the next Court.

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

Mr. Poynder gave notice, that at the next general Court, he would submit the following motion :—

“ That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal Government to interpose for their prevention ; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives.”

BOMBAY MARINE.

Capt. Maxfield said, that he had sent in a notice of a motion on the subject of the Company's Marine, in a letter addressed to the Court of Directors, and signed by two proprietors, with a request that the Court might be made special for its discussion. The Court had the power of making any Court special for any particular discussion, on the requisition of two proprietors, but in the present case the Court

Court of Directors took no notice of the application. He wished now to give notice, that he would introduce the subject at the next Quarterly Court.

The *Chairman* observed, that it was competent to the hon. member to give the notice if he so pleased, but his motion must come on after the other motions of which notice had been already given. As to the Court of Directors not having made the Court special at the requisition of two proprietors, it was in their discretion to do so or not, and they had not done so, be-

cause they thought that course would tend to defeat what he supposed was the hon. proprietor's own object, namely, the respectability and efficiency of the Bombay Marine. It would not be prudent to attempt the attainment of measures calculated to promote that object by a public discussion in this Court.

Col. L. Stanhope said, that he was one of the persons who signed the letter to the directors, and he was surprised no notice had been taken of it.

The Court adjourned at half-past six.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ships' Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras & Bengal	1827. March 13	George	480	Johnston and Maiburn	William Fulcher	W. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, and Co. [Brinley]
	March 30	Roxburgh Castle	504	William A. Bowen	W. A. Bowen	E. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, and Co., and J. S. Blackwall
	April 5	Lady MacNughten	500	Wigrams and Green	George Denny	Blackwall	John Pirie and Co.
	April 10	Childs Harold	600	William Faith	William Faith	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-sq.
	April 23	Neptune	403	Robert Grauger	Wm. W. West	E. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	May 29	Eliza	710	John Cumberlege, jun.	J. A. Cumberlege	E. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	May 31	Belzoni	632	David Sutton	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co.
	March 4	Resources	300	Andrew Talbert	Andrew Talbert	E. I. Docks	Loyal and Greig, London-street. [jun.]
	March 5	Eliza	335	Bernard Fenn	Bernard Fenn	E. I. Docks	D. & A. Wilkinson, & W. Redhead, City Canal
	March 10	Eliza	290	T. and A. Dixon	Adam Dixon	E. I. Docks	Thos. Dennis, Langbourn Chambers, W. I. Docks
Bengal and Ceylon	March 15	Lady Rotunda	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	March 15	St. David	352	John Leslie	J. Richardson	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	March 4	Lady Nugent	515	John Campbell	George J. Redman	City Canal	William Redhead, jun.
	March 31	Charles Kerr	300	W. Beachcroft	W. Beachcroft	Lon. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchlin-lane. [street.]
	April 30	Kath. Steu. Forbes	550	John Pirie and Co.	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman, and Co., Broad-street.
	April 21	Bolton	600	M. Andrew	John Brodie	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	March 15	Morning Star	300	William Tindell	Thos. Gibbs	W. I. Docks	Hazett and Co., Broad-street.
	March 20	Prince Regent	400	Buckles and Co.	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	March 28	Copernicus	350	William Tindell	Thos. Sanders	W. I. Docks	Cookes and Long, Mark-lane.
	March 29	Eliza Jane	220	Jas Carfrae	R. L. Hare	Lon. Docks	William Redhead, jun.
Mauritius & Ceylon	March 30	Mary and Jane	240	John Matches	John Matches	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	March 4	Orynthia	300	W. D. Dowson	William Rixon	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	March 15	Princess Victoria	160	Andrew Henderson	—	Lon. Docks	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	March 10	Fittoria	200	James H. Southam	Jas. H. Southam	City Canal	John S. Brinley, Birchlin-lane.
	March 25	Nimrod	300	Thomas Harvie	Thomas Harvie	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	March 1	Governor Ready	512	L. and A. Cambridge	Magnus Johnson	Sheerness	Joseph Lachlan.
	March 1	Manlius	479	Joseph Somes	John Young	Portsmouth	Joseph Lachlan.
	March 1	Mary of Hastings	452	George Lyall	Wm. Johnston	Sheerness	Joseph Lachlan.
	March 1	Perian	393	James Gale and Son	Joe. J. Drake	Portsmouth	Joseph Lachlan.
	March 1	Princess Charlotte	400	Howden and Gardner	Robert Plunkett	Woolwich	Joseph Lachlan.
New South Wales	March 7	Auricity	293	Robert Granger	Edward P. Godby	Woolwich	Joseph Lachlan.
	March 3	Medway	435	Pirie and Carr	John Findlay	Lon. Docks	Robt. Brooks, Old Broad-street.
	March 15	Long	357	John Binner	Borthwick Wright	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	March 15	Lon	275	John Lumsden	John Lusk	Lon. Docks	J. Binner, Church-row, Fenchurch-st.
	March 30	Orelia	385	William Hudson	Alexander Kenn	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Anstie and Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
V. D. Land & N. S. Wales	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
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	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.
	March 20	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.

1st March 1827.

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS, of the Season 1896-97, with their Managing Owners, Commanders, &c.

Ships.	Tons.	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Third Officers.	Fourth Officers.	Surgeons.	Purveyors.	Consignments.	To be Afloat.	To sail in the month.	When Sailed.
8 Bridgewater . . .	1276	James Sims . . .	J. R. Manderson . . .	W. H. Walker . . .	C. Pennington . . .	David Home . . .	John Hayward . . .	W. Spyr . . .	Joseph Cragg . . .	Bombay & China . . .	1826.	1827.	1827.
9 Lanchester Castle . . .	1427	Matthew Isacke . . .	Thomas Baker . . .	G. K. Bathie . . .	J. Wilkinson . . .	G.J. Thompson . . .	C. Hawkins . . .	(J. H. Glen) . . .	Benj. B. Lord . . .	St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China . . .	14 Nov 29	Nov 4 Jan.	4 Jan.
10 Atlas . . .	1287	Charles O. Mayne . . .	John Hine . . .	Hen. Briatow . . .	T. G. Adams . . .	John Vaux . . .	John Domett . . .	Robt. Murray . . .	Jos. W. Cragg . . .	Bombay & China . . .	29 do.	14 Dec 19	19 do.
11 Repulse . . .	1324	John F. Timmins . . .	C. B. Gribble . . .	Edw. Foord . . .	A. C. Watling . . .	F. Wainwright . . .	Godfr. S. Hirst . . .	Wm. Scott . . .	Nich. G. Glass . . .	Bombay & China . . .	20 do.	21 do.	21 do.
12 Duke of York . . .	1280	S. Majoribanks . . .	Robert Locke . . .	Geo. Ireland . . .	F. Mac Neill . . .	J. Thomson . . .	Dudley North . . .	Rich. Boyd . . .	Wm. E. Brown . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
13 Herefordshire . . .	1324	John Locke . . .	J. C. Whiteman . . .	Robert Card . . .	Wm. Robson . . .	B. J. Thomson . . .	J. R. Lancaster . . .	Richard Boyes . . .	Edw. Crowfoot . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
14 Panistart . . .	1280	Joseph Hine . . .	W. H. Bathie . . .	Hen. Edmonds . . .	John Rickett . . .	James Crozier . . .	Henry Cayley . . .	A. Johnstone . . .	R. G. Lancaster . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
15 Buckinghamshire . . .	1324	Company's Ship . . .	Rich. Glasspool . . .	W. Longcroft . . .	Alex. Bell . . .	Thos. Alchin . . .	Henry Cayley . . .	Wm. Hayland . . .	Wm. Bruce . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
16 Scutbury . . .	1280	Company's Ship . . .	David B. Newall . . .	John Hillman . . .	Peter Pilcher . . .	C. H. Leaver . . .	Arthur Burnell . . .	Robt. Strange . . .	Fred. Palmer . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
17 Charles Grant . . .	1246	William Moffat . . .	John P. Wilson . . .	R. Lindsay . . .	C. A. Eastmure . . .	J. James Sparrow . . .	C. Johnstone . . .	R. Alexander . . .	G. R. Griffiths . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
18 Hythe . . .	1280	S. Majoribanks . . .	Samuel Serle . . .	J. Dudman . . .	Wm. B. Coles . . .	James Mowat . . .	John Garnar . . .	John Lawson . . .	R. Middlemass . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
19 Inglis . . .	1280	R. Borradaile . . .	Amb. F. Proctor . . .	Wm. MacNair . . .	Thos. Thoms . . .	Mark Clayton . . .	R. E. Warner . . .	Joseph Docker . . .	Jas. Thomson . . .	Bombay & China . . .	14 Dec 20	3 Feb.	3 Feb.
20 Windsor . . .	1322	George Clay . . .	W. Cruickshank . . .	Henry Cowan . . .	George Lloyd . . .	James Walker . . .	J. G. Murray . . .	James Bruce . . .	D. Grassick . . .	St. Helena, Pe- nang, Singapore, and China . . .	29 do.	12 Jan 17	15 do.
21 Farquharson . . .	1326	John C. Lochner . . .	John Charrette . . .	H. Clement . . .	George Wise . . .	H. S. Isaacson . . .	Thos. Foss . . .	Wm. Westcott . . .	Robert Miles . . .	Madras & China . . .	1827.	26 do.	3 Mar.
22 Bombay . . .	1242	Henry Templer . . .	Alex. Nairne . . .	Richard Apple . . .	H. Thomson . . .	A. C. Barclay . . .	John Tate . . .	Jas. Halliday . . .	David Clark . . .	China . . .	25 Feb.	13 Mar	18 Apr.
23 General Kyd . . .	1240	James Walker . . .	Wm. Manning . . .	W. R. Blakey . . .	G. T. Calveley . . .	Fred. Hedges . . .	Bazil W. Mure . . .	C. Mac Rae . . .	C. D. Morson . . .	China . . .	25 Feb.	13 Mar	18 Apr.
24 Waterloo . . .	1300	S. Majoribanks . . .	W. H. Whitehead . . .	John D. Orr . . .	G. Carthnot . . .	Francis West . . .	W. S. Stockley . . .	John Cullen . . .	J. C. Sinclair . . .	Madras & Bengal . . .	27 Mar	11 Apr.	14 May
25 Duke of Sussex . . .	1322	Geo. Keet . . .	W. H. Ladd . . .	R. Patullo . . .	J. Sercombe . . .	Nath. A. Knox . . .	B. J. Littlehales . . .	C. H. Barnes . . .	W. H. Hunt . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
26 Kellie Castle . . .	976	George Palmer . . .	George Probyn . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
27 Minerva . . .	976	George Palmer . . .	George Probyn . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
28 Pr. Charl. of Wales . . .	1000	John L. Minet . . .	George Mason . . .	T. A. Davis . . .	C. S. Bawtree . . .	W. Liddell . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
29 Warren Hastings . . .	901	Henry Bonham . . .	Alfred Chapman . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
30 Mary. Wellington . . .	806	Company's Ship . . .	Charles Shea . . .	J. B. Burnett . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
31 Thomas Grenville . . .	806	Company's Ship . . .	Charles Shea . . .	J. B. Burnett . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	John D. Orr . . .	Bombay . . .	25 Apr.	10 May	13 Jun
Barossa . . .	729	Buckles & Co. . .	H. Hutchinson . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	China . . .	13 Mar.	10 Apr.	—
Alfred . . .	716	Fraser, Living & Co. . .	J. Pearson . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	China . . .	13 Mar.	10 Apr.	—
Broomebury . . .	751	Alfred Chapman . . .	Thos. Fewson . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	China . . .	13 Mar.	10 Apr.	—
Lord Hungerford . . .	736	J. L. Heathorn . . .	Wm. Heathorn . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	China . . .	13 Mar.	10 Apr.	—

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THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

APRIL, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

ON SLAVERY IN THE EAST.

THE acquisition by man of a right of property in his fellow, would appear, upon a hasty consideration of the subject, to be an unnatural abuse of power, which could originate only in a very debased and demoralized state of society :

God gave us only over beast, fish, fowl,
Dominion absolute ; that right we hold
By his donation : but man over men
He made not lord ; such title to himself
Reserving, human left from human free.

The relation of master and slave may, however, be discovered in the earliest records which we possess of the customs of antiquity ; we can trace it, indeed, almost to the first ages of the world.

A little calm reflection will induce us to conclude with Dr. Paley,* that, abstracted from the circumstances attending negro slavery in the western hemisphere (to which he was a decided enemy), the existence of this relation is not totally inconsistent with the law of nature.

It must be obvious that as soon as the idea of property is conceived amongst men, who renounce, for the sake of it, the right of joint possession, suited only to a primitive state of society, there must be many individuals who are either unable, or unwilling, to keep pace with others in industry, or to make equal efforts for securing the means of satisfying their wants. They must, therefore, be dependent upon others for subsistence, and, rather than starve, would be ready to barter their liberty, the only equivalent they could offer, for food, for clothing, for shelter, and for protection. This is one, perhaps the earliest, source of slavery.

Another cause is to be found in wars amongst early nations. Prisoners taken in battle, or people who submitted to their enemy, were considered to be

* See his *Moral Philosophy*.

be at the disposal of the victors, who, in place of slaughtering them, adopted the more humane expedient of compelling them to a state of servitude, or in the ancient phrase, "led them into captivity." This latter argument for enslaving captives has been admitted even by later and more enlightened people, and recognized by lawyers as consistent with the law of nations. *Jure gentium* (says Justinian) * *servi noti sunt qui ab hostibus capiuntur*; and Sextus Pompeius derives the term *maniceps*, or slave, from *manu capitur*,† one who is taken by an enemy.

The Holy Scriptures contain abundant evidence that domestic slavery was known amongst the Israelites, and that it was perpetuated on the descendants of those who were "bought with money of any stranger,"‡ even so early as the era of Abraham, 3700 years ago. A later example, in the time of Joseph, who purchased all the land of Egypt and the people upon it, who tendered themselves to Pharaoh for bread, because of the famine, must be familiar to the reader.§

The Mosaic law lays down express rules with regard to the purchase and the treatment of slaves.|| They were to be purchased of the heathen round about, and of the strangers that dwelt in Israel. A Hebrew, though he might sell himself (through want) to a Hebrew, was not to be regarded as a bond-servant, but as a hired servant, and only till the year of jubilee, unless he rejected his emancipation, when he became, after certain forms, a servant for ever. The treatment of these slaves appears to have been extremely mild; the master was divested of power over the life and members of his bond-man, and if he refused him sustenance and protection, he, in effect, gave him his liberty.

Ample proof is to be found in profane history of the prevalence of slavery throughout all the early eastern nations, from whence it descended to the ages of classical antiquity. Herodotus ¶ speaks of the practice amongst the ancient Persians, of reducing conquered nations to servitude; Xenophon ** intimates that slavery existed in Media, Persia, Bactria, Caria, Cilicia, and generally throughout Assyria, Arabia and Syria; and Homer not only refers to Egypt and Cyprus as the usual marts for slaves in his time, but mentions the arrival of a fleet from Lemnos, during the Trojan war, which bartered for wines, (amongst other articles of traffic) slaves—perhaps the earliest recorded instance of marine slave-trading:

"Ἐσθ' ἄρ' οἰνίζοντο καρχημονέωντες Ἀχαιοί,

"Ἄλλοι δ' ἀνδραπόδοισι.—Π. α. 472.

The term used in this passage for "slaves" is decisive as to the nature of their condition. The term *δουλος*, commonly employed, which implies a servant, is demonstrative of the fact that domestic offices were usually discharged by individuals in a mancipiated state. Parkhurst derives the latter term from the Hebrew root לך, which denotes a state of exhaustion; and in those passages †† where the words לךך and לךךך occur, and which are rendered in our version "the poorest and lowest sort of people," the context seems to shew that the persons spoken of were slaves.

The condition of a slave must in those early days have been by no means so despicable, degraded, and full of suffering, as our present notions, formed upon

* Lib. i. §. 6. l. † Sext. Pomp. Fest. lib. xl.

‡ Gen. xvii, 12, 13. See also Jer. li. 14.

§ Gen. xlvii. "Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh," &c. V. 19, 20, 23.

¶ See Exod. xxi. Levit. xxv. Deut. xv.

¶ Clio, 98.

** Cyrop. lib. iv.

†† 2 Kings, xxiv, 14. Jer. xl. 7. lii, 15, 16.

upon a knowledge of the scenes which have taken place in the West-Indies and Africa, lead us naturally to conclude. The mere fact of a disposition on the part of freemen to renounce their birthright, to contract voluntarily the relationship, and even after seven years' experience to forego the right of liberation, affords a pledge that the condition was at least very tolerable. Demosthenes tells us that, in Athens, the condition of a slave was preferable to that of a free man in many other countries. He even quotes a law which protected slaves from contumely.*

There were many incidents, however, in the state of slavery amongst the Greeks and Romans, which showed a lamentable want of regard towards the unhappy people who were subjected to it. The Spartan Helots, for example, experienced a very different treatment from that referred to by Demosthenes.† The condition of the slaves at Rome‡ was nearly as bad, originally, as that of the negroes in the West-Indies. They were regarded as *nobody*, as *dead men*, as *beasts*; they were not capable of suffering legal wrong; they could not take by purchase or descent; they had no heirs, or heritable property; exclusive of their *peculium*, all they possessed was their master's; they were excluded from all civil concerns whatsoever; they were not entitled to the rights resulting from a state of matrimony; they were not objects of cognation or affinity; they could be sold, transferred, or pawned, as chattels or personal property; they might be tortured to give evidence; they might be punished at the discretion of their lord, and even put to death by his authority.§ The latter power, which no other nation previously possessed, was taken away by a law of Adrian, against cruel masters, which made the murder of a slave a capital offence, and required that slaves should be tried and condemned by the tribunals if they had committed a crime.|| The Roman law, like that of Solon, followed a slave's body after his decease; for it forbade the anointing of individuals who had died in a state of servitude.¶

The Greeks and Romans, like the Hebrews, made the badge of servitude descend to the posterity of the slave.

The Arabs, who boast a purer and more unmixed antiquity than any other nation, as they inhabit the countries which were first peopled, and which were never entirely conquered,** exhibit, in the records of history, few distinct traces of the existence of slavery amongst them, except that mentioned in the Holy Scriptures, namely, the sale of Joseph by his brethren. The total absence of this relation might be accounted for by the obvious consideration that slaves must have been to them in a certain degree burthensome. Whether slavery did or did not prevail in ancient Arabia, the law of Mahomet acknowledges strictly but one cause of bondage—war against the infidels. Captives so taken are distinguished, according to the circumstances, as *Mamluk*, or acquired, *Mawrus*, or inherited, and *Mawhub*, or given. The offspring of all these are *khanehzadeh*, i. e. children of the house, or home-born slaves. Other sources of slavery practically exist, by fictions and evasions of the law; but these are abuses.

Under the Mohammedan law, slaves labour under great disabilities, even to the full extent of the Roman slaves. The master is armed with the power of

* Or. adv. Midiam.

† Pliny says that slavery was invented by the Spartans. lib. VII. c. 87.

‡ Slavery at Rome seems to have been coeval with the foundation of the city; for Dionysius tells us that Romulus consigned military and agricultural pursuits to citizens, and "sordid arts" to slaves.

§ Taylor's Elem. of Civil law, pp. 428-9.

|| Grævius, *Thes. Antiq. Rom.* ix. col. 410.

¶ Ibid. xii. col. 1374.

** Wood's Essay on the Genius and Writings of Homer, p. 152.

of life and death over his slave;* the latter cannot marry without consent of the former; slaves are incapable of making a gift or sale, or of inheriting or bequeathing property (though it would appear that they enjoy a qualified right of possession); they cannot be witnesses, the reason assigned for which restriction is, that as testimony is of an authoritative nature, and as a slave has no authority over his own person, he can have none over others:† a more cruel regulation still is that a master cannot testify on behalf of his slave. The Mahomedan slave-code has, however, some redeeming clauses: the children of a man born of his female slave, are free; the mother cannot be sold, and upon her master's death is unconditionally emancipated.‡ Moreover, in practice, the judicial authorities take cognizance of any oppression or signal severity exercised by a master towards his slave; and, in some cases, slaves receive only half the punishment adjudged to other offenders, because, says the Hedaya, "as bondage admits of the participation of only half the blessings of life, it also occasions the suffering of only half the punishment, since an offence increases in magnitude in proportion to the magnitude of the blessings under the enjoyment of which it is committed."

Having thus taken a cursory view of the subject of slavery amongst the Jews, the ancient Egyptians, the various nations connected with or descended from them, as well as in the comparatively modern states of Greece and Rome, and the still more recent empire founded by Mahomet; we turn our attention to India, the natives of which possess claims to antiquity of a peculiar kind, with relation to whom the subject we are now considering has given rise to very interesting discussions.

The ancient Greek writers, who have given us an account of the condition of Hindostan at the period of Alexander's invasion, concur in stating that slavery did not exist there. "All the Indians," says Arrian,§ "are free; they have no slaves amongst them." Strabo || says, "none of the Indians employ slaves:" he adds, indeed, afterwards, that this remark refers more especially to a portion of India under Musicanus, subject to a superior kind of government. It is extraordinary that these writers, or rather their authorities, should have been so egregiously deceived upon this point.

Of the existence of slavery in Hindostan, at the earliest period of its history, there can be as little doubt as of its existence in some parts of that country at the present day. In the *Manava Dherma Sastra*, or code of Menu, for example, slaves are repeatedly mentioned, and there appear some traits, in respect to slavery, coinciding with the enactments of the Levitical law. For instance, the rule *partus sequitur ventrem* was recognized by the Hindu ¶ as well as the Hebrew** lawgiver, though western nations adopted a different principle, as in the English law of villeinage.††

Menu ‡‡ describes seven sources of slavery: captivity in battle; maintenance in consideration of service; birth, i. e. the progeny of a female slave in the house; sale; gift; inheritance from ancestors; punishment, through incapacity to pay a fine. The Hindu law has created eight other sources arising from these; namely, pledged by a former master; released from debt; acquired by a wager; voluntary offer; apostacy; supported in a famine; contract for stipulated time; and self-sale. Of the fifteen kinds of slavery, the following

* Hedaya, xvi.

† Mr. Mills (Hist. of Muhammedanism, ch. v, p. 360) justly regards this as a curious reason for the inadmissibility of slave testimony.

‡ Hedaya, book v, cc. 1 and 7.

§ De Indic. c. x.

|| Geogr. lib. v, p. 710.

¶ Menu, ch. ix. 48, 50, 55.

** Exod. xxi. 4.

†† Co. Litt. 123.

‡‡ Ch. viii. 415—417.

following only are hereditary and perpetual : viz. such as are born of a female slave in the house of her master ; or are acquired by purchase, by gift, or by inheritance ; or such as sell themselves. The others are redeemable, and in some cases are rather servants, in the common acceptation of the term, than slaves.

The Hindu law recognizes no rights in a slave : " three persons," says Menu,* " a wife, a son, and a slave, are declared by law to have no wealth exclusively their own : the wealth which they may earn is acquired for the man to whom they belong." Although the power of a master over his slave is not expressly defined by the law, it seems, as to corporeal punishment, to be limited to the extent to which an individual may go in the chastisement of his wife, his son, his pupil, and his younger brother ; namely, the infliction of blows with a rope or the small shoot of a cane on the back of their bodies ; but not on a noble part, without incurring " the guilt of a thief."† Slave evidence is not generally admissible according to Menu;‡ but the validity given to a contract made by a slave, for the behoof of the family, in the name of his absent master, and which the latter cannot rescind,§ invests them with some of the functions of a witness and free agent. Moreover, it appears that a slave may become the possessor of a slave.|| The acquisition of slaves by violence, except in open war, is held illegal by the Hindu law, and the magistrate is empowered to set slaves so acquired at liberty.

The duties of slaves are declared by the law to be of a domestic nature ; what is termed impure work is assigned to the slaves, such as cleaning the house, attendance upon the master, &c. Agriculture is reckoned pure ; the husbandmen rank, as hired servants, below the soldier, but above the slave.¶

Such is a brief account of the slave-system of India according to the law of the country ; with respect to its applicability to present circumstances, it appears, from Mr. Harington's Analysis,** that on reference to the *Sudder Dewanny Adawlut*, in 1798, the court was of opinion that the spirit of the rule for observing the Mohammedan and Hindu laws was applicable to cases of slavery ; and this construction was confirmed by the Governor General in Council. Again, on a reference to the Supreme Government from Bombay in 1817, to ascertain whether the acts of Parliament for the abolition of the slave-trade applied to domestic slaves, the Vice President in Council observed that none of the provisions of those acts in any manner affected, or professed to affect, the relation between master and slave, wherever that relation might exist by law. Whatever, therefore, was the law according to the Mohammedan and Hindu codes, on the subject of domestic slavery, before the passing of the act of 51 Geo. III, c. 23, continues to be the law still, more especially as those codes have been distinctly recognized, and ordered to be observed, by Parliament.††

Various regulations have been made by the British Government of India for the regulation and amelioration of this relation, and especially to prevent the importation or sale of slaves within the British territories in India ; but there can be no doubt that slavery legally exists in India, and that the essential part of the native law in respect to the relation of master and slave remains intact.

With such satisfactory proof of this important fact, it is with some surprise we read, in the course of our researches upon this subject, the following

* Ch. viii. 416.

† Menu, Ch. viii. 299, 300.

‡ *Ibid.* 70.

§ *Ibid.* 167.

¶ *Ibid.* Ch. ix. 179.

|| *Oriental Mag. of Calcutta*, No. VII, p. 115.

** Vol. i, p. 68. Lond. ed.

†† *Analysis*, Vol. III, p. 753. Cal. ed. *Oriental Mag.* No. VII, p. 117.

ing statements in the *Friend of India*;* which contains an article entitled "On Slavery as it now exists in India, and particularly in Bengal," written avowedly with the laudable view of reconciling the English public to the reduction of the unequal burthens on East-India sugar:

It is scarcely necessary to add, that slavery is now entirely prohibited by the British government here (in India) as really as in Britain itself. In consequence of this, whatever of this nature exists at present is conducted wholly in secret, like all other acts of injustice, robbery and iniquity. No gangs of slaves are now seen in the fields of Bengal, if they were ever seen there in any former period; no slave is ever openly exposed for sale, and still less is such sale ever advertized in the public papers. Nor is the act of selling a slave more fully covered by darkness than the fact of holding persons in a state of slavery. No native dares openly avow here that he holds a fellow creature in slavery; although from the concealment which, enveloping the economy and arrangement of native families, hides them so fully from European view, it may probably be the case to a certain extent, while forbidden by the British laws, and held in such abhorrence by British functionaries of justice.

Again: It is some little consolation to learn that in India *there can be no hereditary slavery*; and that the children of persons thus unhappily sold into slavery of themselves go out free. It is only the person actually sold who is in bondage; over their children, according to the opinion of the natives themselves, their owners have no right whatever. They may go out free whenever they choose; and if they remain in the houses of those who purchased their parents, it arises wholly from choice on their own part, or from flagrant injustice on the part of their pretended owners.

We have no hesitation in expressing our opinion that these are misrepresentations; and we feel so much distrust of the writer's accuracy, that we shall refrain from taking any of our facts from the article in which they appear.

To this testimony of one missionary we oppose the evidence of another, Mr. Ward,† who represents domestic slavery as very common in India, although mild in its character. He adds that, "in some parts of India, children are as much an article of sale as goats and poultry." This we believe to be an exaggeration on the other side; but it is right to subjoin, that the sale of children not only does take place, but Mr. Harington‡ expresses his decided opinion that the absolute prohibition of the practice, especially in a period of scarcity, would prove injurious, by occasioning the children of distressed parents to be left to perish.

It must be recollected that in India there is no public provision for the poor and helpless, whose only means of support is derived from the slender and uncertain produce of female industry.§

When the sugar question came under public discussion in the year 1823, the existence of slavery in Bengal, where East-India sugar is chiefly produced, became a very interesting point of consideration. By referring to our report of the debates at the East-India House, in March 1823,|| the reader will find that much uncertainty prevailed, even amongst those speakers who had resided in India, as to whether slavery did or did not exist in Bengal. One fact is, indeed, to be collected from their testimony, namely, that the number of slaves in the Bengal provinces is exceedingly small, and that they are not employed in the process of sugar manufacture.

Mr. Colebrooke, in a minute dated in 1812, states that in the lower provinces of Bengal, the employment of slaves in agricultural labours is nearly, if not entirely unknown; but that in the upper provinces, from western Behar and

* For December 1823, No. IX.

† View of the Hindoos, Vol. III, p. 281.

‡ Analysis, Vol. I, p. 71.

§ Remarks on Husb. and Intern. Com. of Bengal, p. 129.

|| Asiat. Journ. Vol. XV, p. 357 et seq.

Benares, the petty landholders, who are themselves cultivators, are aided in their husbandry by their slaves; that is to say, the slave drives the oxen, whilst his master guides the plough. The same excellent authority states, in another place,* that, throughout some districts of Bengal the labours of husbandry are executed by bond servants, and that in certain provinces, the ploughmen are mostly slaves of the peasants for whom they labour; but, treated by their masters more like hereditary servants, or mancipated hinds, than like purchased slaves, they labour with cheerful diligence and unforced zeal. He adds, that though slaves may be found amongst the labourers of Bengal, yet in most provinces, none but freemen are employed in the business of agriculture.

Much misunderstanding seems to have arisen upon this question from confounding with slaves the lower classes in Bengal, who are by birth or tenure subject to the performance of stipulated services, of which there are many examples. In some places, says the unexceptionable authority last quoted, the landholders have a claim to the servitude of thousands among the inhabitants of their estates. This claim, which is seldom enforced, and which in many instances has become wholly obsolete, is founded on some traditional rights acquired many generations ago, in a state of society different from the present; and slaves of this description do in fact enjoy every privilege of a freeman except the name; or, at the worst, they must be considered as villeins attached to the glebe, rather than as bondmen labouring for the sole benefit of their owners. Indeed, throughout India, the relation of master and slave appears to impose the duty of protection and cherishment on the master, as much as that of fidelity and obedience on the slave; and their mutual conduct is consistent with the sense of such an obligation, since it is marked with gentleness and indulgence on the one side, and with zeal and loyalty on the other.†

Whilst the government adopt every means to check slavery and to ameliorate the condition of the existing slaves, the increase of the number of this class is prevented by the cessation of many of the causes which operated in a less tranquil and well regulated state of government than that to which India is at present subject. The chief source of the supply of slaves in former times was created by the distress of the people, occasioned sometimes by natural causes, but more frequently by the tyranny of their government, or by military aggressions. The mountaineers on the east or west, the Garrows or the Goonds, were compelled by the want of food to offer their children for sale; the Assamese fled from their Burmah invaders, and the inhabitants of Nepaul and the Himalaya from the Ghoorkas, and sought a refuge in slavery; the distractions of Rajpootana and Malwa drove the peaceable natives of those territories to the same resource. Hence was maintained the slave-trade in the eastern parts of Bengal, in Oude, in the upper part of the Dooab, in Bundelcund, and in the northern portion of the peninsula.‡

With respect to the existence of slavery in Central India, so lately subjected to our influence and authority, and the condition of the slaves in that quarter, we have the evidence of an able writer, Sir John Malcolm, who states that slaves in Malwa are rare, and never seen but with men of some rank and property, with whom they are the confidential servants. "Male slaves," he says, "are generally treated in Central India more like adopted children than menials." Female slaves are, however, for obvious reasons,

most

* Remarks on the Husb., &c. of Bengal, pp. 120, 131

† *Ibid.*

‡ *Calcutta Orient. Mag.* No. VII, p. 121.

most numerous, of which class are the dancing girls. With regard to the treatment of slaves, Sir John says that the native governments are not in the habit of taking cognizance of the punishment inflicted by masters on their slaves, unless it extends to life, when the masters are held responsible.*

Upon the whole, it appears that in the provinces dependent upon the presidency of Fort William slavery does exist, but that it is of a domestic kind, and of a mild character; or if agricultural slaves are to be found there, they work along with their masters in the field, as drivers of the plough which their owners guide. It further appears, that this class is upon the wane as to numbers, owing not to harsh treatment, or to those other causes to which the diminution of a population is usually attributable; but to the natural increase in the numbers being overbalanced by manumissions.

(To be resumed in our next number.)

THE HON. COL. STANHOPE IN ANSWER TO DR. BRYCE.†

TO THE REV. DR. BRYCE.

SIR:—I have just received your letter, dated June 10, 1826, requesting me to state on what authority I described you, in a speech delivered at the India House, in January of the same year, in terms which you have quoted from the *Asiatic Journal* of the following month.

In reply, I take the earliest opportunity to say, that the report of this speech given in the *Asiatic Journal* is quite at variance with the report of the same speech in the *Oriental Herald* for Feb. 1826. At pp. 410, 411 of the latter, I am reported to have said :

Mr. Buckingham chanced to comment in a humorous manner on the appointment of Dr. Bryce to be a clerk of stationery, and for so commenting he was banished. Notwithstanding that Mr. Buckingham was banished for having commented on this appointment, the Court of Directors disapproved of the conduct of the India Government in having made the appointment, and ordered the said clerk to be dismissed. The Scotch clergy generally disapproved of the appointment; and most men considered that the reverend Doctor ought to be deprived of his clerical office.—Next came the persecution of Mr. Arnot. On Mr. Buckingham's removal, Mr. Arnot was left editor of the paper. He chanced to make some observations, in which he attributed Mr. Buckingham's misfortunes to Dr. Bryce, and for those observations he was likewise banished. Thus did the Presbyterian political parson—censured and deprived of his civil office by you (the Directors of the India Company), and his conduct disapproved by the church to which he belonged,—this editor of the *John Bull*,—this vender of pens, pounce, and paper,—triumph over these two honourable men.

In these paragraphs, I do not perceive the expression attributed to me in the corresponding passages which you have quoted from the *Asiatic Journal*. Since, however, the reports in the *Asiatic Journal* are distinguished for great correctness and rigid impartiality, I may possibly have said that Dr. Bryce had been deprived of his clerical office. Under the influence of the *doubt*, I must at once do all that can be done, namely, repent of having made a calumnious misstatement, and beg your pardon.—I am, your most humble servant,

London, 28th March 1827.

LEICESTER STANHOPE.

* Memoirs of Central India, Vol. II. 196—204.

† See *Asiat. Journ.*, Vol. XXII, p. 671.

TRIAL BY JURY IN BRITISH INDIA.

In the year 1822, an inquiry was set on foot, at the instance of a Committee appointed for revising the Regulations under the presidency of Bombay, regarding the expediency of introducing the system of trial by jury, in criminal cases, amongst the natives in the provinces subject to that government. The Committee drew up a series of questions to be proposed to the several judicial authorities; and as the Governor in Council took considerable interest in the subject, the opinion of several individuals, besides the zillah judges, were taken on the queries propounded by the Regulation-Committee. The arguments employed by those individuals, whether adverse or favourable to the measure, were not restricted by local considerations, but appear generally applicable to the natives of India in the aggregate: a compendious view of the arguments in the several answers, taken from the records at the East-India House, printed in the Bombay Judicial Selections,* will, therefore, supply a desideratum on this question;—a question often discussed but ill-understood.

The criminal judge of Broach (Mr. Kentish) is of opinion that the appointment of judicial assessors or jurymen amongst the natives would, in its general effects, tend to impede the pure and prompt administration of justice, owing to the total want of ability, judgment, and integrity in the natives to discharge the functions of jurymen. The measure would, he conceives, be hostile to the general feelings of the community, from the universal indolence and retired habits of the people. They place so little confidence in each other, and hold the decisions of Europeans in such high estimation, that he believes the measure would not increase their regard for our administration of criminal justice. In the constitution of a native jury, great difficulties would arise: if the members were of the same caste with the prisoner, there would be partiality or prejudice; if they were of a different caste, general indifference or unfavourable bias would deprive the prisoner of a fair and impartial trial; and were the jury formed promiscuously from natives of every description, his guilt or innocence would be lost sight of amidst their feuds and animosities, engendered by the annihilation of caste-distinctions. He doubts, indeed, whether different castes would willingly associate with each other on a jury, and compulsory measures would be construed into an attack on their customs. He concludes that, as the respectable natives are extremely averse to appearing in courts of justice, or in any public proceeding, it would be found very difficult to prevent improper persons from being returned to serve on juries.

The judge at Surat (Mr. Anderson) is unfavourable to the measure on the following grounds:—The chief obstacle to the trial by jury in India arises from the character of the natives, their general way of thinking, their want of education, their prejudices, and, above all, their disregard of truth and want of principle. Their religious feelings would create difficulties; the influence arising from caste and family would, from its power and extent, considerably affect the fairness of the trial. The natives generally are little capable of judging of the effects of evidence, of connecting a chain of reasoning when the case is unusual or intricate. The oath, by which a jurymen is bound, would have a slight effect upon a native, who has little value for truth; whilst his proneness to bribery and corruption is another and a fatal objection to the scheme. Another cause which would prevent natives from being good jurymen is their apprehension of animosity from a person, or his family, against whom

* Selection of Papers, &c. vol. iv. pp. 570—583.

whom they might give a verdict. The argument drawn from the experience of punchayets is inconclusive: "no two modes of trial can more differ than an Indian punchayet and a British jury." On one point, Mr. Anderson is decidedly at issue with Mr. Kentish. In answer to the question whether it would be practicable to place Mahomedans and Hindoos on the same jury, Mr. Anderson says: "I think it would be practicable and desirable." Mr. Kentish says: "Independent of the almost impracticability of the measure, I think it would, under no circumstances, be advisable to allow of an intermixture of Hindoos and Mahomedans on a native jury."

The judge in the Southern Concan (Mr. Hale) is an advocate for the plan, "under a strong impression that the effects of its institution would, though perhaps not immediately efficacious, yet in the end be beneficial;" and that "any temporary evil to be apprehended is on the whole overbalanced by the prospect of future benefits to the community." He recommends, however, that the number of jurymen be limited to *five*, the number of a punchayet, and that the expedient should commence (with reference to his own zillah) with a selection from the Brahmin caste for the trial of *all* Hindoos. This plan, he says, affords the only prospect of obtaining men of education and ability fit for the duty; for, "it is obvious that the system at home, of trying the prisoner by his equals, would never answer in this country." He does not think it desirable that Brahmins and Mahomedans should be empanelled together, though it might be done with other castes of Hindoos and Mahomedans; but he recommends that Mahomedans should be tried by the most respectable of their own sect. He suggests that the native jury should merely find whether the act or deed charged had been committed by the prisoner, without designating the crime; and he assigns this reason: "there are cases where a prisoner guilty of robbery or murder would be pronounced innocent by a Mahomedan jury." Mr. Hale considers it essential to the success of the measure that the jury should be paid for their time and services, as few, if any, natives would feel sufficient interest in such a duty to perform it gratuitously. He confesses that the principal danger to the measure arises from the difficulty of a native jury withstanding the influence of an individual of their own rank and caste. Instances would abound where all the innumerable petty contrivances and intrigues, for which the natives are so notorious, would be put in practice to sway and mislead, to bribe and corrupt, the jury: "all the influence," he adds, "arising from connexion, relationship, caste, or wealth, would be put in force in the prisoner's favour, and it would be placing more confidence in the integrity of natives of any caste than I am inclined to do, to say that such arguments would not oftener succeed than prove abortive."

The judge in the Northern Concan (Mr. Baillie) is of opinion that the trial by jury amongst the native population never can be introduced either with effect or advantage. From the superior confidence the generality of the natives place in Europeans, in comparison with their own castes, he is convinced that prisoners would much rather that their cases should be investigated by an English judge, unassisted by any natives, than by a native jury composed of the most respectable men. He concludes: "The apathy and want of energy in most natives are so great, and the little interest that they take in any thing but what actually concerns themselves is so observable, that I think the very circumstance of their being liable to serve on a jury, instead of being looked upon as an advantage, and as securing to them (if not abused) an impartial decision, would by them be viewed as a hardship, and an act of

• oppression ;

oppression; for, even as witnesses, it is compulsion alone which can bring them forward, and it would therefore appear to them additional severity to be obliged to sit on the same business for days and days together, without remuneration; and I very much doubt whether the attention of the members of a jury would be fixed to the points under examination, unless actuated by private and improper motives."

The judge at Kaira (Mr. De Vitre) conceives that native juries, "instead of assisting would very seriously impede the trial of criminal cases; and that, in various ways, from their deplorable deficiency in integrity of character, such a mode of trial would be highly objectionable." The measure, he thinks, would be far from agreeable to the natives; and the evils it would lead to, instead of diminishing, would in the course of time increase. None of the castes, he says, would convict one of their own body; and there are so many religious and other strong objections to persons of different castes acting together as jurymen, that it is next to impossible to form a jury that would be at all efficient. The conclusion of Mr. De Vitre's answers is as follows: "I think it neither practicable for juries to be efficiently introduced, nor advisable that the attempt should be made. Castes and divisions in castes are of themselves almost insuperable objections to the practice ever being introduced with good effect; there are besides religious feelings and prejudices of many descriptions to be taken into consideration, all operating unfavourably to the introduction of such a mode of trial, to say nothing of the notoriously woeful ignorance and deficiency in integrity of character in the people generally. In short, the duties of jurymen appear to me to be far beyond the comprehension and character of the natives, as possessing none of those benefits of education, independence, or integrity of character, or enlightened or liberal ideas, so essentially requisite in persons filling such responsible situations."

Mr. Jones, criminal judge at —, conceives that the institution of a jury would be attended with the best effects. He has always considered the mode of conducting the administration of criminal justice in India to be extremely defective. The criminal judge first appears as the accuser of the prisoner, he then proceeds to try him, and lastly to punish him. The introduction of a jury would take away the most dangerous of these powers; and the odium, now incurred by the judge, would be transferred to the jury. Another advantage would be, that the really guilty would have less chance of escape, and the innocent less chance of condemnation; because the true merits of a case, and the motives which lead a man to accuse another wrongfully, must be much better felt and understood by a jury of natives than by an English judge. The only ill-effect to be apprehended, in his opinion, arises from the obsequiousness of the native disposition, which would render a jury a dangerous weapon in the hands of a wicked judge. He says: "I have so little reliance upon the probity or independent spirit of the natives in general, that I feel convinced they would seldom, if ever, act in opposition to what they considered to be the wish, or even the opinion, of the judge." He thinks that the jury might be so formed as to afford an efficient safeguard against another serious objection, which would otherwise be insuperable; namely, the want of integrity amongst the natives, which is almost universally admitted. If the jury, he observes, were to be composed of men of the same caste with the person to be tried, the bias in his favour, owing to connexions, relationship, and also the honour of the caste itself, would preponderate, and in frequent cases ensure the acquittal of the prisoner.

The judges of the court of Sudder Adawlut do not concur in opinion as to

the expediency of the introduction of trial by jury, in native criminal cases. The chief judge (Mr. Romer) observes that there is such an immense distance between the principal institutions, and the manners, feelings, and prejudices of the communities, in England and India, that there is no warrant for expecting that the trial by jury, which has required the experience of ages to perfect in England, would produce any good fruits among the natives of India. Though it may not be easy, he says, to point out any positive evil which would follow its introduction, it is more difficult to show the grounds for expecting any probable good to result from it.

The second judge of the court (Mr. Sutherland) differs in opinion upon this question from his colleagues. He considers that the introduction of trial by jury in criminal cases would be attended with the best effects; that criminals would be more easily convicted by a jury of their own countrymen, who would be better able to appreciate their characters, as well as that of the witnesses, than a single judge; and that the jury system would tend to disseminate more widely a knowledge of the constitution by which the country is governed, especially in respect to the judicial administration, by means of the opinions and discussions to which the employment of natives as jurors would give rise. He anticipates no ill effects from the introduction of juries, "save what may arise from the acknowledged want of integrity in the native character, which is to be considered as the only obstacle." This grand moral defect, however, he adds, can hardly be called into action unless from interested motives; and, though open to suspicion of corruption individually, it would, he thinks, be too much to suppose that, in a community however bad, a jury promiscuously chosen, and acting under proper restrictions, would be swayed in their verdict by vicious motives alone. He is aware that "in punchayets, or arbitrations of matters of a civil description, the natives do not place confidence in each other, and when they do, hardly ever fail to regret it." He confesses, notwithstanding, that he feels warmly in favour of juries, as time, he thinks, will remove the evil effects adverted to, and "in all likelihood, prove the engine, assisted by sound education, of improving the character of the people generally for integrity, and give them settled notions of rectitude that are at present too loose."

The third judge (Mr. Ironside) coincides with the chief judge, and, after mature reflection and consideration, declares his opinion to be hostile to the introduction of trial by jury, "as being in every respect unsuited to the genius, habits and feelings of the people, and from an apprehension that, so far from the ends of justice being attained, as is now almost universally the case under our own existing system, the very reverse is to be anticipated in the administration of criminal justice, were so novel and hazardous a measure to be ultimately adopted."

The fourth judge (Mr. Barnard) is opposed to the measure. He considers that the general effects of it would be a total want of discrimination as well as impartiality in the verdicts; that until the Indian mind underwent an entire change the evils would continue to exist, as at first, in the greatest possible degree; that those natives concerned in the measure only on public grounds would be strongly averse to it, regarding it as an abandonment of justice, and a proof that the government was indifferent to their welfare, whilst those only would like the employment of jurors who gained a salary by it, and for no other reason. The jury system, he conceives, would puzzle the natives rather than make them better acquainted with our principles of administration, which are at present simple and well understood. He adds: "however paradoxical it may

may appear, my opinion is that if juries were to be adopted, the fittest persons to discharge the duties would be the least civilized and most ignorant; these of course would be of the lowest caste. They are not deficient in shrewdness, and their habits have not produced so great a degree of habitual involuntary partiality towards various classes, acts, sentiments, &c. as exists in those whose minds have been more practised. But neither the ignorant nor cultivated minds possess any qualities to render them eligible to decide on any degree of guilt whatever."

The foregoing are opinions of judicial officers: those which follow are the sentiments of individuals free from any supposed partiality towards the existing system, which might be attributed to those who have been long habituated, and therefore attached, to its forms.

Mr. Chaplin, the Commissioner in the Deccan, states that the institution of criminal juries would be an innovation not sanctioned by former practice; that there are, besides, many solid objections to their employment, particularly the intermixture of castes; that the measure would be extremely inconvenient; and would lead, in many cases, to wrongous and partial decisions; and he concludes by expressing an opinion that the reverse of benefit would be the consequence of employing juries.

Mr. Robertson, principal collector at Poona, appears doubtful of the effects which would ensue from the introduction of the measure. He says: "It is not easy to offer good opinions on new plans like this, from the difficulty of judging what prejudices might be set in motion to oppose them. If our Hindoo subjects were usually guided by reason in their views of human affairs, we might arrive at some tolerably accurate conclusion of the light in which any innovation or improvement would be considered and received by them; but we daily observe that their absurd feelings relating to religion and caste give a colour and bias to every consideration and undertaking: all I can say, therefore, is, that if a trial of juries is attempted, it should be at first introduced and its effects observed, in some district where there is a less degree of Brahminical influence than there is in Poona; and where our authority has been long enough established to prevent a failure from causes that might have an influence in a new country."

Mr. St. John Thackeray's opinion upon the subject is to the following effect: that in serious criminal cases, when the evidence against the prisoner is only circumstantial, the judgment of intelligent natives would be highly beneficial; that juries would increase the confidence of the natives in the administration of criminal justice, and render sentences popular, and punishments more exemplary, if the attendance of jurymen were not made vexatious; but the natives, who are so often taken from their business by punchayets, would not willingly give their attendance. To obviate this objection, he proposes that juries should be appointed only in cases involving intricate circumstantial evidence, in the absence of direct testimony or confession.

Mr. H. Pottinger, collector in the Deccan, enters very fully into the details of the question. He is of opinion that the jury system would be an innovation which the natives would neither appreciate nor understand; that compulsion alone could assemble a jury, and when assembled the members would be insensible to the importance of their duty and the sacredness of their oath; that prejudices of caste or education, motives of private interest, or dread of resentment, would deter them from fulfilling the obligations imposed upon them; and that no native jury would pay the necessary attention to the evidence

dence and merits of the case. He explains and supports his opinion by examples : he supposes a Bheel put on his trial for the alleged murder of a Brahmin traveller, and that only circumstantial, not conclusive, evidence appeared against him ; Mr. Pottinger has no doubt that a native jury would find the man guilty, through their strong prejudices against the Bheels and in favour of Brahmins. Again, he reverses the case, and supposes a Brahmin indicted for murdering a Bheel boy, who had been employed about his house in menial offices ; that it was proved the boy had committed a fault, and that the Brahmin had punished him in so cruel a manner that the lad died ; Mr. Pottinger firmly believes that no native jury would find the Brahmin guilty. Even if the jury were a mixed one, the awe in which all other castes (except Musulmans) hold the Brahmins, would induce them to concur in the sentiments of the latter. Mr. Pottinger considers that the natives of India are not prepared to receive the boon of trial by jury ; and that they must be previously taught some of the good qualities of human nature. " My sentiments," he says, " include all classes, for I have found very few exceptions indeed, from the nobleman to the lowest outcast, where I could depend on the veracity or honour of a single creature." He adds that the measure would be unquestionably unpopular, for the people are fully persuaded of the vices which pervade the society they live in, and would protest against their compeers being placed in judgment on them.

Mr. Briggs, political agent in Candeish, is favourable to the introduction of native juries into the judicial system. It happened that, through misapprehension of the instructions of the Commissioner in the Deccan, he commenced trying criminal cases by assembling a punchayet, a form of arbitration confined generally to civil suits. It may be convenient to give an epitome of the details of this substitute for a jury. The number of persons assembled was five, seven, or nine ; and they were usually selected from zemindars of the pergunnah in which the case was tried, and from respectable persons, commonly Brahmins, who accompanied the cutcherry. They selected one of their number as a mookh, or foreman, and the prisoner, on being brought to the bar, was told he might object to any of the individuals. The evidence for the prosecution and that for the defence were successively heard ; after which, the punchayet was required to decide on the prisoner's guilt : if it was affirmed, the Shastree was called in to pronounce the law in the case, which was promulgated, and sentence passed accordingly. Mr. Briggs does not state what effects resulted from this practice whilst it lasted ; but it may be inferred that they were not altogether beneficial, from the declaration which he subjoins, namely, that " punchayets, or juries, modelled as they must necessarily be to render them efficient, by certain rules and restrictions, are new, and unless the advantages considerably counterbalance the disadvantages, they should be introduced with caution, like all other innovations." The most obvious difficulties which oppose the introduction of the system, he states to be these :— The ensuring intelligent and impartial jurymen, and punctual attendance, and preventing the duty falling too heavily on particular persons and classes. If these obstacles, and other evils which he specifies, were sufficiently obviated, the measure, he believes, would be properly appreciated, even at first, and would, in the end, be highly valued by all classes. He confesses that the whole subject is altogether of such magnitude, that it is hardly possible to canvas it within the limited scope of replies to definite questions ; and he concludes as follows : " Viewed purely as a question of jurisprudence, I do not contemplate any evils from the measure that will not, on the whole, be counter-

counterbalanced by the good to be derived from its introduction : as a political question, I consider its introduction as leading to important though perhaps remote advantages.

Mr. J. Grant, the resident at Sattara (now Major Grant Duff, the author of the *History of the Mahrattas*), entertains an opinion unfavourable to native juries. He observes that there would be great difficulties found in the commencement of the measure, and in the course of six months, he thinks, the general report would be "impracticability." He supposes that native juries, chosen from the community, would have the effect of preventing crimes, by spreading useful information, by interesting the people in the measures of punishment, and by keeping them in mind of the consequences of guilt.

This analysis of the opinions of well-informed practical men regarding the scheme proposed, may advantageously be concluded by the following extract of a letter from the Regulation-Committee, wherein the arguments on the subject are concisely and judiciously summed up.

"In commencing our remarks upon the chapter on Trial, the first subject which claims our attention is the question of the expediency of introducing into criminal justice the trial by jury, or some plan founded upon the basis of that institution. The opinion of the majority of the judicial authorities, in answer to the queries transmitted to Government, under date 2d August 1822, being unfavourable to the measure, and our own sentiments being in accordance with those opinions, the subject has not been brought into the draft. As a means of estimating the value of the trial by jury to the natives of this country, we have been led to consider the advantages attendant on that celebrated institution in England and America, the only countries, perhaps, in which it can be said to be enjoyed in perfection. This consideration has impressed us with a belief that those advantages principally consist in the security and support which the trial by jury affords to liberty. It has been said, that were all the other free institutions of England extinguished, the trial by jury, provided that it could be retained unimpaired, would alone suffice gradually to restore to the country a free constitution. But an institution of this kind appears not only to afford the most efficient security for freedom, but to be necessary to its existence; for in free countries there will almost always be a struggle, more or less important and extensive, between the Government on the one hand, and the people on the other; or if not the people, at all events, individuals or bodies of men professing to espouse and protect its interests. A strong inducement is constantly held out to the Government to defend its supporters and to crush its opponents; and were it not for the existence of some popular and unbiassed tribunal, no means probably would be more resorted to, or found to be more effectual for these purposes, than the law.

"Under these circumstances, we cannot be surprised that the trial by jury should be prized beyond any other institution; and that the very considerable inconveniences, to which it exposes individuals, should be cheerfully and zealously borne by the public-spirited and reflecting nations among whom it is established.

"The foregoing remarks, we need not say, are utterly inapplicable to India: there is here no freedom to require the protection of so powerful a safeguard, no struggle between contending parties to call for the employment of an umpire, constituted with such ease to resist the influence of power. The Government of India can never suppose itself to have an interest in augmenting

ing its power over its subjects, and if it were to entertain such an opinion, it would never, in order to put it in practice, have recourse to influencing judicial proceedings, when it has at its disposal means so much more prompt and efficacious.

"But if the political advantages of the trial by jury be placed out of the question, we doubt whether those which remain would be very considerable. If the judge is unbiassed (and, political questions being removed, the grand source of improper bias is cut off,) we see no reason why his decision should not be as likely to be just as that of a jury.

"But this is exactly the state of things prevailing in India; and as the principal advantages of the trial by jury would not exist here, and could not be conceived by the natives, we think that its introduction would not be prized, its benefits would not be felt; and, on the other hand, the personal inconvenience to which individuals would be exposed by its establishment, would be apt, we think, to occasion discontent and dissatisfaction among a people so little disposed to prefer general good to their private interests, and so unaccustomed to contemplate the performance of public duties by others than the public officers; aggravated too, as this inconvenience would in reality be, by the existence of peculiar customs, and magnified beyond reality in the minds of a people so averse to innovation.

"There is, however, one consideration too important to be passed over in silence, which at the first view seems to prove a greater necessity for some institution of this kind in this country than any where else; we allude to the circumstance of the administration of justice being performed by foreigners. But we do not think that the effects of this separation of the judge from the community are entirely disadvantageous. If that minute acquaintance with the language, and with the peculiarities of habits and institutions which a native only can be expected to possess, is unattainable, there is on the other hand a more absolute freedom from all considerations except those dictated by a sense of justice. It is less merit in a judge in India to be unbiassed by fear or favour than in any other country; he is placed from circumstances entirely beyond their influence: so far, therefore, he is better qualified to pass an impartial decision than a native of the purest mind. But if we take into the account those imperfections, to give them no harsher name, which generally prevail in the character of the natives, to such an extent as almost to incapacitate them from performing, in a conscientious, manly way, any public duty which compromises their own interests, or those of a near relation, a friend or a member of the same caste, or from preferring such duty to corrupt emolument, it will, we think, appear that the bare judicial advantages (those alone which it could possess) of the trial by jury, over the mode at present established, would be, to say the least, by no means greater in India than elsewhere. To state in few words the principal considerations which occur on the question: in those countries where the advantages of the institution are the most strongly felt, the jury, from its popular construction, is calculated to furnish impartiality rather than knowledge; its utility, therefore, would here probably be limited, for impartiality is exactly the quality which a judge in India has in perfection, and which a jury of the natives of India is the least capable of supplying."

THE INDIAN ARMY.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : IN the last *Monthly Review*, a serious attack is made upon the character of our native army in India, accusing the sipahis of degeneracy ; of having lost their ancient qualities ; and of their having, neither at Bhurtpore, nor in the Burmese territories, displayed that boasted valour and patient fortitude, for which they had been famed in former wars.*

As this is a serious charge against a body of soldiers, who, whilst fighting under our banners, have uniformly merited the applause and gratitude of the British nation, it calls for public discussion : more especially as, it is hoped, an impartial investigation will, instead of creating an unfavourable impression of those troops, make it evident that in no instance have the native army in India displayed a greater spirit of enterprize, or of devotion to the service, than when employed in the Burmese territories.

A large proportion of the Madras native troops (seventeen regiments of infantry, besides cavalry, artillery, and pioneers) were employed in the dominions of the King of Ava. And we have the authority † of the Governor-General in Council, of the Government of Madras, of Major General Sir Archibald Campbell, and of Brigadier General Cotton (who commanded the Madras troops during the latter part of the war), that they not only manifested the greatest alacrity when proceeding on service, many regiments having embarked without the deficiency of a man ; and detachments, commanded by *natives*, having made forced marches to be enabled to join their corps in time for embarkation ; but that they also, when on foreign service, shewed the most patient fortitude in enduring privations in a noxious and baneful climate, and the greatest readiness and cheerfulness in the performance of constant harassing duties : and we have the same authority for stating, that they proved themselves, when in the field, worthy of fighting in the same ranks with the Europeans. As to their appointments and equipments, every one who saw them embark must allow that they were superior to those of any former period : and those who know them will also acknowledge, that in discipline they never were excelled by any part of our native army. Even Major Snodgrass, though by no means remarkable for his partiality to the native service, in some instances (as in page 169 of his work) gives the native troops credit for undaunted conduct, unwearied constancy, and the noblest feeling. Yet, even while doing this, he cautiously abstains from mentioning the officer who commanded them ; and this rule is followed in many other parts of his work :

where

“ It was found possible to assemble before the place no more than two battalions of British infantry. To these were joined, indeed, a sepoy force of many thousand men ; but, in the assault of Bhurtpore, we knew that not one of the native regiments could be induced to approach the walls until the King's troops had surmounted the ramparts.

“ But, in fact, both in the operations before Bhurtpore and in the Burmese war, the native troops were of little more use than to swell the array of our lines. Whether from the belief that Bhurtpore was impregnable, and from the dread which the natives of India had conceived of the Burmese, or else from a degeneration of their ancient qualities, in neither case did the sepoys uniformly display that boasted valour and patient fortitude for which they had been famed in former wars. Late experience has revealed circumstances in the state of discipline, and the whole condition of the native army, which, our Government may be assured, urgently demand most serious consideration, in their vital influence upon the durability of our Indian power. To this subject we may perhaps find a more fitting opportunity to revert ; suffice it now to say, the events before us prove that on the British troops alone could reliance always be placed : and on the occasion of Bhurtpore, the safety of India may positively be said to have been committed, at the bayonet's point, to two weak British battalions.” &c.—*Monthly Review*, February 1827.

† *Vide* the general orders by the Governor-General in Council ; the general orders by Sir Thos. Munro, of the 13th June 1826 ; of Brig. Gen. Cotton, of the 29th May 1826, and the repeated orders of Major Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell (all published in preceding numbers of the *Asiatic Journal*).

where the officers of the Company's service who commanded field detachments, those who commanded corps, and sometimes even the corps themselves, are not mentioned, whilst his Majesty's regiments and officers are invariably noticed.

The writer in the *Monthly Review* says that late experience has revealed circumstances in the state of discipline, and the whole condition of the native army, which, our Government may be assured, urgently demand most serious consideration. I am at a loss to imagine what improvements he would wish to make in our native army. Should a transfer of a proportion of officers from his Majesty's service be reckoned essential to the durability of our Indian empire, I should deprecate the idea, unless of young officers, who should enter as cadets; as old officers, unacquainted with the character and prejudices of the natives, might inadvertently cause irreparable injury to the service. That an additional number of old officers to each corps is desirable, no one will deny; they should however be brought up in the service, and accustomed from their youth to the native character: and they should be early exhorted by their superiors, not only to treat their men with suavity and kindness, and the native officers with attention, but also manifest a desire to conduce to their comforts in every way in their power; *bearing always in mind*, that we are *strangers in India*, and hold our empire by the good opinion and attachment of our native troops. Perhaps it would be an improvement if our respective Indian Governments would nominate a certain number of our subadar majors, native commandants retired, with permission to draw double the pay and allowances of a subadar major, at the station where the regiment was raised. This would in some degree restore the middle class, so much wanted in India; and be more than repaid by the number of native officers it would induce to remain with their corps, who now go on the Invalid list.*

The writer in the *Monthly Review* also asserts that at Bhurtpore, and in the Burmese war, the native troops were of little more use than to swell the array of our lines. I have already given the opinions of the highest authorities in India as to the conduct of these troops; and I hope to make it evident that this remark evinces a total ignorance of the qualities of our native troops. That these qualities differ from those of the European soldier is fortunate; were it otherwise, we should not, with a force of 30,000 Europeans, be able to arm and discipline an army of upwards of 250,000 natives, and maintain a rule over eighty millions of people: with no other description of troops could this be done. Had we Arab or Malay auxiliaries, instead of sipahis, any one who has any knowledge of these troops must well know how precarious our situation would be, and of how short duration our dominion. It is on our native army alone that we must depend for consolidating our power in India; and if we pay due attention to their relative situation with us, and (as has been already stated) never forget that we are strangers in the land; if we make it their interest, by kind and liberal treatment, to continue faithful to us, we need fear no foe, foreign or domestic.

The writer in the *Monthly Review* of course imagines, that the force under Sir Archibald Campbell would have been more efficient if composed entirely of Europeans, of the same numerical strength with that under his command of Europeans and natives "serving only to swell his array." Fully appreciating the

* There is an admirable system in the Madras army, of attaching eight boys, the sons of sepoys, to each company, with half the pay of a sepoy, until able to carry arms. The number formerly amounted to ten per company; but that enlightened political economist, Sir George Barlow, reduced the number to eight; thereby saving sixteen shillings per month from each company, at the hazard of diminishing the attachment of the sipahi to the service. I am not aware that the member of Parliament for Aberdeen is acquainted with this "*coup d'essai*;" perhaps it may be thought worthy of imitation!

the qualities of the British soldier, I may yet be permitted to doubt whether the result in our late contest with the King of Ava would have been equally fortunate had our force been entirely British, as, from the difficulty of provisioning them,* from the constant harassing duties they would be required to perform, and the consequent great proportion of sick, and from the number of casualties, it must be evident that the movements of the army would be much impeded; that small detachments would be liable to be cut off; and that by a constant collision with the enemy, in small bodies, the latter would acquire confidence, in the same ratio that our troops, reduced by famine, exhausted by sickness, and harassed by duty, would become depressed. These would be the certain consequences of the force being entirely Europeans, whatever the final result might be.

In support of the usefulness of the native soldier I will go further, and maintain, that if ever we should be assailed in India by an European enemy, say 100,000 men, they would be more than matched in the field by a British force of 30,000 men and 70,000 sipahis; and I hope the reasons I have to adduce, in support of this opinion, will be convincing.

I will first state the difficulty of procuring provisions for so large an European force, and the number of casualties that would infallibly occur were they badly fed, and obliged to take every fatiguing duty in camp. I will next advert to the effects of climate, which would rapidly diminish their numbers, and the weakly state to which the greater part of those doing duty would be reduced from those circumstances; whilst the European soldier, his opponent, well fed, and saved by the native soldier from the harassing duties of the camp and detached marches, would be his superior both in physical strength and animal spirits; and the sipahi, well armed and disciplined, and supported by his brother soldiers, the Europeans (with whom he has often fought and conquered), would at least be equal to his enemy in the field; and, at the close of a campaign would be, numerically, much superior, from having his numbers always completed from the troops in the rear.

It is a common remark, that the soldiers of the north have conquered India from the days of Alexander to our own times. Had it been possible for Alexander and his Macedonians to have met with a Roman general when he encountered Porus, and had he been accompanied with two or three Roman legions, and an Indian army of equal numbers to those of his opponent, disciplined in the Roman manner, and commanded by Roman centurions, we should most probably have a very different record of the expedition of the Macedonian hero. Such would be the description of force to be encountered by any northern power who should now attempt to penetrate into India. They would have to meet a tried band of British soldiers, with military science of the highest order, and a force of natives regularly disciplined, and accustomed, from the time they could carry arms, to a military life, commanded by officers with purely military habits, from having been, from their youth, either in camp or cantonment. The result, under such circumstances, and with the resources of a powerful empire behind, may be fairly anticipated; it would most likely end in the utter discomfiture of the enemy, at an immense distance from their own territories. I will, without fear of contradiction, assert that, under these circumstances, the sipahis would do more than "swell the array of our lines;" that their steadiness in action, the quickness of their fire, and their expertness in military evolutions, would equal those of any army in the world.

24th February 1827.

A SIPAHI SIRDAR.

* The sipahi lives principally on rice or wheat.

ON THE CAUSES OF THE NEGLECT OF EASTERN LITERATURE IN EUROPE.

Laudatur et ulget may be said of Oriental literature in Europe, and perhaps in no part of it more truly than where the remark implies the greatest reproach,—in England, which possesses a vast and populous empire in the East, as remarkable for the profusion of its literary treasures as for the copiousness of its commercial wealth. Besides the ordinary solicitations which, it might be conceived, would tempt English scholars to acquire the languages and explore the writings of the Hindus, the knowledge of Eastern tongues is made compulsory upon a considerable number of our countrymen; and this circumstance alone might naturally have been expected to create and diffuse a taste for the study of the numerous works written in those languages, and which are the depositories of the learning of one of the most ancient existing nations (if not the oldest) in the world.

It is far from wasting time to inquire what are the causes of this indifference towards the literature of the East, at a period when the extension of education amongst all classes in this country, and the avidity for the acquisition of knowledge (indicated by a variety of facts) which distinguishes the present generation, seem to demand newer sources of information, and a larger scope for mental excursions, than satisfied our forefathers. It is desirable to ascertain whether the fault be imputable or not to ourselves; whether we really make a serious sacrifice by neglecting the study of Eastern letters; and whether there be or be not something inherent therein repulsive to European minds, which are, more or less, disciplined according to the models of Greece and Rome.

An inquiry of this nature is, however, too vast to be prosecuted here in a full and convincing manner. It is even impracticable to bring it to a conclusion which would be perfectly satisfactory; for we are yet too slenderly acquainted with the contents of Eastern literature to decide positively upon its comparative utility and value. It will therefore be the object of this paper to assign such reasons as appear the most obvious, for the neglect which, generally speaking, prevails throughout Europe in regard to Eastern literature.

It may be fairly assumed, without any preparatory reasoning upon the subject, that the literature as well as mental character of two nations remotely apart from each other, and cut off from mutual intercourse for ages, must be marked by very peculiar traits of distinction. The course each would take in the boundless expanse, which the minds of the two people would discover as they advanced in civilization and refinement, would be at least as dissimilar as the geographical features of the respective countries, and the physiological attributes of their inhabitants. Although it is not meant by this remark that climate, constitution, and other physical circumstances, sufficiently account for the difference observable in the operations of the mind in different situations; yet these circumstances are to a certain extent causes of the diversity referred to. Whatsoever influences human character and human actions, must operate that influence by its agency upon the intellect; it is surely not necessary to discuss a point so well established, as that character depends in a certain degree upon latitude and longitude, heat and cold, moisture and aridity: these are some of the implements employed by plastic nature in the formation of that infinite variety which is discerned in the mental as well as the corporeal features of the rational part of creation.

The contrast between Asiatic and Northern nations strikes an observer at first sight. The opposite extremes of the two classes of people, could they be

be brought to a close and critical comparison with each other, would almost appear to be examples of different creations. They possess in common, indeed, the great general distinguishing essential attributes of humanity; but in respect to what may be termed the accidental modes or properties of the human character, they are altogether discriminated. Hence arise peculiarities of thinking, discordance of opinion, and dissimilarity of taste, regulated by standards depending upon circumstances which are inappreciable except by the people amongst whom they exist.

To the foregoing considerations, which are obvious enough, may be added others, which do not refer to natural or necessary causes. The peculiarities which denote national character are augmented and rendered more remarkable by the influence of systems of religion, or creeds which it is customary to designate by that term. In proportion to the absurdity, the intolerance, the cruelty, the immorality of the creed, and to the extent of its agency upon the political system or the domestic economy of a nation, will the character of the people, in all its constituent parts, be distinguished from another.

Let us briefly consider, with reference to this inquiry, the literary character of the chief Asiatic people. We may divide them into four great classes; the Chinese, the Hindus, the Persians, and the Arabians.

The literature of China is of prodigious extent. It consists of history, philosophy, dramatic composition, poetry, novels and other works of fiction, and didactic treatises. To the philosopher of Europe, who "deems nothing uninteresting to him which belongs to man," such a literature as this, containing the thoughts as well as acts, the operations of the intellect as well as the political events and transactions, of an ancient people, cannot but possess the highest attractions. Even the extraordinary language in which the records are preserved must afford to an European scholar a source of wonder and delight. But it is to scholars and philosophers alone, and those of a courageous temper, to whom the literature of China can ever become an object of much interest. So far as Europe has been enabled to judge, from what has been hitherto translated from the Chinese, the historical works of China are extremely barren of all that is really valuable, and very abundant in those trifling details which possess importance only in the eyes of such a people as the Chinese: its philosophy is absurd or unintelligible; its dramatic works are curious only as exotics, lacking, in a great measure, the qualities which recommend that species of composition; its poetry is meagre, displaying little fancy and pathos; its novels and tales, though sometimes amusing, have no intrinsic excellence; and from the didactic productions of Chinese writers there is little to be learned. Such a literature can never be popular in Europe; it would be unreasonable to expect that it should be, especially when it is locked up in a tongue which no human efforts can make easy of acquirement to other nations.

In speaking of Hindu literature, although we know considerably more of its character and contents than we do of the Chinese, yet we are less able to pronounce upon the value of it. In point of bulk, it is far more extensive than even the literature of China; and it is the production of a people advanced to a greater pitch of intellectual refinement than the Chinese have ever attained. There are sufficient traces of affinity between the sacred language and sciences of the Hindus and those of ancient Europe, to justify us in believing that they descended from one common source. These traces not only excite curiosity, but afford occasional guides to the scholar who explores the immense wilderness of Sanscrit learning. The neglect of Hindu literature

literature cannot be accounted for, therefore, upon the same supposition as that referred to in respect to Chinese, except that the language is equally difficult of attainment. But the wild and extravagant character of Hindu composition, the monstrous exaggerations and puerile conceits which disfigure the largest portion of it, and the visible efforts perceptible throughout to support the pretensions of a particular class, at any expense or sacrifice, are sufficient to convince us that the repugnance of western readers to the study of Hindu learning is not without reason. Every reader will not confess, though he may feel, the toil and ennui which attend the perusal of the *Mahabharat* or *Ramayan*: works which, to a Hindu, *decies repetita placebunt*. When it is recollected that there are few works in Sanscrit, of which we have any knowledge, that deserve to be characterized as historical; that the Sanscrit poetry offers violence to a taste formed upon the classic models of the West; that the allegories of the Hindus are so recondite and obscure, that they afford no pleasure to a reader not imbued with the religious feelings they are designed to awaken; and that the whole fabric of Sanscrit learning is artfully raised upon the basis of a system of policy foreign to every principle acknowledged amongst European societies; there can be no wonder that, whilst western nations regard with some degree of veneration the science and literature of the Hindus, they should refrain from studies which would, according to appearance, merely confer a reputation for *learning*, without imparting any substantial *knowledge*.

Persian literature may be considered to consist of poetry and apoloques: with the exception of mystic philosophy and ethics, there is little of native growth which deserves the name of literature in modern Persia besides the productions of Hafiz, Firdouzi, and Saadi; and tales, many of which are borrowed, with more or less embellishment, from Hindu sources. The poets of Persia may perhaps be placed at the very head of the Asiatic bards; there is a playfulness, a vivacity, a warmth of fancy, and occasionally a depth of feeling, in the works of those just named, which it would be vain to seek in Chinese penury and Hindu metaphysics. In China and ancient Hindusthan, the art of poetry seems to have been, to a great extent, mechanical: the writer, who could reduce his language to certain rhythmical restraints, stamped his production with the character of verse.

The approximation of Persian poetry to the standard of European taste is counterbalanced by an adverse consideration,—a want of interest in the subjects, and of variety in the embellishments. The former defect is felt, probably, by western readers alone; but the sad monotony of the images employed to adorn and illustrate a Persian poet's sentiments, the perpetual recurrence of "roses" and "bulbuls," with their amatory intercourse, must be tiresome, one would think, even to a Persian.

Arabian literature has something to recommend it. The historical records which it contains are extremely valuable, because they afford, in many instances, the only information attainable respecting events with which our own history is intimately connected. A multitude of transactions, which intervened between the fall of the Greek and Roman, and rise of the Gothic empires, are only to be recovered by means of researches in the works of a people who were one of the efficient causes of that chasm in history, which they thus become the means of supplying.

In addition to their historical works, the Arabians have tales and poetry. The former are well known and well appreciated: how far the Arabs are entitled to the praise they derive from this source is another question. The early

early Mohammedans seem to have been (in general) less apathetical and indifferent to the learning of the nations they subdued than might be inferred from the disposition of their descendants. They made themselves masters of the science and literature, as well as of the other properties, of the eastern and western nations. As the Romans became the pupils of their subjects, the Greeks, so the Arabs were not above showing that in point of knowledge they felt themselves to be inferior to the infidels whom, in other respects, they despised. Arabian poetry, however, possesses not many attractions to a Northern reader. Whatever eloquent appeals may be made in its behalf, by those who, with all a patron's partiality, plead the claims it offers to our regard, the very arguments urged in its favour tend to prove that Arabian poetry never can be universally popular, because those arguments demonstrate that none but Arabs can taste its beauties. Arabian poetry is like a plant formed by nature to luxuriate in the desert, but which droops and dies beneath a temperate sky, and in a rich and cultivated soil.

These considerations are not offered as dissuatives from the study of Oriental literature, nor as disparaging the labours of those illustrious scholars who have opened avenues to it; but, if deserving of attention, they will operate merely to moderate the expectations and mitigate the disappointment of students; and will justify, in some material degree, the people of Europe from what would otherwise be regarded as a reproach. To our own country, in particular, it is of infinite importance that the neglect of Oriental literature should not be considered to originate in indolence and indifference: a country connected with the East by the closest ties, and maintaining a high rank amongst the friends and benefactors of learning in general.

It would be desirable, undoubtedly, that every practicable encouragement should be given to those who desire to cultivate Oriental literature; and if a little more attention were paid to this branch of learning at our Universities, it would not redound to the discredit of those celebrated institutions.

S.

••• The Editor desires not to be considered responsible for all the opinions expressed in this paper.

HOME.

WELCOME to me, dear native land,
 Thy chalky cliffs and pebbly strand!
 Fond recollections raised by thee,
 Thoughts that awake to ecstasy,
 Repay the toils and sorrows known,
 Of twice two lustres overflown,
 Since the reluctant breezes bore
 Me, unreflecting, from thy shore.
 Though buried are thy meads in snow,
 And frowning mists obscure thy brow,
 Far fairer in my filial eyes
 Than India with her golden skies.
 For thee how oft the tear-drop fell,
 My tortured soul can truly tell.
 Day-dreams and visions of the night
 Have with thine image mocked my sight:
 But now thou cheer'st my aching heart,
 And never, never shall we part.

S. S. S.

PUNCHAYETS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : THE readers of your valuable journal have of late been favoured with many interesting dissertations on the theory of Punchayet,—with many declarations of the benefits which the natives, under their ancient institutions, derived from this judicial process; and the partiality of natives for trial by punchayet has been so frequently asserted, that a doubt is scarcely admitted, by those who have had no practical experience to the contrary, of the truth of this assertion. I am induced, therefore, with a view to the further investigation of this important subject, to send you a copy of an official statement, which contains facts, not assertions. It gives the result in one province only; but I venture to assert, because the proof of this assertion is on the records of the India House, that the official returns from every province under the Madras Government will exhibit the same results.

This system of native judicatories is called Sir Thomas Munro's; but, in point of fact, notwithstanding what has been said to the contrary, the Madras code of regulations, previously to the alterations introduced by Sir Thomas Munro, provided* for the administration of justice by natives and by punchayet. Sir Thomas Munro has, however, the merit of increasing the number, and of rewarding the labour, of the native judges. This part of the system, if it is his, has worked well. Punchayetec has proved, however, an entire failure under his own regulations for its operation. This failure confirms the argument of Mr. Fullerton, in his Minute of the 7th June 1820,† “that natives do not attach to that mode of adjudication the respect and importance which many supposed;”—“that, like many other native practices, it was a mere expedient, in the absence of a settled system of judicature, resorted to in times of anarchy, and confusion, and comparative barbarism, where no form of judicial process existed.”

RUNGIAH.

Causes decided by	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.‡	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.	1826. a year.
District Munsiffs, or Salaried Native Judicial Servants...	8455	5995	4417	9237	9326	9018	7300	7236	7216	3325
District Punchayets, or assemblies under ancient institutions, not paid for the duty	13	4	3	2	5	6	1	—	1	—
Village Munsiffs, heads of villages, not paid for this duty	—	35	29	—	2	8	52	10	14	—
Village Punchayets, or assemblies by order of Village Munsiffs, not paid	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—

* See Mr. Fullerton's Minute, *Selections*, Vol. I. and II.—See Col. Leith's publication on the Adalat System.

† See *Selections*, vol. IV.

‡ Year of Sir Thomas Munro's arrival as Governor.

SOME REMARKS ON THE CHANK FISHERY OF CEYLON.

THE only chank fishery which the English found, or that perhaps ever was established, on Ceylon, was that attached to the revenue department of Jafnapatam, and annually rented out at that place, from September the 1st to August the 31st following.

By the early regulations of the Dutch, the fishery was confined to the coasts and islands extending from the north end of Calpentyn to the point of land nearly opposite to Jafnapatam, called Calmony; and to a depth of water not exceeding three fathoms, with the view of keeping clear of the pearl banks.

The number of boats to be employed in the fishery was restricted to twenty-five, and the number of divers on board of each was not to exceed twenty-five, making the total number of 625 divers. These twenty-five boats were directed to sail in a fleet, and never to lose sight of the pilot's flag, excepting when one or more boats were sent, under the inspection of proper officers, to search for new shoals of chanks, or for provisions.

No person was allowed to fish chanks but the registered divers of the farmer, and all the chanks taken during the season were lodged in the government godowns, to be inspected by government officers previous to exportation.

To preserve a constant supply of chanks, it was ordered that all those below a certain size should be thrown back into the sea; and the use of instruments to drag them, as oysters are dragged in Europe, was strictly forbidden, as its operation was supposed, and with reason, to kill the young chanks by breaking their tender shells.

There appear to have been so few pearl-fisheries carried on by the Dutch, that there was no written regulation for securing to the chank farmer a remission of his rent for the loss of his divers during a pearl fishery, nor reservation on behalf of government for taking them; but as pearl fisheries occurred, and the farmer's divers were taken from him, he was allowed a remission of one-half of his rent, as a just compensation for the loss of his divers during the most favourable season of the year.

The farmer was bound to pay the divers for each kind of chank as follows: for the peyel, six dollars 16½ per thousand; for the putty, six dollars 13½ per thousand; and from twenty six dollars upwards for each of the walempory, or right-hand chanks, according to their size.

It is worthy of observation, that all the chanks found to the northward of a line drawn from a point about midway between Talmanar and Coujany-oly (situated on the N.W. side of the island of Manar), to the opposite coast, are of the kind called putty, and are distinguished by a short flat head; and all those found to the southward of that line are of the kind called peyel, and are known by having a longer and more pointed head than the former; nor was there ever known a deviation from this singular law of nature. The walempory, or right-hand chank, is found of both kinds.

Besides the rent paid to government, and the price of the chanks paid to the divers, the farmer is subject to further charges of wages to cunicopies, peons, headmen of the divers, shark and alligator charmers, feasts and presents to these people at particular periods, and lastly, boat, godown, and cooly hire.

It appeared, very early, that a strict adherence to the first regulations was incompatible with the interests of the concern, and a deviation from them was

connived at in the following particulars, although the letter of the early agreement was preserved :—

It was found that boats capable of carrying twenty-five divers were too unwieldy and expensive, and that compelling the divers who resided at Manar to go to Calpentyn, and those who resided at Calpentyn to go to Manar, was burthensome to them and to the farmer; besides that, the island did not contain more than 200 divers, although 625 were allowed by the agreement.

Canoes were therefore adopted instead of boats, and the divers were allowed to fish at both places at the same time.

It appeared, also, that the fishermen of the coasts and islands where chanks are found, did not refrain from taking such chanks as they met with, in spite of the regulations to prevent it; their poverty, and the opportunity of selling the smuggled chanks to the boats which stopped at the islands on their way to the coast, being too powerful a seduction for them to resist.

To convert the chanks so taken to the profit of government, by increasing the value of the farm, the farmer was tacitly permitted to purchase these chanks from the fishermen at the same rate he paid for them to the divers. The total quantity taken in this way, during one year, has amounted to 40,000 chanks, the value of which, according to the average price of chanks, was 1,600 Porto Novo pagodas.

It was also discovered that some of the most favourable places for taking chanks had been proscribed, in consequence of the supposed neighbourhood of pearl banks, which were found to have no existence; and the limits of the fishery were tacitly extended to the depth of four or five fathoms off Noda-koeda, on the E. side of the island of Manar, and from Calmony to the opposite island of Mandedivoe.

Such was pretty nearly the state of the chank fishery under the Dutch.

Jafnapatam was taken by the English towards the end of September 1795, when the chank farm for 1795-6 was already sold for rix dollars 19,850. This farm was first sold by the English for 1796-7 for rix dollars 22,250, and for 1797-8 for the same rent.

The present farmer* made his first purchase for 1798-9 for rix dollars 30,050; his second purchase was for 1799-1800, for rix dollars 41,100; and his third, for 1800-1, for rix dollars 51,500; his fourth for 1801-2 for rix dollars 35,400 for eight months only, the beginning of the official year having been changed at this period from September the 1st to May the 1st.

The farmer's fifth purchase was for 1802-3 for rix dollars 41,500: until this period the farmer was allowed a remission of one-half of his rent for a pearl fishery, as also to receive the chanks taken by the fishermen. But, previous to the sale of the farm for 1803-4, a regulation was published, by which the remission was reduced to one-third of the rent, the taking chanks by any but the registered divers was prohibited, and, further, an export-duty was laid on them of five per cent. *ad valorem*, while, on the other hand, the other privileges before tacitly enjoyed by the farmer were confirmed, and the limits of the fishery extended round the northern end of the island, as far as Moletivo.

The result was, that the rent for 1803-4 fell to rix dollars 27,500, which was purchased for the sixth time by the present farmer.

It was imagined, by those who framed this last regulation, that the confirmation of a part of the privileges enjoyed by the farmer hitherto on sufferance only,

* In the year 1808, when this paper was written.

only, and the extension of the limits of the fishery, would more than counter-balance the diminution of remission, the loss of the chanks taken by the fishermen, and the export duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*, and create an increase of the rent; but this was an ill-founded expectation.

The enjoyment of his former privileges was all that was considered by the farmer, whether by sufferance or by positive regulation; and the extension of the fishery was rendered nugatory by the want of chanks within the new limits; while, on the other hand, the diminution of the farmer's advantages were positive and evident.

The seventh and last purchase made by the present farmer was for the three years' farm, from May 1st 1804 to April 30th 1807, for six dollars 91-400, or six dollars 30,466.8.0 per annum.

Having conducted the account of the chank fishery to 1808, it is time to advert to the fluctuation which has taken place in the amount of the rent, for the better understanding of which, see (at the end) list of sales marked (A).

The two first sales of this farm under the English, for 1796-7 and 1797-8, shew a small rise in the rent beyond the Dutch sales, and were made through the medium of sealed proposals.

The farm of 1798-9 was the first sold by public auction, and shews a considerable rise beyond any former year.

The second sale by auction was of the farm for the year 1799-1800, the rent of which amounted to six dollars 41,100, which is probably the full value of the concern according to the privileges of the farmer, as they stood previous to the regulation of 1803-4.

The rise in the rent of the two following years, for 1800-1 and 1801-2, was not owing to any fair competition excited by the value of the concern, but to a combination of the Jafnapatam people to drive out the farmer as an intruder upon their long established speculations.

This idea was generally adopted at the time, and was not contradicted by the opponents of the present farmer.

The fall of the rent on the following year, 1802-3, to six dollars 41,500, seems to give confirmation to this supposition; and the further decline of the rent on the adoption of the regulation of 1803-4 seems to establish it as a fact.

A very powerful cause of the diminished value of the chank fishery is to be ascribed to the war carried on in the provinces to the northward and westward of Bengal; but this cause will have only a temporary operation, and will be speedily removed by the return of peace in those parts. But the effects of local regulations must be expected to continue as long as those regulations exist; the principal of which is the reduction of the remission from one-half to one-third of the rent.

A reference to the paper marked (B) will shew that, from the year 1796 to the year 1806, including a period of eleven years, there have been nine pearl fisheries: it is, therefore, no more than common prudence in those who look to this speculation to calculate upon a pearl fishery as certain, and consider what the concern is likely to produce during those months that they will have the divers at their disposal.

If then the speculator conceives that he can pay 20,000 six dollars for the chank fishery, on the supposition that there is to be a pearl fishery, he will be guided by the quantum of remission in making his offers.

If the remission is one-half of the rent, he will bid 40,000 six dollars; but

if the remission is one-third, he will bid only 30,000 rix-dollars ; as in either case he calculates upon paying 20,000 rix-dollars.

In case of a pearl fishery, and consequent allowance of remission, the result, with respect to the revenue received by government, is the same ; but whenever it happens that there is no pearl fishery, government loses the difference between 30,000 and 40,000 rix dollars.

Under these circumstances, the present annual rent being rix dollars 30,466.8.0, is equal to rix dollars 40,622.4.0 with the former remission of one-half of the rent. So that the rent of the three years' farm is equal to any former rent, excepting those of the two years when there was a personal combination against the present farmer.

But, further, when it is considered that the farmer now pays an export duty of five per cent. *ad valorem* on his chank, and is deprived of the advantage of receiving the chanks taken by the fishermen, it is clear that the three years' rent sold higher than any former rent, those for the two years above-mentioned only excepted.

It is generally considered that the remission of one-half of the rent does not more than compensate the loss of the divers, during a pearl fishery, to the farmer of the concern in question, who employs the Ceylon divers only, whose number now falls short of 200 ; but the same remission does not operate as a compensation to the farmer who engages divers from the opposite coast, who loses the services of a greater number of men, and finds his advances to them in great danger of being lost, as they cannot be prevailed upon to stay on Ceylon after the pearl fishery is over, the weather being then more favourable on their own coast, where they have chank fisheries of their own.

It is worthy of remark that the number of Ceylon divers has decreased since the conquest of the island by the English, notwithstanding the frequency of pearl fisheries during that period, which at first sight appears difficult to account for. But when it is considered, that for the period of twenty-eight years the Dutch had no pearl fishery, it cannot be supposed that the divers expected that there would be so many fisheries in so short a space of time under the English Government.

The natural nursery for divers must be looked for in the chank fishery, from its being permanent, and affording them constant employment ; and it therefore appears no mean object to increase the motives of the divers for bringing up their children to their own calling, and this can be done only by augmenting their advantages on it : the very contrary of which has occurred from the very heavy rise in the exchange against the island.

When the present rate of payment to the divers was established, averaging, on the two kinds of chank, rix dollars 15.1.0 per thousand, two rix dollars were equal in value to a Porto Novo pagoda, and grain was at less than half its present price ; a diver was, consequently, at least twice as well paid as he is now.

The divers of the coast chank fisheries receive now, as they did formerly, about eight Porto Novo pagodas per thousand chanks ; and are therefore so much better paid, and receive a greater encouragement, than people of the same calling on this island.

A.

List of Sales of the Chank Farm from September 1st, 1789.

Period.	Price.	Purchasers' Names.
From Sept. 1, 1789 } to Aug. 31, 1790 }	13,000	Vydelinga Chitty.
Sept. 1, 1790 } Aug. 31, 1791 }	12,500	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1791 } Aug. 31, 1792 }	11,000	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1792 } Aug. 31, 1793 }	8,000	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1793 } Aug. 31, 1794 }	12,600	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1794 } Aug. 31, 1795 }	13,900	Mahomed Meeran Cunder Marciyen.
Sept. 1, 1795 } Aug. 31, 1796 }	19,850	Vydelinga Chitty.
Sept. 1, 1796 } Aug. 31, 1797 }	22,250	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1797 } Aug. 31, 1798 }	22,250	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1798 } Aug. 31, 1799 }	30,050	A. Saumada Moodliar.
Sept. 1, 1799 } Aug. 31, 1800 }	41,100	Ditto.
Sept. 1, 1800 } Aug. 31, 1801 }	51,500	Ditto.
Eight Months { Sept. 1, 1801 } April 30, 1802 }	35,450	Ditto.
May 1, 1802 } April 30, 1803 }	41,500	Ditto.
May 1, 1803 } April 30, 1804 }	27,501	Ditto.
Three Years { May 1, 1804 } April 30, 1807 }	91,400	Ditto.

B.

List of Pearl Fisheries since the Conquest of Ceylon by the English.

1796. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

1797. Ditto.

1798. Ditto.

1799. Ditto.

1800. A Pearl Fishery at Tuticoryn.

1801. A ditto ditto at Arripo.

1802. A ditto ditto at Chilaw.

1803. No Pearl Fishery.

1804. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

1805. No Pearl Fishery.

1806. A Pearl Fishery at Arripo.

Being nine Pearl Fisheries in eleven years.

DISTURBED STATE OF CHINA, &c.

To the Editor of the *Asiatic Journal*.

SIR: Yesterday your interesting Number for June 1826 arrived here, and gratified the friends of Chinese literature, by evincing that you felt so much zeal in its cause.

China is at present considerably agitated by internal and external commotions. The inhabitants of Formosa have been in a state of insurrection against the Chinese government during the last half year. In *Kwei-chow** province, the well-known mountaineers, called *Meaou-tze*,† descend and distress the people of the plains. In every part of China, the banditti or brotherhood, called the *San-hü-huuy*, described by the late Dr. Milne (whose paper appears in the *Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society*), daily increase. By the way, this brotherhood extensively prevails among the Chinese settlers throughout the Archipelago, at Singapore, Malacca, and Penang, and, if not narrowly watched, is likely increasingly to oppose itself to the magistracy, when its members are guilty of crimes. Murderers escape by its influence.

In *Kan-suh* province, on the N.W. corner of China, there are serious disturbances. Latest reports say that the insurgents have surrounded the Governor and his party of troops, and cut off all communication between him and the general government.

But the most alarming affair is, a rebellion against the throne of China, originated among the Mohammedan tribes in Western Asia. The leader is, in the *Peking Gazette*, called *Chang-kih-wih*. His Imperial Majesty has given one commander power to employ the grand army, collected from seven of the northern provinces, and has commanded levies to be made, in every province, for the commissariat department. In Canton, the Hong-merchants, salt-merchants, and government officers, have subscribed, out of their salaries, (1,400,000) fourteen hundred thousand taels.

M. Klaproth's forthcoming Map of Asia, which you notice in your 719th page (vol. xx.) will be in high request, should this Tartar rebellion against China succeed, and excite an interest in Europe concerning its progress. But this gentleman seems to have so little regard to accuracy in matters of fact, I know not to what extent he is to be trusted in degrees of longitude and latitude. A striking example of the liberty he takes occurred in a paper of his, in the *Journal Asiatique* for 1824. He was abusing a Russian author for his ignorance, plagiarism, &c., and he dragged in Dr. Morrison's name to accuse him of being ignorant of the existence of an old and well-known sect in China, called *Taou-keaou*, or simply *Taou*. But in Dr. Morrison's Dictionary and other writings, published in 1816, 1817, and 1819, this sect is distinctly noticed, and these several writings M. Klaproth had reviewed (and censured contemptuously); yet the good man had the audacity, in 1824, to affirm that Morrison did not know of the existence of the *Taou* sect. However, it is said, he had some reason for abusing the Russians, for the Emperor Alexander found he had so violent a passion for books, it was not safe to allow him to remain in Russia.

Your's obediently,

B. C.

Canton, China, Nov. 5, 1826.

* Kwei-cheu.

† Miao-fo.

JUDICIAL OATHS AMONGST THE HINDUS.

ON this important subject, namely, the binding quality of oaths administered to the natives of India in our courts of justice, upon which question many ameliorations in the judicial system necessarily depend, a tract has been written at Calcutta, by a learned pundit, named Kasinath, and lately published under the patronage of Baboo Nand Lal Thakur, a native gentleman of that city. A review of this tract appears in the last number of the *Calcutta Quarterly Oriental Magazine*; and as the subject is intimately connected with that treated of in several articles which have been inserted in this journal, we subjoin a copious abstract of the review, which is evidently by an able hand. The ostensible object of the tract is to prove, that swearing by the water of the Ganges is prohibited by Hindu authority:—

“ The author, a learned pundit belonging to the Government Sanscrit College, has adduced a respectable series of texts relating to evidence generally, and has succeeded in shewing that the practice is not enjoined by any of the works that are usually appealed to for the law of the Hindus; but with one exception, he has not produced any authority decidedly against the practice. Its mischievous consequences in the country, however, are alluded to in the introduction to his work to the following effect:—

‘ It is well known in every village who the persons are that will not take an oath by the water of the Ganges, and the consequence is, that their houses are broken into and robbed repeatedly; the thieves, and the inferior police who should protect them, being well assured that they will not risk the wealth of reputation for perishable property. In fact, if in humble circumstances, so that the affair is not likely to be noised abroad, they repair the breach and keep the business as private as possible, lest they should have to pay, in hush money to the watch, the little that the thieves may have left them.

‘ If the dwelling is that of a man of property, and the affair becomes noised abroad, his first care is to seek the police, and with the utmost humility implore and bribe their silence, lest the superintendent should hear of it and come and investigate the transaction on the spot.

‘ Another evil is that people of bad character fearlessly revile, or even maltreat, persons of respectability, knowing that they will not proceed against them; and infinite distress is frequently occasioned by the villainous practice of swearing to a false accusation against a respectable man, as is often done by abandoned individuals; and finally the dread of the oath prevents men of credit from giving testimony at all, even to the loss of a just cause, whilst many a cause is unjustly decided through the force of perjury. All these evils have arisen from the custom of swearing people by the Ganges water, and there is no remedy for them but its discontinuance.’

“ We do not pretend to know how far the assertions of the author are strictly correct, and we think it not impossible that he may have somewhat surcharged the picture; but it is universally admitted, that respectable Hindus consider taking the oath disreputable, and that they evade or avoid the necessity as much as they possibly can; and there is no doubt also, that in Calcutta a certain number of scoundrels earn a subsistence by menacing decent men with an action, or even entering one against them, in the confidence they will pay as much as their means admit rather than go into court. We happen to know a case of this kind in which one of the most respectable and learned men in this city was lodged in gaol for debt, upon the affidavit of a man to whom we have every reason to believe he was never indebted, and with whom he had never had any intercourse.

“ The author of the tract before us is a little too sanguine, we think, in
expecting

expecting that a return to the authorized modes of taking an oath would not only give universal satisfaction, but would induce the parties themselves and their witnesses to come forward in all cases with alacrity. We are rather disposed to concur with the presentment of the grand jury, and to anticipate that there will long continue a serious difficulty in this respect. Oath or not, every Hindu of credit will still feel a repugnance to be brought forward as a witness in a public court. The attendance is of itself derogatory to his rank or his pretensions, whilst the examination he undergoes wounds his self-importance and alarms his timidity. In fact, it is not always a very agreeable thing to a European to receive a subpoena, and it requires more nerve than even he always possesses to pass the ordeal of a cross-questioning.

"But whatever difficulties, in this point of view, may exist, there can be no question, that it is desirable to remove every impediment to the due development of truth, and as there can be as little that the administration of the present oath does in many instances obstruct justice, it is highly expedient that some less exceptionable mode of authenticating testimony should be devised. We think the principle of the Sastras, that of receiving evidence by the troth, or, in other words, by simple asseveration, is quite sufficient, only instead of limiting it to the Brahmins we would extend it to all classes. It would be a sufficient test for those whose situation in life gave reasonable assurance of credibility, and upon those from whose habits little regard for veracity is to be expected, it would be probably as binding as any other form. False testimony is as much a crime in the Hindu as the English code, and it is only necessary to make it punishable in the place of perjury.

"A review of the authorities adduced on the subject of evidence by our author, would perhaps lead us into details that will possess interest but for few of our readers, and we shall therefore content ourselves with adverting to a few of the most striking.

"The first is the single authority which condemns the practice; it is taken from the *Gayatri Tantra* of Raghunandana.

'Whoever takes an oath, whether it be true or untrue, having touched the water of the Ganges, falls into a terrible hell, and burns for seven generations: who takes the oath, or who makes another take it, falls alike into hell, and neither is ever born again in the human shape, but revives as the progeny of the tiger or the boar.'

"Now this is alarming enough to those who credit it, and we are legislating for those who profess belief; the authority, it is true, is not that of a Rishi, or inspired writer, but Raghunandana is of little less weight in Bengal. He was an industrious and learned writer, and his *dicta* are, therefore, of great weight, particularly in this province.

"The author next proceeds to shew the importance attached to truth in evidence by different legislators. (Truth is the leader of heaven, or as a boat to cross the ocean. Truth is the first virtue of mankind. There is no greater virtue than truth, no greater vice than falsehood. A false witness is as bad as the murderer of a Brahmin. Let the witnesses on both sides be warned, that those regions of punishment to which the greatest sinners, incendiaries, murderers of women and children are consigned, will be the lot of those who bear false witness. Know that the merit of whatever good acts thou mayest have performed, in a hundred preceding lives, will all be transferred to him against whom, by false testimony, thou mayest gain thy cause).

"There can be no doubt of the value attached to veracious testimony by the Hindu legislators, and it is, therefore, rather surprising, that they should ever have seemed to sanction a departure from it; at the same time, it is charging

charging them with more inconsistency than they have committed, to accuse them of sanctioning the practice; all they say is that it is venial, or not a sin in certain cases; and whatever may be our purity of principle, it is to be apprehended, that considerable latitude may be found in its application amongst ourselves. Kasinath has not entered upon any discussion of the question, although he has quoted the texts to which we allude.

“ ‘ In intrigues with women, at marriages, or where the life of a cow or a Brahmin would be endangered, there is no sin in an oath.’—*Menu*. “ Where the death of one of the four castes is prevented by a false oath, the crime may be expiated by an oblation to Saraswati.—*Mitakshara*. ”

“ The authority for the form of the oath to which Kasinath proposes to revert is that of *Menu*.

“ ‘ Let a Brahmin be attested by his truth, a soldier by his sword or steed, a trader or cultivator by kine, by seed, or by gold, and a sudra by every crime.’

“ These are the forms more in detail :

“ A Brahmin should say, if I speak false, may my truth (or credibility) perish !

“ A man of the military caste : if I speak untruly, may my weapons, &c. fail me, or, in the language of Macheath, ‘ may my pistol miss fire, and my mare slip her shoulder,’ &c.

“ The Vaisya : if I utter untruth, may my cattle be dry, my seed wither, my wealth be unproductive ! and

“ The unfortunate Sudra is to invoke upon himself the punishment due to every heinous crime, if he testifies what is false.

“ Brahmins, however, engaged in servile or worldly duties, are to be classed with Sudras, upon the text of *Menu* :

‘ Let Brahmins be held as Sudras, who tend kine, follow trade, who are artizans, or actors, or servants, or lend money at an interest.’

“ In the present state of Hindu society, we imagine we have but few who are entitled to give evidence upon their truth.

“ The differences in this respect are still further reduced by the native authorities; for Raghunandana asserts, and he is probably correct, that there are no members of the two pure intermediate classes, the military and mercantile, in this age. We have, therefore, only Brahmins and Sudras to provide for; but very many Brahmins are put upon a level with Sudras, by an authority that cannot be contested; and many Sudras again will be admitted, even by Kasinath himself, and by others of the Brahminical order, to be entitled to as much respect in courts of justice, at least, as any of their own tribe: the sole distinction then that remains is one that universally exists, or between the different orders of society distinguished by birth and property, and the duties or habits of their lives.

“ It was impossible for our author not to advert to the sort of sanction afforded by the *Brahma Vaivertta Purana*, to the practice of swearing by the water of the Ganges. Siva, taking the water of the Ganges in his hand, promises Brahma that he will compose the Vedas. This, Kasinath observes, is a promise, not an oath; an objection about names, not things. Besides, the text continues, ‘ whoever having touched Ganges water utters an untruth, he suffers in the Kalasutra hell for the term of the life of Brahma.’ This, replies the pundit, refers to untruth generally, not to an oath: but generals comprehend particulars, and if, on no occasion, a man should speak untruth after having touched the Ganges water, he should scarcely speak untruth when

giving evidence, after having gone through a similar ceremony. There is no disputing the force of the passage; it plainly ascribes a solemn corroborative force to the touching of Ganges water in making a declaration of any nature, and is tantamount to a form of oath. Kasinath, however, observes that the acts of Mahadeva are no examples for men; in which we entirely agree with him. We can furnish him, however, with a still better argument against the weight of the passage, which is, that it is no authority at all. The *Puranas* in general have very undefined force as law; but the *Brahma Vaiverita* is the least of all entitled to consideration, as it is a purely and grossly sectarian work, the object of which is to diffuse the adoration of two deities of suspicious sanctity, the Juvenile Krishna and his mistress, Radha, whose worship cannot boast of a higher antiquity than four or five centuries at most.

"With this comment we shall take leave of the tract of the learned professor. It is a useful manual, and does credit to his reading and industry: it does credit also to his moderation. With the effervescence of unpractised disputants, the Bengali writers are apt to be rather violent against all who may be expected to disagree with them; but this treatise is a steady, temperate compilation, without any infusion of controversial acerbity."

E P I S T L E

FROM THE KING OF AVA TO THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

SIR and my brother: I've a pretty tale
 For your celestial ear,—it must be told;
 Lies, though they're sometimes useful, wo'n't avail
 To get me back my provinces and gold.
 The stranger-devils have undone me, Sire;
 I'm ruined, beggared—made a dolt, an ass:
 Sure 'twill awaken your imperial ire,
 To find a brother brought to such a pass.
 What man—nay what a Burman—could, I did,
 But fight, that's not our business, as you know;
 I sent my slaves, and, just as they were bid,
 They went, though few returned. Both high and low,
 Bundoolah, Chobwa, Woondock and Woonghee,
 Priest, conjuror, invulnerable, witch,
 Quitted the Golden Presence with great glee,—
 And left their carcases in swamp or ditch.
 I stormed; the devils laughed; I next cajoled:
 And then I thought I'd duped them; but, alack!
 They were too cunning, and each Burman bold
 Turned tow'ards them most respectfully his back.*
 In short they've kindly taken from the weight
 Of government that pressed the golden brow;
 They ease my treasury, as well as state,
 For marvellously fast my tickals go.
 Your knowledge of these devils is but slight:
 Permit me then, just as a friend and brother,
 To hint: Be prudent; tempt them not to fight:
 I've been a fool; don't you be made another.
 When they come modestly to buy your tea,
 Desire your Quans and Hoppo to be civil;
 I'd rather, neighbour, it were you than me,
 That next made trial of the *stranger-devil*.

* Turning the back to a person is a mark of the greatest respect amongst the Burmese.

AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS OF INDIA.

THE following "Questions" were circulated in India at the instance of a very intelligent servant of the Company (Mr. Hodgson), with the view of eliciting as much information as possible upon the subject of the various tenures, methods of agriculture and of village government, revenue systems, &c. prevalent throughout India. Some particulars of this desirable information may possibly be latent at the present moment in England, for want of a convenient depository, or channel of communication. We offer a place in this journal for any such memoranda, should they exist; and with this view, chiefly, we publish the queries referred to.

QUESTIONS.

1. What are the nature and names of the large divisions, and larger and smaller subdivisions of territory?

2. What may be the number of the villages, on an average, in such divisions and subdivisions, and what the amount of the public revenue received in the aggregate from the villages included therein?

3. Is all land (impenetrable jungles and inaccessible hills excepted) included in the boundary of some village?

4. Is land ever found unattached to a village?

5. Are the boundaries of villages well defined? That is, do the boundaries of villages constitute the limits of all superior limits?

6. How is the jurisdiction of the courts defined? By placing superior divisions with their villages under the court, or by naming rivers or other landmarks as the boundary?

NOTE.—Not applicable, of course, to countries under native governments.

7. Are the villages surrounded with walls?

8. Have they frequently dependent hamlets situated at a distance, but within the known boundary of the lands of the principal villages?

9. What is the nature of the constitution of the township, or village municipality? How, and by whom, is the internal management and administration conducted?

10. Has every village an establishment of servants; such as writer of the accounts, watcher, carpenter, blacksmith, washerman, barber, priest?

11. If they have, how are their services remunerated?

12. Do any of the inhabitants, being cultivators, enjoy any superiorities or immunities that other inhabitants, whether cultivators or not, do not possess?

13. Have any inhabitants, who are cultivators, any lands exempted from public revenue, or are they, by custom, entitled to levy any tax or cess in money or kind on the other inhabitants being cultivators or not being cultivators?

14. Is any considerable portion of the land artificially irrigated by means of large reservoirs (tanks), or by means of water-courses from rivers, or by wells?

15. What are the kinds of grains chiefly cultivated?

16. Are the fields of unirrigated land enclosed with hedges or walls?

17. Has every field a name?

18. Does every cultivator consider the land he cultivates as his own?

19. Does the cultivator continue in the possession of the same fields so long as he pleases and pays the public revenue thereon; or can he be removed, although regular in his payments of the public assessment?

20. Do cultivators ever transfer the land they usually occupy to others by sale or gift (subject, of course, to the obligation under which it is held by the person desirous of transferring it)?

21. If the same land is not held year after year, and from generation to generation, by the same family, how is the annual or other periodical distribution and occupation of land regulated?

22. Is the public revenue, payable by the cultivator, paid generally in kind or in money?

23. Who collects the revenue from the cultivator, and through how many stages or persons does it pass before it reaches the treasury of the Government from the hands of the first payer?

24. What portion of the gross produce is estimated to be paid as public revenue by the actual cultivator and first payer, in cases where the revenue is customarily payable in kind?

25. What portion of the gross payments made by all the cultivators of a village is supposed to reach the treasury of Government?

26. What is the estimated amount of the charges of collection?

27. When Taseeldars and other subordinate agents are employed to collect the public revenue, do they ever collect it direct from each cultivator, or do the cultivators, collectively, of each village contract for a given sum annually? In short, with whom are the revenue settlements made?

28. Are they made by the collector in his office with each cultivator or payer of revenue; or with all, collectively, belonging to one village; or with a few of the leading men of each village; or with one man, as the head; or with any individual who may propose to contract for the collection of the revenue of one village, ten villages, or fifty villages?

29. Where ancient rajhas, zemindars, jageerdars, or other intermediate agents, temporary or permanent, existed when the country was ceded to us, how were they dealt with? If continued in possession, were they allowed to make their own terms with the cultivators?

30. What portion of the total revenue, payable by the cultivators, is supposed to be paid by these agents?

31. Is there any rule for fixing the amount of the public demand on these intermediate, permanent, or temporary agents; or have the terms on which they held under the former government been confirmed?

32. Is there any ancient establishment for the watching of villages, or for watching of districts? Is there now, or was there ever, any fund provided for these purposes?

33. Of what caste are the cultivators generally?

34. Do Mahomedans follow the occupation of husbandry to any considerable extent, and in any considerable numbers?

35. Are there any villages of which all the cultivators are Mahomedans?

36. Are there any considerable number of cultivators who possess so many as thirty, fifty, or one hundred ploughs, and who employ farming servants or slaves in numbers in their agricultural occupations?

37. What is the least, mean, and greatest numbers of ploughs belonging to one individual?

38. Are the servants employed by cultivators in agricultural labours freemen or slaves?

39. Is the distinction known between a double and single plough?

40. Are horses or buffaloes used in the plough?

41. Are ploughs ever drawn by more than one pair of oxen?

42. Is manure in general use, and of what kind?

43. Is the drill plough in use?

44. Are the rice crops chiefly sown broad-cast, or more frequently transplanted?

Cultivator is used for ryot to prevent mistakes. The owner of the plough is meant by the term cultivator, not the stipendiary driver of it, or the slave of a cultivator?

NOTE.—It is suggested that all technical terms should be written in the local dialect and its appropriate character, and that Hindi terms should be written in the Nagari in preference to the Arabic character.

LETTERS OF BISHOP HEBER.

THE sentiments of such a man as the late Bishop of Calcutta, expressed in the confidence of private correspondence, after some considerable experience and local observation, upon those important topics which relate to the moral condition of the people of India, must be esteemed of great value, even by those who are not prepared to adopt all the views which they disclose. A very acceptable gift has therefore been conferred upon the Anglo-Indian world by the publication, in the number of the *Quarterly Review* which has just appeared, of copious extracts from some MS. letters of Bishop Heber, addressed to "one of his oldest and most intimate friends," whilst the lamented prelate was prosecuting his extensive journeys throughout his vast diocese; communicating the results of his observations and reflections, touching matters connected with his pastoral office, diversified by occasional speculations upon subjects of a less serious complexion.

We conceive it to be our duty to contribute, as much as we can, to disseminate the remarks contained in these interesting letters; and shall, therefore, transfer from the *Review* such passages of the extracts as seem calculated to add to our stock of knowledge respecting the actual state of India.

In a letter dated Barrechar, in Guzerat, March 14, 1825, whilst he was on his journey to Bombay, the Bishop thus writes to his friend concerning the condition of the Indian people:

"Though the greater part of the Company's provinces (except Kumaon) are by no means abundant in objects of natural beauty or curiosity, the prospect offering little else than an uniform plain of slovenly cultivation, yet, in the character and manners of the people, there is much which may be studied with interest and amusement; and in the yet remaining specimen of oriental luxury and pomp at Lucknow; in the decayed, but most striking and romantic, magnificence of Delhi; and in the Taj-Mahal of Agra (doubtless one of the most beautiful buildings in the world), there is almost enough, even of themselves, to make it worth a man's while to cross the Atlantic and Indian oceans.

"Since then, I have been in countries of a wilder character, comparatively seldom trodden by Europeans, exempt during the greater part of their history from the Mussulman yoke, and retaining accordingly a great deal of the simplicity of early Hindoo manners, without much of that solemn and pompous uniformity which the conquests of the House of Timur seem to have impressed on all classes of their subjects. Yet here there is much which is interesting and curious. The people, who are admirably described (though I think in too favourable colours) by Malcolm, in his Central India, are certainly a lively, animated, and warlike race of men, though, chiefly from their wretched government, and partly from their still more wretched religion, there is hardly any vice, either of slaves or robbers, to which they do not seem addicted. Yet such a state of society is at least curious, and resembles more the picture of Abyssinia as given by Bruce, than that of any other country which I have seen or read of; while here too there are many wild and woody scenes, which, though they want the glorious glaciers and peaks of the Himmalaya, do not fall short in natural beauty of some of the loveliest glens which we went through ten years ago in North Wales; and some very remarkable ruins, which, though greatly inferior as works of art to the Mussulman remains in Hindoostan Proper, are yet more curious than them, as being more different from any thing which an European is accustomed to see or read of.

"One

" One fact, indeed, during this journey, has been impressed on my mind very forcibly—that the character and situation of the natives of these great countries are exceedingly little known, and in many instances grossly misrepresented, not only by the English public in general, but by a great proportion of those also who, though they have been in India, have taken their views of its population, manners, and productions from Calcutta, or at most from Bengal. I had always heard, and fully believed till I came to India, that it was a grievous crime, in the opinion of the Brahmins, to eat the flesh or shed the blood of any living creature whatever. I have now myself seen Brahmins of the highest caste cut off the heads of goats as a sacrifice to Doorga; and I know, from the testimony of Brahmins, as well as from other sources, that not only hecatombs of animals are often offered in this manner as a most meritorious act (a rajah, about twenty-five years back, offered sixty thousand in one fortnight), but that any person, Brahmins not excepted, eats readily of the flesh of whatever has been offered up to one of their divinities; while among almost all the other castes, mutton, pork, fish, venison,—any thing but beef and fowls,—are consumed as readily as in Europe. Again, I had heard all my life of the gentle and timid Hindoos, patient under injuries, servile to their superiors, &c. Now, this is doubtless, to a certain extent, true of the Bengalese (who, by the way, are never reckoned among the nations of Hindoostan by those who speak the language of that country), and there are a great many people in Calcutta who maintain, that all the natives in India are alike. But even in Bengal, gentle as the exterior manners of the people are, there are large districts close to Calcutta, where the work of carding, burning, ravishing, murder, and robbery, goes on as systematically, and in nearly the same manner, as in the worst part of Ireland; and on entering Hindoostan, properly so called, which, in the estimate of the natives, reaches from the Rajamahall hills to Agra, and from the mountains of Kumaon to Bundelcund, I was struck and surprised to find a people equal in stature and strength to the average of European nations, despising rice and rice-eaters, feeding on wheat and barley-bread, exhibiting in their appearance, conversation, and habits of life, a grave, a proud, and decidedly a martial character, accustomed universally to the use of arms and athletic exercises from their cradles, and preferring, very greatly, military service to any other means of livelihood. This part of their character, but in a ruder and wilder form, and debased by much alloy of treachery and violence, is conspicuous in the smaller and less good-looking inhabitants of Rajapootan and Malwah; while the mountains and woods, wherever they occur, show specimens of a race entirely different from all these, and in a state of society scarcely elevated above the savages of New Holland, or New Zealand; and the inhabitants, I am assured, of the Deccan, and of the presidencies of Madras and Bombay, are as different from those which I have seen, and from each other, as the French and Portuguese from the Greeks, Germans, or Poles. So idle is it to ascribe uniformity of character to the inhabitants of a country so extensive, and subdivided by so many almost impassable tracts of mountain and jungle, and so little do the majority of those whom I have seen deserve the gentle and imbecile character often assigned to them.

" I met, not long since, with a speech by a leading member of the Scotch General assembly, declaring his 'conviction that the truths of Christianity could not be received by men in so rude a state as the East-Indians, and that it was necessary to give them first a relish for the habits and comforts of civilized life before they could embrace the truths of the gospel.' The same slang (for it is nothing more) I have seen repeated in divers pamphlets, and even heard
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it in conversations in Calcutta. Yet, though it is certainly true that the lower classes of Indians are miserably poor, and that there are many extensive districts where, both among low and high, the laws are very little obeyed, and there is a great deal of robbery, oppression, and even ferocity; I know no part of the population, except the mountain tribes already mentioned, who can with any propriety of language be called uncivilized. Of the unpropitious circumstances which I have mentioned, the former arises from a population continually pressing on the utmost limits of subsistence, and which is thus kept up, not by any dislike or indifference to a better diet, or more ample clothing, or more numerous ornaments, than now usually fall to the peasant's share (for, on the contrary, if he has the means, he is fonder of external show and a respectable appearance, than those of his rank in many nations of Europe); but by the foolish superstition, which Christianity only is likely to remove, which makes a parent regard it as unpropitious to allow his son to remain unmarried, and which couples together children of twelve or fourteen years of age. The second has its origin in the long-continued misfortunes and intestine wars of India, which are as yet too recent (even where their causes have ceased to exist) for the agitation which they occasioned to have entirely sunk into a calm. But to say that the Hindoos or Mussulmans are deficient in any essential feature of a civilized people, is an assertion which I can scarcely suppose to be made by any who have lived with them. Their manners are at least as pleasing and courteous as those in the corresponding stations of life among ourselves; their houses are larger, and, according to their wants and climate, to the full as convenient as ours; their architecture is at least as elegant; and though the worthy Scotch divine may, doubtless, wish their labourers to be clad in hoddin grey, and their gentry and merchants to wear powder and mottled stockings, like worthy Mr. — and the other elders of his kirk-session, I really do not think that they would gain either in cleanliness, elegance, or comfort, by exchanging a white cotton robe for the completest suit of dittos.

“ Nor is it true, that, in the mechanic arts, they are inferior to the general run of European nations. Where they fall short of *us* (which is chiefly in agricultural implements and the mechanics of common life), they are not, so far as I have understood of Italy and the South of France, surpassed in any great degree by the people of those countries. Their goldsmiths and weavers produce as beautiful fabrics as our own; and it is so far from true, that they are obstinately wedded to their old patterns, that they show an anxiety to imitate our models, and do imitate them very successfully. The ships built by native artists at Bombay are notoriously as good as any which sail from London or Liverpool. The carriages and gigs which they supply at Calcutta are as handsome, though not so durable, as those of Long Acre. In the little town of Monghyr, three hundred miles from Calcutta, I had pistols, double-barrelled guns, and different pieces of cabinet-work, brought down to my boat for sale, which in outward form (for I know no further), nobody but perhaps Mr. — could detect to be of Hindoo origin; and at Delhi, in the shop of a wealthy native jeweller, I found brooches, ear-rings, snuff-boxes, &c. of the latest models (so far as I am a judge), and ornamented with French devices and mottos.

“ The fact is, that there is a degree of intercourse maintained between this country and Europe, and a degree of information existing among the people as to what passes there; which, considering how few of them speak or read English, implies other channels of communication besides those which we supply,

supply, and respecting which I have been able as yet to obtain very little information.

" Among the presents sent last year to the Supreme Government by the little state of Ladak, in Chinese Tartary, some large sheets of gilt leather, stamped with the Russian eagle, were the most conspicuous. A traveller, who calls himself a Transylvanian, but who is shrewdly suspected of being a Russian spy,* was, when I was in Kumaoon, arrested by the commandant of one of our fortresses among the Himalaya mountains; and, after all our pains to exclude foreigners from the service of the native princes, two chevaliers of the Legion of Honour were found, about twelve months ago, and are still employed in casting cannon, and drilling soldiers for the Seik Raja, Runjeet Singh. This, you will say, is no more than we should be prepared to expect; but you, probably, would not suppose (what I believe is little, if at all, known in Russia itself,) that there is an ancient and still frequented place of Hindoo pilgrimage not many miles from Moscow;† or that the secretary of the Calcutta Bible Society received, ten months ago, an application (by whom translated I do not know, but in very tolerable English,) from some priests on the shore of the Caspian sea, requesting a grant of Armenian bibles. After this, you will be the less surprised to learn that the leading events of the late wars in Europe (particularly Buonaparte's victories) were often known, or at least rumoured, among the native merchants of Calcutta, before Government received any accounts from England; or that the suicide of an English minister (with the mistake, indeed, of its being Lord Liverpool instead of the Marquis of Londonderry) had become a topic of conversation in the "Burra Bazar" (the native exchange), for a fortnight before the arrival of any intelligence by the usual channels.

" With subjects thus inquisitive, and with such opportunities of information, it is apparent how little sense there is in the doctrine that we must keep the natives of Hindoostan in ignorance if we would continue to govern them. The fact is, that they know enough already to do us a great deal of mischief, if they should find it their interest to make the trial. They are in a fair way, by degrees, to acquire still more knowledge for themselves; and the question is, whether it is not the part of wisdom, as well as duty, to superintend and promote their education while it is yet in our power, and supply them with such knowledge as will be at once most harmless to ourselves and most useful to them.

" In this work the most important part is to give them a better religion. Knowing how strongly I feel on this subject, you will not be surprised at my placing it foremost. But even if Christianity were out of the question, and if, when I had wheeled away the rubbish of the old pagodas, I had nothing better than simple deism to erect in their stead, I should still feel some of the anxiety which now urges me. It is necessary to *see* idolatry, to be fully sensible of its mischievous effects on the human mind. But of all idolatries which I have ever read or heard of, the religion of the Hindoos, in which I have taken some pains to inform myself, really appears to me the worst, both in the degrading notions which it gives of the Deity; in the endless round of its burdensome ceremonies, which occupy the time and distract the thoughts; without either instructing or interesting its votaries; in the filthy acts of uncleanness

* This passage refers to Cosma (not Cosmo) de Koros, of whose history and travels the reader may find some account in this journal, vol. xxi. pp. 214 and 763.—*Ed.*

† This is, we believe, a mistake of the writer.—*Ed.*

cleanness and cruelty not only permitted but enjoined, and inseparably interwoven with those ceremonies; in the system of castes, a system which tends, more than any thing else the devil has yet invented, to destroy the feelings of general benevolence, and to make nine-tenths of mankind the hopeless slaves of the remainder; and in the total absence of any popular system of morals, or any single lesson, which the people at large ever hear, to live virtuously and do good to each other. I do not say, indeed, that there are not some scattered lessons of this kind to be found in their ancient books; but those books are neither accessible to the people at large, nor are these last permitted to read them; and, in general, all the sins which a Sudra is taught to fear, are, killing a cow, offending a Brahmin, or neglecting one of the many frivolous rites by which their deities are supposed to be conciliated. Accordingly, though the general sobriety of the Hindoos (a virtue which they possess in common with most inhabitants of warm climates) affords a very great facility to the maintenance of public order and decorum, I really never have met with a race of men whose standard of morality is so low, who feel so little apparent shame in being detected in a falsehood, or so little interest in the sufferings of a neighbour not being of their own caste or family; whose ordinary and familiar conversation is so licentious; or, in the wilder and more lawless districts, who shed blood with so little repugnance. The good qualities which there are among them (and, thank God! there is a great deal of good among them still) are, in no instance that I am aware of, connected with, or arising out of, their religion, since it is in no instance to good deeds or virtuous habits of life that the future rewards in which they believe are promised. Their bravery, their fidelity to their employers, their temperance, and (wherever these are found) their humanity and gentleness of disposition, appear to arise exclusively from a natural happy temperament; from an honourable pride in their own renown, and the renown of their ancestors; and from the goodness of God, who seems unwilling that his image should be entirely defaced even in the midst of the grossest error. The Mussulmans have a far better creed; and though they seldom either like the English or are liked by them, I am inclined to think, are, on the whole, a better people. Yet, even with them, the forms of their worship have a natural tendency to make men hypocrites; and the overweening contempt with which they are inspired for all the world beside, the degradation of their women by the system of polygamy, and the detestable crimes, which, owing to this degradation, are almost universal, are such as, even if I had no ulterior hope, would make me anxious to attract them to a better or more harmless system. In this work, thank God, in those parts of India which I have visited, a beginning has been made, and a degree of success obtained, at least commensurate to the few years during which our missionaries have laboured; and it is still going on, *in the best and safest way, as the work of private persons alone; and although not forbidden, in no degree encouraged, by government.*"

The concluding sentiment shows the soundness and discretion of the bishop's opinions regarding the important work of conversion in India. We now add another extract, from the same letter, concerning the architectural skill and ancient monuments of the Hindus:

"I had myself (says he) heard much of these before I set out, and had met with many persons, both in Europe and at Calcutta (where nothing of the kind exists), who spoke of the present natives of India as a degenerate race, whose inability to rear such splendid piles was a proof that these last belong to a remote antiquity. I have seen, however, enough to convince me both that

the Indian masons and architects of the present day only want patrons sufficiently wealthy or sufficiently zealous to do all which their fathers have done, and that there are very few structures here which can, on any satisfactory grounds, be referred to a date so early as the greater part of our own cathedrals. Often, in Upper Hindoostan, and still more frequently in Rajapootan and Malwah, I have met with new and unfinished shrines, cisterns, and ghats, as beautifully carved and as well proportioned as the best of those of an earlier day. And though there are many buildings and ruins which exhibit a most venerable appearance, there are many causes in this country which give this appearance prematurely. In the first instance we ourselves have a complex impression made on us by the sight of edifices so distant from our own country, and so unlike whatever we have seen there. We multiply, as it were, the geographical and moral distance into the chronological, and can hardly persuade ourselves that we are contemporaries with an object so far removed in every other respect. Besides this, however, the firmest masonry in these climates is sorely tried by the alternate influence of a pulverizing sun, and a continued three months' rain. The wild fig-tree (*peepul* or *ficus religiosa*), which no Hindoo can root out, or even lop, without a deadly sin, soon sows its seeds and fixes its roots in the joints of the arching, and being of rapid growth, at the same time, and in a very few years, increases its picturesque and antique appearance, and secures its eventual destruction. Lastly, no man in this country repairs or completes what his father has begun, preferring to begin something else by which his own name may be remembered. Accordingly, at Dacca are many fine ruins, which at first impressed me with a great idea of their age. Yet Dacca is a modern city, founded, or at least raised from insignificance, under Shah Gekhanghäre, in A.D. 1603; and the tradition of the place is, that these fine buildings were erected by European architects in the service of the then governor. At Benares, the principal temple has an appearance so venerable, that one might suppose it to have stood unaltered ever since the Treta Yug, and that Menu and Capila had performed austerities within its precincts. Yet it is historically certain that all the Hindoo temples of consequence in Benares were pulled down by Aurungzebe, the contemporary of Charles the Second, and that the present structure must have been raised since that time. The observatories of Benares, Delhi, and Jagepoor, I heard spoken of in the carelessness of conversation, not only as extremely curious in themselves (which they certainly are); but as monuments of the *ancient* science of the Hindoos. All three, however, are known to be the work of the Rajah Jye Singh, who died in 1742!

"A remote antiquity is, with better reason, claimed for some idols of black stone, and elegant columns of the same material, which have been collected in different parts of the districts of Rotas, Bulnem, &c.—These belong to the religion of a sect (the Boodhists) of which no remains are now found in those provinces. But I have myself seen images exactly similar in the newly-erected temples of the Jains, a sect of Boodhists, still wealthy and numerous in Guzerat, Rajapootan, and Malwah; and in a country where there is literally no history, it is impossible to say how long since, or how lately, they may have lost their ground in the more eastern parts of Gundwana.

"In the wilds which I have lately been traversing, at Chittore Ghur more particularly, there are some very beautiful buildings, of which the date was obviously assigned at random, and which might be five hundred or one thousand, or a hundred-and-fifty years old, for all their present guardians know about the matter. But it must be always borne in mind that one thousand
years

years are just as easily said as ten, and that in the mouth of a Cicerone they are sometimes thought to sound rather better.

"The oldest things which I have seen, of which the date could be at all ascertained, are some detached blocks of marble, with inscriptions, but of no appalling remoteness; and two remarkable pillars of black mixed metal, in a Patan forest near Delhi, and at Cuttab-Minar in the same neighbourhood; both covered with inscriptions, which nobody can now read, but both mentioned in Mussulman history as in their present situation at the time when "the believers" conquered Delhi, about A.D. 1000. But what is this to the date of the Parthenon? Or how little can these trifling relics bear a comparison with the works of Greece and Egypt!

"Ellora and Elephanta I have not yet seen. I can believe all which is said of their size and magnificence; but they are without date or inscription: they are, I understand, not mentioned, even incidentally, in any Sanscrit MS. Their images, &c. are the same with those now worshipped in every part of India, and there have been many rajahs and wealthy individuals in every age of Indian history who have possessed the means of carving a huge stone-quarry into a cathedral. To our cathedrals, after all, they are, I understand, very inferior in size. All which can be known is, that Elephanta must probably have been begun (whether it was ever finished seems very doubtful) before the arrival of the Portuguese at Bombay; and that Ellora may reasonably be concluded to have been erected in a time of peace under a Hindoo prince, and therefore either before the first Afghan conquest, or subsequently, during the recovered independence of that part of Candeish and the Deccan. This is no great matter certainly, and it *may* be older; but all I say is, that we have no reason to conclude it is so, and the impression on my mind decidedly accords with Mill—that the Hindoos, after all, though they have doubtless existed from very great antiquity as an industrious and civilized people, had made no great progress in the arts, and took all their notions of magnificence from the models furnished by their Mahometan conquerors."

Another passage in the same letter shews the groundlessness of the murmurs and censures vented against the administration of Lord Amherst in regard to the Burmese war. We pass by this as supererogatory.

In a letter dated from Trichinopoly, 1st April 1826 (two days only before his death), the Bishop writes an interesting account of the character of the Rajah of Tanjore, a Hindu prince deeply imbued with European literature,—the writer of English poetry!—and of his tutor, the celebrated Schwartz; the latter we subjoin, since it contains information as to the number of Christian converts in the south of India, which we rejoice to receive upon the warrant of such authority as that of Bishop Heber:

"Of Schwartz and his fifty years' labour among the heathen, the extraordinary influence and popularity which he acquired, both with Mussulmans, Hindoos, and contending European governments, I need give you no account, except that my idea of him has been raised since I came into the south of India. I used to suspect that, with many admirable qualities, there was too great a mixture of intrigue in his character, that he was too much of a political prophet, and that the veneration which the heathen paid, and still pay him (and which, indeed, almost regards him as a superior being, putting crowns and burning lights before his statue), was purchased by some unwarrantable compromise with their prejudices. I find I was quite mistaken. He was really one of the most active and fearless (as he was one of the most successful) missionaries who have appeared since the Apostles. To say that he was dis-

interested in regard to money is nothing; he was perfectly careless of power, and renown never seemed to affect him even so far as to induce an outward show of humility. His temper was perfectly simple, open, and cheerful; and in his political negotiations (employments which he never sought, but which fell in his way) he never pretended to impartiality, but acted as the avowed, though certainly the successful and judicious, agent of the orphan prince intrusted to his care, and from attempting whose conversion to Christianity he seems to have abstained, from a feeling of honour. His other converts were between six and seven thousand, besides those which his predecessors and companions in the cause had brought over. The number is gradually increasing, and there are now in the south of India about two hundred Protestant congregations, the numbers of which have been sometimes vaguely stated at forty thousand. I doubt whether they reach fifteen thousand; but even this, all things considered, is a great number. The Roman Catholics are considerably more numerous, but belong to a lower caste of Indians (for even these Christians retain many prejudices of caste), and in point of knowledge and morality, are said to be extremely inferior.

"The Brahmins, being limited to voluntary votaries, have now often very hard work to speed the ponderous wheels of Suon and Bali through the deep lanes of this fertile country. This is, however, still the most favoured land of Brahminism, and the temples are larger and more beautiful than any which I have seen in Northern India. They are also decidedly older; but as to their very remote age, I am still incredulous."

In the sketch we gave of the history of the departed bishop, vol. xxii, p. 380, owing to hasty accumulation and arrangement of materials, one or two trifling mistakes were committed, which we take this opportunity of rectifying.

Bishop Heber was born, not in 1784, but on the 21st April 1783. He was entered of Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1800, and was elected a fellow of All-Souls about 1810. It was in 1805, when he was twenty-two years of age, that he accompanied Mr. Thornton to Russia, from whence he returned in 1807; soon after which he entered holy orders. We were led into our mistake by supposing that the travels of Mr. Heber preceded those of Dr. Clarke, in whose book are contained the valuable remarks from Mr. Heber's journal. Dr. Clarke's travels were not published till several years after they were performed.

We were not aware at the time of writing our sketch, that the bishop married the daughter of Dr. Shipley, late Dean of St. Asaph, a relation of Lord Combermere; and that, besides his widow, he left two children, to seek such consolation as can be found for their irreparable loss in devout submission to the will of Providence, and in the affectionate and universal demonstrations of esteem which his worth has excited.

EDUCATION OF CADETS.

MERITS OF DR. GILCHRIST.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: I was much gratified to observe in your journal for this month, the kind, yet judicious terms in which you have editorially spoken of one of the most eminent oriental scholars of the present age. It may be affirmed that the exercise of a similar discretion and moderation on the part of some public functionaries of a *former* day, when it was in their power to have acted towards him with grace and justice, would have been followed by results the very reverse of those with which we are familiar. Whether the axiom be universally received, it is nevertheless one which is continually manifest, that a sense of individual wrongs, accompanied by gratuitous unkindness or incivility, sharpens men's vision in behalf of others, and renders it more microscopic than it would, under more favourable circumstances, ever have been.

It cannot be forgotten, that to the zeal, perseverance, and acumen of Dr. Gilchrist, are to be ascribed the coherent form and substance, and the more general cultivation than in former times, of the most prevalent language in India—*Hindoostanee*. No declamation can deprive him of the signal merit of having constructed one of the most consistent grammars in existence, from materials the most unpromising and heterogeneous; and I conceive it will be admitted that no man living could attempt to compete with him, either in colloquial exercises, or the more abstruse and difficult points of that language. There may be, and indeed is, a variety of opinions as to his system of communicating it and Persian in Roman characters; but it should be borne in mind, that the substitution was designed to facilitate the acquisition of first principles, and with them an accuracy of pronunciation, which would in vain be attempted with either of the characters, where, for instance, they must be often merely guessed at, without a certainty of being right, when *far advanced*, and indeed almost proficient: the different sounds attached to | (ulif) and , (wao) are examples. I could cite proofs, more than sufficient, that those objects were, *bonâ-fide*, uniformly accomplished by Dr. Gilchrist, in a degree far surpassing that effected by any other system; and while much could thereby be accomplished in a short space, it is well known to those who attended Dr. Gilchrist's lectures, that when so far *well-grounded*, reading in the *Arabic* and *Nagree* characters immediately followed, and subsequently the pursuit of *Persian*, and the rudiments of *Arabic*.

As a matter of truth and justice I have stated so much; and I have been the more prompted to do so, from observing that, since the learned Doctor has taken a public and prominent part at the India House, some conceive themselves at liberty to treat him in a way very different from what he really merits. Sarcasm and vituperation are never argumentative, and I believe very rarely convincing. The good judgment and distinguished talents of Mr. Atkinson, the former editor of the *Calcutta Government Gazette*, would, I apprehend, have been very differently exercised from those of his successor; and in contradistinction to his opinions, and those of the editor of the *Bombay Courier*, I could adduce facts more than there is space for. I received a letter from a native, about twelve years since, while with an army of about 5,000 men on service, and being then unable to peruse it, I had to inquire who could supply my deficiency, and in the extent of that army I could only learn of two officers

so qualified; one of them became afterwards a professor in Fort William College, and the other equally distinguished in a different department. Now, contrasting the paucity of officers acquainted with native languages in that not distant time, with the number of young officers more or less acquainted with *Hindoostanee*, *Persian*, and *Arabic*, in a regiment or a small force, now-a-days, let individuals say from whence they derived their knowledge or taste, or their value for them.

Sir Thomas Munro is a great authority on every question relating to the welfare of India, and I would not, as a much younger man, oppose to his opinion any judgment of mine alone; but it so happens that I can quote the judgment of a late distinguished Commander-in-chief of that presidency, as to studying in England. A cadet accompanied me out a few years since, and as he was nearly related to Sir Alexander Campbell, he waited upon him, on his arrival, and his observation was remarkable:—"I hope you have studied *Hindoostanee*, for nothing can be done without it." I need not here state that, even in the Madras presidency, that dialect is the military one, almost exclusively. A friend of mine, whose parents resided in London, studied nearly two years under Dr. Gilchrist, before a *promised* cadetship was obtained. I saw him much on his arrival in India, and can truly state, he not only was better versed in the principles of the *Hindoostanee* language than most young men usually are in their own, but also read with facility the native newspapers, and could converse with precision on all ordinary topics with a native.

I must not trespass on your well-filled columns too largely, and I shall close by mentioning a circumstance which tends to confirm the estimation in which Dr. Gilchrist's rules and principles are held. The late Col. Taylor, Professor of *Hindoostanee*, &c. in the College of Fort William, told me, in answer to a question, that although they did not use Dr. Gilchrist's works in the college, they were entirely governed by his principles in the books used for *Hindoostanee*. This, from a professor, and the author of a dictionary of that language, as well as other works, is a testimony, I conceive, of no small value; more particularly as students in the college arrived in the possession of more or less of the principles acquired in England.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.

AMICUS VERITATIS.

March 13th, 1827.

THE DEW.

From the Suktikārnāmritā.

Like virtue in a woman lost to shame;
 Like the light cloud that dims the chastest fame;
 Like harlots' love, or levity in brides;
 Like joy in hearts where wickedness abides;
 Like marriage-broils where true affection ties;
 So short-lived is the Dew,—when born it dies.

THE BOMBAY PRESS.

Our last number, in which we adverted to the unaccountable series of hostilities between the Bench of Bombay and other parties, had scarcely issued from the press, when the particulars of another occurrence reached us, not less remarkable than any of those to which we alluded.

In pp. 392 *et seq.* will be found a report of some curious proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bombay, on an indictment for libel, preferred by the Rev. Mr. Davies against Capt. Miller, which the grand jury twice *ignored*. The editor of the *Bombay Courier* (the official journal) having been reproached, by certain Calcutta newspapers, with omitting, from improper motives, a report of the proceedings in the Supreme Court of Bombay respecting the regulations for the press,* departed, on the occasion of the proceedings in the case above-mentioned, from his customary rule of silence, and inserted a report, which, it appears, was furnished by one of the grand jury.

Assured, as no doubt the editor felt himself, of having secured an accurate statement of what passed, and of not violating the express instructions given him (he says) by the proprietors of the paper, that "nothing should be inserted that was likely to give offence to the Supreme Court," he must have been mightily surprised to find that, with all his caution, he trod upon the verge of ruin.

On the 16th September, as soon as the judges, Sir Edward West and Sir C. Chambers—(Sir R. Rice being absent from the presidency)—had taken their seats, the former adverted to the report in the unfortunate *Courier*.

We have before us two accounts of what fell from the judges on this occasion: one of the reports appears to have been furnished by the *court itself*, to the *Bombay Gazette* (a paper hostile to the *Courier* and to the government party); the other report was transmitted to, and published in, the *Bengal Hurkaru*, the editor of which paper states that he received it from a Bombay correspondent, who assured him that it was a correct report of what occurred.

We shall first insert the judges' report, which is prefaced in the *Bombay Gazette*,—the paper we again observe opposed to the *Courier*, and the vehicle chosen by the judges (if we correctly understand what follows)—by these remarks:—

"In publishing, as we now do, the observations of the honourable the judges in the Supreme Court on Saturday last, we feel bound publicly to avow the practical difficulty we have experienced, notwithstanding the skill and assiduity of our reporters, in obtaining on the present, and indeed on former occasions also, satisfactory reports (*i. e.* to all parties) of the proceedings in court. The present may be considered as coming from the most authentic sources; but we must at the same time candidly acknowledge, that it does not coincide in all respects with that received from our reporters."

Supreme Court, Saturday, Sept. 16th.—The chief justice, upon taking his seat, observed, that he held in his hand the government newspaper, the *Courier*, in which he was sorry to observe a very gross misstatement of the proceedings of the court. The account of what had passed in court at the sessions, with respect to the bill against Capt. Miller for a libel, was full of errors; but particularly his (the chief justice's) address to the grand jury on their last presentment. He was made to say, "that there was

* The editor of the *Bombay Courier*, in justifying himself against the charge of omitting this report at the direction of the government (which he distinctly denies), alleges the difficulty of publishing a perfectly accurate report, such as would not give "the slightest offence" to the judges, and the apprehensions arising from "recent occurrences fresh in the editor's recollection," as the grounds for omitting the account of these proceedings.

was nothing irregular in the prosecutor adopting proceedings against them (the grand jury), if he thought there was any misconduct on their part." Again, "that they were not punishable *under the circumstances*:"—whereas he had repeated, again and again, that no proceeding could be had against the grand jury; but that though a party who supposed himself aggrieved could not proceed against them, or question their conduct for the purpose of criminating them, he might question it incidentally and collaterally, for the purpose of obtaining justice for himself; and might make the supposed misconduct of the grand jury in throwing out a bill, the ground for a motion for a criminal information, in the same matter as appeared by the several precedents produced from the Crown Office upon the debate in the House of Commons on Mr. Plunkett's (attorney-general for Ireland) having filed a criminal information after a bill had been thrown out. The chief justice said this misstatement *might possibly be the result of mistake*; and he should have been more inclined to think so, *had it not been for a very improper paragraph in another part of the same paper*; he said he alluded to the article containing an extract from Mr. Mill. His lordship also observed, that there had been mistakes in the account which the *Gazette* had given of the same proceedings; but that it was clear, from the introduction to the report, that *these were mere mistakes, and not wilful misstatements*. His lordship concluded by saying, that he intended this merely as a warning, that if this was intended as a commencement of misrepresentation of the court's proceedings, the court would at least fine the editor and proprietors, be they who they might, to such extent as might be necessary to prevent a repetition of such practice.

Sir Charles Chambers. "I am sure I do not wish to add any thing in the way of vituperation or censure to what has fallen from the chief justice; but I wish to take this opportunity of explaining the part of the report which relates to me. I think it not correct; and to shew how incorrect it is, I will point out a part of the last speech attributed to me. I am made to say, that I thought that a criminal information might be moved for after a bill had been ignored. Now, as far as I can recollect, and I think I am pretty accurate, I did not mention a word about a criminal information. What I said was, that after a bill had been ignored by one grand jury, it might be presented to any number of successive grand juries; and my inference from that was, that neither Mr. Graham nor his client could be considered as guilty of any offence in law, by impeaching the finding of the present grand jury: and the whole of this argument has been omitted. I could also point out other inaccuracies: but with reference to the report, it ought to be considered, first, that it was a partial report—a professedly partial report, and that by a grand jurymen, a party highly interested; and, secondly, that the report is by a person who is not a lawyer. I believe, moreover, that the place from which I am in the habit of addressing the grand jury is so distant, that it is very possible that they hear indistinctly what I say, and receive, consequently, impressions which I do not wish to convey."

The above report was not inserted in the *Gazette* till four days after the remarks were delivered. We now add the report from the *Hurkaru* of what fell from Sir E. West, in which will be observed some remarkable *peculiarities*, showing a wilful misrepresentation somewhere:

The Chief Justice.—"I think it necessary to take public notice of a gross misstatement that appears in the government paper of to-day (the *Courier*) of what I said to the grand jury at the last sessions. I call it the government paper, because the government resolution at the head of the paper proves it; and I have to say, that if this is to be the commencement of a course of proceeding, and these misrepresentations of the court's proceedings are intended to be persisted in, *I will punish the editor and the proprietors, both by fine and imprisonment*, now that we have the means in our power of finding out who they are. I am made to say, in this report of a grand jurymen, what it is impossible any judge could have betrayed such gross ignorance of the law as have said.

I never stated, as the report would seem to imply, that proceedings could be adopted against a grand jury for misconduct in the discharge of their duty. What I said to the grand jury was this:—'You, gentlemen, are by law exempted, you are not amenable
or

or punishable, in point of law, for any misconduct you may be guilty of, although in conscience you may be reprehensible; but though they were exempted, I said, and not subject to any proceedings directly against themselves, yet their conduct might incidentally and collaterally be open to be questioned, and I instanced the proceedings in Ireland, relative to the attacks on the Lord Lieutenant, and the ex-officio information that was filed by the Attorney General against the rioters, and of its being filed in consequence of the grand jury having refused to find bills against them; and that when it was complained of in Parliament as unconstitutional, eighteen cases were cited by the Attorney General in support of the measure, in every one of which criminal informations had been granted, on the ground of the grand jury having improperly ignored bills. The whole of those proceedings are in the Parliamentary Debates of 1823. The report of what I said to the grand jury betrays the grossest ignorance of law in the reporter, or must have proceeded from a wilful intention to misrepresent. To suppose that a judge could, at this time of day, have told a grand jury what I am reported to have said! it betrays an ignorance that a mere novice in the law could not have shewn, and I therefore cannot believe the report to have come from a grand jurymen; but, whoever is the author, the misstatement, I think, must have been made by mistake and through ignorance. However, I now give this public warning, that if these misrepresentations are persevered in, I will certainly punish both the editor and proprietors, by fine, and also by imprisonment, unless privileged persons.

"There is another remark I have to make upon another part of the *Courier* of to-day: it is in regard to an extract it has made from a work of Mr. Mill (the author of *British India*), relative to judges and reports of law proceedings. Now, that is a very indecent remark to be inserted in a public paper, and much more indecent in a government paper. *If the whole of what Mr. Mill has written about judges and law had been inserted, I know where the editor of that paper would be now, or in a day or two, at least.*

"The *Gazette* newspaper some time ago published a report of these same proceedings, and though in that report there were some slight inaccuracies, yet the editor, in the introductory part of it, professes that he could give but the substance of what fell from the judges, and not the tenor of their speeches and their exact words, as he had not been able to obtain them; but no such apology appears in the paper of to-day for the speeches of the judges.

"I repeat, that if these misrepresentations are persisted in, *I will certainly punish both the editor and the proprietors, be they who they may.*"

The extract from Mr. Mill's history, the insertion of which (*according to both reports*) was an act of impropriety on the part of the editor of the *Courier*, was the following, preceded by the paragraph prefixed to it:

"As the perils of publishing law proceedings here have been particularly alluded to, and admitted, both by Ludawhisky (a writer in an adverse paper) and ourselves, we beg to observe that that peril is not confined to India, but is also experienced in England, as is exemplified in the following quotation from the historian of India, in his *Essay on Government*:

'In England, where there is no definition of libel, and where the judges, therefore, are allowed to punish, under the name of libel, whatever writing they do not like, the punishment of unfavourable observations on the conduct of a judge—nay, in some instances, and those of the highest importance, the simple report of his proceedings—is treated as one of the most heinous of all possible offences. No wonder! allow judges, or allow any men, to frame laws, and they will frame them, if they can, to answer their own purposes. Who would not, if he could, make a law to protect himself from censure? more especially if he were a man disposed to act in such a way as to deserve censure.'

The circumstance of the report being made by a grand jurymen, proves either that the judges did not express themselves in a manner to be clearly understood by those whom they addressed, or that the report was a wilful misrepresentation, which, under the circumstances, it is hard to believe.

The chief discrepancy between the two reports just inserted, consists in the omission in the former of the threat implied in the words—"If the whole of what Mr. Mill has written about judges and law had been inserted, I know where the editor of that paper would be now, or in a day or two at least:" expressions which indicate such a total want of judicial propriety, that we must be sceptical on this point. It is observable, however, that in the other report, the chief justice intimates that he would, *at least*, fine the editors and proprietors to such an extent as might be necessary.

We forbear to quote any of the remarks made upon this occasion by a certain portion of the Calcutta press, whose exultations at the late "liberal opinions" of the Bombay bench have been suddenly checked; nor shall we speculate upon the revulsion of feeling which those persons will undergo in this country who have been eulogizing "the King of England's most upright and learned chief justice and his Majesty's other judges of Bombay," upon the supposition, no doubt, that those functionaries were hostile to arbitrary power in the abstract, and would be as unwilling to exercise a control over the press, by *fining to an unlimited extent*, without intervention of jury, as to invest the Government with that additional check upon licentious publication, which a Privy Council has approved for another part of India. If the report in the *Hurkaru* were correct (which, out of regard to the characters of the judges, we are bound to doubt), we should, indeed, be tempted to contrast the threat conveyed in the commencement of Sir E. West's remarks with the following opinion of Mr. Justice Chambers, when the press regulations were rejected: *

"It may be said that the power of sending British subjects home extends to those residing in the presidencies as well as to others: but it must be remarked, that this power, as it has been exercised over the press, has probably never been in the contemplation of the Legislature at all."

We are very unwilling to prolong a topic like this, which is far from being a pleasing one; we leave the subject, therefore, with the hope that the bad spirit, which seems to exist at the little island of Bombay, will speedily subside.

The *Bengal Hurkaru* speaks of a prevailing rumour which explains the mutual bickerings at Bombay, namely, that two separate interests at that presidency have each a paper a little under its control. If this be the fact, God forbid that the judges should be one of these parties: but we could not believe this, even if it were directly asserted.

We cannot forbear a remark upon the disadvantageous situation in which the press of Bombay is placed by the rejection of the lately offered Regulations. By their adoption an editor who offended, in the opinion of the government, could have been punished by the suppression of his paper; but now, by the interposition of the "King of England's most upright and learned chief justice and his Majesty's other judges," the poor editor will be transmitted: a penalty beyond all comparison more severe than the other; yet the bench (though of opinion that the Legislature never contemplated such a power over the press,) is content it should be exercised, and has been the cause of its exertion by the government in the only case which has happened. So much for the merit of defending the editors from "shackles," ascribed so undeservedly to the Supreme Court!

* See p. 296.

THE BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER.

THE following very interesting and important additions to the particulars respecting the source of this river given in our two last volumes,* appear in the *Government Gazette* of Calcutta.

The supposed source of the Brahmaputra has been visited, and Captain Bedford, of the Survey Department, is the first European who has penetrated to the *Brahma Kund*, the reservoir in which, according to Hindu legend, the infant river-God, the son of Brahma, was cradled. The Kund, however, is not the source of the river, and is situated on this side of the hills, near the opening through which the stream issues. The river, within the first range of the hills, flows from the south-east, but from what point precisely is yet to be ascertained.†

The following is the voyage up the Brahmaputra to which we referred, and which is of high geographical interest on various accounts. The course of the river is altogether a novelty, and the supposed source, the *Brahma Kund*, is now for the first time the subject of European testimony. The source of the river within the hills is no longer doubtful, and it does not rise from the sacred reservoir. We are not satisfied, however, that the *Brahma Kund* here described is the genuine *Kund*. The legendary account of this spot, which is to be found in great detail in the *Kalika Puran*, specifies a vast number of remarkable rocks and mountains in the vicinity, of which the following narrative presents no trace. We should have expected some shrine of the goddess *Kāmākhyā* at this place, in addition to those she has in other parts of Asam, of which she is the tutelary deity. That the natives consider the *Brahma Kund* now visited, to be the sacred pool, is no doubt correct, but Asam ceased for so many centuries to be Hindu, that the legendary fables of the faith are, like its practices, forgotten.

The route followed on this occasion commenced at the Kundil Mukh, and proceeded along the main stream of the Brahmaputra: on the 3d and 4th of March, the Balijan, Now Dihing, and Tenga Panee rivulets, were passed, and a portion of the river was now entered, running east from Sadiya, which is yet a blank upon the latest maps. The Brahmaputra, although of considerable breadth and depth in some places, is hence constantly broken by rocks, separated into different small branches by islands of various extent, and traversed by abrupt and numerous falls. The water is in general beautifully clear; but becomes turbid after rain, which even in the month of March, is frequent and heavy. After every shower, the river rises and rushes down with an accelerated impetuosity, which it is difficult to stem: several of the boats in the excursion to which we advert, were sunk, and some of the people drowned. Imminent danger of such a catastrophe was an every-day occurrence.

On the 10th of March, the course pursued left the main stream, and proceeded up the Sukato, a detached branch on the right bank of the Brahmaputra, and, like that, intersected by rapids, and endlessly subdivided by islets and rocks. No signs of life were observable in this part of the journey, and although the banks were covered with thick forests, but few birds or beasts disturbed their solitude. The Sukato forms with the Brahmaputra, or Bor

Lohit

* See *Asiatic Journ.* vol. xxi, pp. 32, 180; vol. xxii, p. 178.

† Cal. Gov. Gaz. Sept. 11.

Lohit, an extensive island, the greater part of which is impenetrable forest, but there is one village on it, of some extent, named Chata, inhabited by Mismees, who are of more peaceable habits than the mountain tribe of the same appellation. In dress, ornaments, and features, they do not differ materially from the Mismees on the Dipung. Their arms were the dhao, bows and arrows, and spears, and one man had a powerful cross-bow, with a piece of ivory neatly inlaid above the trigger. Their travelling bags, covered with the strong fibres of the Sawa tree, resembling very coarse hair, completed their marching apparatus. They are not very choice in their diet, and the musk beetle is an article of their food of very common use. This insect is found in great numbers along the Brahmaputra and its branches; it lurks in the day under stones and rocks, and takes wing chiefly at night; the smell is very powerful and offensive. The Mismees merely reject the head, and then dress the insect with their vegetable viands.

After a tedious voyage of eighteen days, during which nearly forty rapids were passed, the course returned on the 28th March to the Bor Lohit, or Brahmaputra. The Sukato opens above a rapid in the main stream, which is pronounced by the natives impracticable, and it has every appearance of being so. At this point the river, now confined to a single branch, takes a northerly direction, and passes under the first range of hills. It runs in one part close below a perpendicular cliff of this range, from sixty to eighty yards high, and covered with soil and forest. The current at this point is strong, and its volume considerable; large rocks project from four to six feet above the current, which have evidently been rolled down from a distance, as the hills near at hand, from two hundred and fifty to four hundred feet high, are composed of earth and small stones. The banks are every where clothed with forest, in which the dhak or kinsuka (*butea frondosa*) is conspicuous. This tree, along the upper part of the Brahmaputra, grows to the height of fifty or sixty feet, and its clusters of scarlet flowers, contrasted with the large white and fragrant blossoms of the kolkea creeper, form a rich ornament of the scenery. The left bank of the river, below where it issues from the hills, is composed of loose granite blocks, occasionally resting on felspar, partially decomposed; the strata are in some places horizontal, but in others they are much broken, as if undermined and fallen into the stream. In a dry stone bed was observed a large detached block, twenty-five feet long, eighteen high, and nearly the same breadth. It is difficult to conceive by what means so ponderous a body could have been precipitated into its present position. There are several other large rocks immediately below where the Lohit issues from the hills, by which it is separated into several small channels; but at the point where these unite, its general breadth is two hundred feet, and it flows with great force and volume. The course of the river behind the first range is concealed from view by a projecting rock jetting into the river, beneath which it rushes as from a fall, with much foam and noise. Behind this, the river is said to be free from rapids, and to flow quietly along a gentle slope, which report is confirmed by the shelving outline of the distant hills. The river is also said to change its course behind the first range, and to flow from the south-east under some small hills, beyond which a higher range appears, with the snowy mountains in the distance.

After some ineffectual attempts to open a passage to the supposed head of the river, the Deo Panee, or Brahma Kund (the "divine water," or "well of Brahma"), which it was known was not remote, and after some unsuccessful efforts to reach the villages, the smoke of which was perceptible on the neighbouring hills, a communication was at last effected with the Mismees of

Dillee,

Dillee, a village about a day's journey from the left bank, as well as with the Gaum, or Tikla, the head-man of the Brahma Kund village, in whose company a visit was paid to the reservoir on the 4th of April. This celebrated reservoir is on the left bank of the river: it is formed by a projecting rock; which runs up the river nearly parallel to the bank, and forms a good sized pool, that receives two or three small rills from the hills immediately above it. When seen from the land side, by which it is approached, the rock has much the appearance of an old Gothic ruin, and a chasm about half-way up, which resembles a carved window, assists the similitude. At the foot of the rock is a rude stone seat; the ascent is narrow, and choked with jungle: half-way up is another kind of seat, in a niche or fissure, where offerings are made; still higher up, from a tabular ledge of the rock, a fine view is obtained of the Kund, the river, and the neighbouring hills: access to the summit, which resembles Gothic pinnacles and spires, is utterly impracticable: the summit is called the Deo Baree, or dwelling of the Deity. From the rock the descent leads across a kind of glen, in the bottom of which is the large reservoir, to the opposite main land, in the ascent of which is a small reservoir about three feet in diameter, which is fed by a rill of beautifully clear water, and then pours its surplus into its more extensive neighbour below. The large Kund is about seventy feet long, by thirty feet wide. Besides Brahma Kund and Deo Pance, the place is also termed Purbut Kathar, in allusion to the legend of Parasurama having opened a passage for the Brahmaputra, through the hills, with a blow of his kat'har, or axe. The offerings made at this holy spot are very miscellaneous, and many of them very incompatible with the ordinary Hindu belief; as fowls and cows. Whatever, indeed, is eaten by the minister, is supposed acceptable to the deity; and the Mismees of this part of the country have no prejudices in the article of food, eating beef and pork, and every variety of flesh and fowl. The visitors to the reservoir do not seem to be numerous or opulent.

The village of Dillee consists of about twelve houses erected on platforms, from thirty to forty feet long: the lower part of the building is occupied by the cattle, which form the sustenance of the people, besides Indian corn, marwa, and yams. The Mismees also grow mustard, pepper, cotton, and tobacco, but rice apparently is not cultivated. A spirit is made from marwa: it is also ground to a coarse flour and mixed with Indian corn, and then forms the commonest article of food in use. The Dillee Mismees also eat the musk beetles, squeezing them between two stones, and then grilling them. The women are not at all reserved or kept concealed: they are rather fair and of good stature, with pleasing features. They dress like the Kamtees and Assamese. The men in general are well-made and athletic, with rather fair complexions. The country is well-peopled, and a number of villages are scattered over it, of which the Dillee Gaum is said to hold authority over twenty. The Tikla of Brahma Kund, who was met on this occasion, is the youngest of three brothers, who equally share in the offerings made at the shrine. Both chiefs and people displayed entire fearlessness, and confidence in their visitors, and every disposition to treat them with hospitality. Want of supplies, however, prevented any stay at this point, and rendered a prompt return to Sadiya indispensable, which was effected by the 11th of April. The cloudy and rainy weather that prevailed during the greater part of the route, was too unfavourable for observation, to admit of any latitudes being laid down with confidence. The only point ascertained is the head of the Sukato branch, which is in $27^{\circ} 51' 21''$. The general range of the thermometer during the route

route was 57° to 65° ; but this seems to have been ascribable to the continued rain, accompanied by easterly and north-easterly blasts from the neighbouring mountains. When the sun was out the heat was intense. On the 30th March the thermometer, at noon, in the tent, was 102° .*

The progress of geographical discovery on our north-east frontier has assimilated itself to the development of a well-wrought tale, in which expectation is kept alive by a succession of incidents, promising, yet retarding, the denouement, and disappointing expectation only to excite curiosity. In the same manner we have been constantly coming upon the sources of the Brahmaputra, without attaining them, and at the same time, determining a variety of new and interesting points, which, although not the ultimate object of inquiry, have not defrauded it of its legitimate reward.

A recent excursion to the east of Saddiya has, we learn, been prosecuted by Lieut. Wilcox, who, in the first instance, proceeded up the branch of the river called the Thenga Pani, or Thenga Nadi. After passing the Mora Tenga Marbar, and Disavi, the stream diminished to the breadth of eight or ten yards, and the navigation was stopped by trees that had fallen into the river, or across it. Like all the streams east of Saddiya, it abounds with rapids, and from the great inclination of its bed, it never overflows the banks, although they are low. The whole tract through which it flows is said to be highly fertile, but the country is thinly peopled, and the lands scantily cultivated. Such is the want of labourers in the fields, that the Sinhfo chiefs are obliged to put their hands to the plough themselves.

The Thenga Nadi, from this description, has not contributed to the determination of the origin of the main stream, and we had lately an opportunity of shewing that it does not rise from the reservoir on the Lohit, on this side of the mountains, to which the designation of *Brahma Kund* is now applied. In the account we published in our paper of the 21st of September, it was stated that the river was seen flowing down a gentle slope for a considerable distance within the first range of hills running from the south-east: on the present occasion, it has been ascertained from oral, but apparently trustworthy information, that the Brahmaputra rises by two branches, one to the north and the other to the east, the Talooka and the Talooding. The former is the smallest of the two, and its water is impure. It skirts the hills, which run off northward, and its banks are thinly peopled. The Talooding has villages on both banks: it has its source in a snowy mountain in the Khana Deba's country, from the opposite side of which issues the Irawadi. The conflux of both is said to be within the frontiers of the Lama's country, one day beyond Sitti, on the boundary, which latter is eight days' journey from Taceen. Taceen is the third village on the route from the Meesmee country to that of the Lama; but it is sometimes made in one day's march from Challa, on the Thenga, by a difficult path that passes by the *Brahma Kund*: this route, however, is impracticable for travellers with baggage or burthens. At Taceen the river is crossed by a cane suspension bridge, and cattle may proceed along the remainder of the road in a circuitous direction. Bameya, the seventh stage on this route, is described as an immense hill, which can only be crossed in a direct line with the assistance of ropes.

The sources of other principal branches of the Lohit or Brahmaputra
Proper,

* Cal. Gov. Gaz., September 21.

Proper, as well as of the great southern portion, the Bor Dehing, are, however, still undetermined. Of the latter, nothing has yet been published: of the former, some additional information has been obtained, but it requires verification. The sources of the Dihong are apparently not far from the frontiers of the Lama's country, as the Meesmees, situated on the former, carry on an active traffic with the latter. Of a more important branch, the Dibong, the Bor Abors confidently assert, that it flows from the west, and that a lake through which, or from which, it issues, gives rise to the Soobun-sheeree also. The description, however, seems to be rather incompatible with the assertion, that in the north-westerly route to the Lama's territory, the Dibong is crossed from east to west at the twelfth stage, and then left.

Similar reports have been received on this, as on other occasions, of a very considerable river skirting the further side of the hills, to which the term Sri Lohit is applied. It is said to flow from east to west, a direction that would disunite it from any possible communication with the rivers of Asam; but this is probably an error, and the river, if not altogether a nonentity, may possibly be the Irawadi. The Sri Lohit is said to have been crossed by the posterity of Khunling and Khunlae, the heaven-descended founders of the family which to the period of the Burman invasion governed Asam. It may possibly, therefore, be a river of merely mythological origin.*

* *Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, November 2.

EAST-INDIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent, a medical officer on furlough, in his letter to you of the 8th ultimo, published page 330 of your last number for March, in stating the pension of chaplains of the East-India Company's service on retirement at £300 per annum, after fifteen years' service in India, has not adverted to the increased remuneration to chaplains, from the pension of Major, £292, to that of Lieutenant-Colonel, £365, per annum, after fifteen years' service in India, published in the second edition of the East-India Register, corrected to 26th October 1826, viz.

The pension, or remuneration for services, on retirement, of chaplains, and of surgeons, is as follows:

A member of the Medical Board, after two years' service as such, and from thirty-two to thirty-six years' service in India	per annum	£500	0
A superintending surgeon, after two years' service as such, and after from thirty to thirty-two years' service in India.....		300	0
A surgeon, after from seventeen to thirty years' service in India, the pay of captain, 10s. 6d. per day		192	12
A chaplain, after fifteen years' service in India, the pay of Lieutenant-Colonel, £1. per day		365	0

A SURGEON OF THE COMPANY'S SERVICE ON FURLOUGH.

London, 15th March 1827.

Review of Books.

Inquiry into the State of the Indian Army, with Suggestions from its Improvement, and the Establishment of a Military Police for India. By WALTER BADENACH, Esq., Captain Bengal Army. London, 1826. 8vo. pp. 151.

THE subject treated of in this work is highly interesting to a very large portion of the Anglo-Indian public; and to the remainder, those, namely, who have no direct personal or professional feeling therein, it cannot appear of slender importance. Who can doubt that our empire in the East, as it has been acquired, so it is, and must continue to be, upheld, mainly at least, by military strength? It follows then, that whatsoever tends, in any degree, to impair the efficacy of that source of power, as well as any suggestions calculated to promote its efficiency, ought to command the attention of all, and the especial notice of the Government.

The extraordinary constitution of the Indian army,—a body of 270,000 men,* employed to keep their fellow countrymen in subjection to foreigners, and governed by a few aliens interspersed throughout its mass,—calls for active and unremitted observation, not merely of the aggregate, but of its constituent yet discordant parts. Without such care, this curiously compacted fabric might be liable to sudden shocks, which would threaten its subversion.

Like every part of our Eastern government, the Indian army was based upon a foundation too narrow for the dimensions which it has acquired through successive augmentations; but, unlike the various departments of civil government, a military establishment is not readily susceptible of change or partial correction in its essentials. The stern inflexibility of military discipline, which is jealous of complaint, and, theoretically, forbids discussion, tends to keep the governing power long ignorant of defects injurious to the subordinate parts of the system, which are adapted to it *per force*; and when discovered, the evils have perhaps become inveterate, or admit of cure only by expedients which are too inconvenient or too costly to be readily adopted.

That there are defects and practical evils in the present military system of India, so far as the European officer is concerned, cannot be disputed by any person conversant with the subject, or who has had an opportunity of mixing with individuals of that gallant body, which has been aptly called the soul of our Indian army: many serious defects in that system have been pointed out by writers in this journal. There must be some foundation for complaints so universal: and when it is considered that the East-India Company, though often charged with all the blemishes of our Eastern government, possess but very imperfect means of obviating many of the objections raised against their military system, and that they cannot foresee in how short a time its entire administration may be taken from them, we are inclined to surmise that the Directors themselves may be passive from other motives than a conviction that it does not require change and improvement.

In the mean time the public are indebted to those individuals who, being competent to the task, and actuated by a proper spirit, develop the defects of the Indian military system, and suggest expedients for its improvement. For these reasons we think that Capt. Badenach has not only conferred a boon upon his brother officers, but upon the country at large, by the publication before

* Which is, after all, only one in 400 of the population: the British army in Ireland is one in 233.

before us. We are not prepared to concur with him in all his views; but there are none which do not deserve consideration. We are glad to perceive that he disavows (in effect) all connexion with the body of censurers by wholesale, who condemn whatever is, merely because it is. "Even the system of which I complain," he candidly says, "the injurious effects of which I am anxious to press upon public attention, was, I know, framed with the best and kindest motives. Events which could hardly have been calculated upon have rendered *that* injurious, which was intended, if not calculated, to be serviceable."

We shall endeavour to give the reader a succinct sketch of the opinions of Capt. Badenach: our space, we fear, will not permit us to discuss them.

The defects in the Indian military system are attributed by Capt. Badenach (who confines himself chiefly to the Bengal army) to its original organization in 1796; and he thinks them excusable on account of the peculiar state of affairs at that period. The chief defects were, its unavoidable tendency to occasion a paucity of officers, and its faulty scheme of promotion. With respect to the first, the number of officers to each corps was even then too small;* but the army had at that time no commissariat and other necessary departments, which drain the Company's line to officer them to such a degree that, at the commencement of a campaign, a Bengal regiment (1,000 strong) has often no more than one field officer, one captain, and six or seven subalterns. This diminution of the number of officers with their corps arises also from the drafts for irregular corps and staff appointments: the former Capt. B. does not consider, generally speaking, as "a very efficient or even safe sort of troops to employ." With regard to the staff appointments, although he is sensible that the employment of officers in such situations proceeds from the most liberal principles (as the Company cannot confer either honours or high rank on their military servants), yet he thinks other means might be found to reward officers which would be equally to their own satisfaction and less prejudicial to the service. He proposes to raise veteran regiments and attach the staff officers exclusively to them; such corps would also afford a provision for the native soldiery. After taking away such officers, he recommends that the army should be levelled, and future removals from one corps to another be disallowed: staff employ to be, as at present, open to all the service. He adds:

The only fair plan is to let officers take their chance with their corps, as is done in all other services, and why not in this? We need go no further for a model than that army with which the Company's is constantly obliged to act; the success that has attended its operations against the finest troops in the world, is the surest test of the efficiency of its organization.

The greatest defect in the system of 1796, according to Capt. Badenach, was that which impeded promotion, and which, though lately much amended, still keeps an officer too long in the junior ranks, whereby he is often unfit for service when promotion arrives.

With very few exceptions the junior field officers have been from twenty-five to thirty years in India, and the seniors from forty-five to fifty years, a period of time after which few, very few, men in any climate, but particularly in India, are capable of

* In 1796, the same number of officers was fixed for a native regiment of two battalions, sixteen hundred men, as in the King's service for a regiment amounting to six or seven hundred. At present there are but twelve hundred and one efficient officers to the whole regular army of two hundred thousand. Not more, in fact, than one efficient European officer to one hundred and sixty-five men.

of much exertion. Zeal for the service will often be found almost the only necessary quality the officers will retain, and blame is frequently attached to the individual, which a little more discrimination and closer examination of facts would have attributed to the real cause, an improper organization, that places it out of the power of the individual either to advance himself in the service, or to get out of it till long after he is unfit for it. And as long as this system is, as heretofore, undeviatingly adhered to, almost all the generals, colonels, and many of the field officers, will be found totally unfit for active field service.

The injurious effects of this part of the system are particularly described by Capt. B. : Company's officers are superseded by those in his Majesty's service far their juniors in standing ; and the former are shut out from high military honours, to which they have the strongest claims, owing to their not being able to reach the prescribed rank of major-general, though "many of the lieutenant-colonels have served upwards of *forty-five years*," some of whom have been doing the duty of general officers for more than ten years. The following remarks upon this head are the *strongest* in the book :

The officers are now, in 1826, much more backward in promotion, and have in every respect much worse prospects, than they had in 1796. In a word, this system is so much at variance with the regulations of his Majesty's service and British feeling, that it cannot possibly be continued much longer. To attempt it might be perhaps hazardous, for ambition is in its qualities as elastic and searching for an outlet as steam in its most condensed shape ; and any power that attempts to keep it too closely confined, must, in point of duration, be extremely uncertain, not to dwell on the risk to be apprehended from an explosion.

In point of pecuniary remuneration, he admits that the liberality of the Court of Directors is conspicuous ; but this, he justly observes, is not the proper stimulant ; rank, honours, and liberal retirement, are the real rewards for military men. He proposes that promotion be regulated in the Indian as in the King's service ; that regiments be independent of each other ; and that officers rise by regimental seniority to the rank of lieutenant-colonel inclusive. The reason for the existing system of stopping regimental promotion when a majority is reached, Capt. B. shews to be deduced from a recommendation of Lord Cornwallis in 1794, upon grounds which, though plausible when stated, were futile even at the time it was adopted.

Capt. Badenach next treats upon that part of the system relating to retirement. He prefixes to the chapter on this subject, two tabular statements, from whence it appears that in the Bengal army 201 officers, out of 3,633 remaining in that establishment in 1796, or who entered it between that year and 1820, retired to Europe on the pension of their rank, after twenty-two years' service in India ; and that the remainder, or ninety-five per cent., have died or been killed, or were invalided in India, or resigned the service without any enrolment from the Company, or remained in India for want of means to return to Europe on retirement. "Such," he adds, "is a true picture of the Bengal army, and an examination into the state of those of the other presidencies would, I am certain, produce nearly similar results."

The amount of the pension list he next shews to be insignificant, compared with the number of officers, the arduousness of their services, the addition which those services have made to the Company's revenue, and especially in comparison with the amount of the retired full-pay and half-pay lists of his Majesty's army : so that in spite of the obvious policy of encouraging exertions in the debilitating climate of India, no encouragement is held out to the Company's officer, either in respect to rank, honours, or ultimate provision for retirement.

ment. The regulations connected with retirement in the Company's service have a tendency to induce individuals to cling to the service longer than they are fit for the active duties of a military life. On the contrary, every inducement should be afforded calculated to counteract a disposition so prejudicial to the public service. Capt. B. proposes a plan to induce officers to declare more speedily than at present their wish to retire, instead of taking three, four, and five years of absence first. The addition to the pension list by such a plan would be defrayed by a saving in the furlough allowance list.

His plan is to establish a scale of contributions, on the different ranks in the service, for the formation of a fund to induce officers to retire, who are entitled to do so, but to whom the pensions offer not a sufficient temptation. For the details of this plan we refer to the work: it would, he conceives, be easy of adoption, agreeable to all ranks of the army, and attended with little comparative expense to the Company.

A plan upon the same principle has been, we understand, very recently developed at Calcutta, and it is probable that its details will soon be laid before government.

Capt. Badenach next touches upon the important question as to the policy of transferring the Indian army to the crown, one of the necessary consequences of which would be the amalgamation of the armies of the three presidencies into one. Sir John Malcolm, we recollect, in his *Political History*, considers this measure not only easy of execution, and beneficial in its effects, but "absolutely necessary;" Capt. Badenach, on the other hand, can discover scarcely any advantages likely to result from it, whilst its disadvantages, he conceives, would be many and serious. The chief objections he urges are these, and they are not to be hastily overruled:

It must be quite clear in a political point of view, if ever we are so unfortunate as to be obliged to depend on one part of our native army to quell any disturbance in another, the less they know of each other, the more decidedly and readily they will act. This of itself ought to be a strong reason for keeping the armies of the different presidencies as distinct as possible. Again, if all our military force were formed into one army, and corps raised at one presidency sent to do duty at another, it would take the men such a distance from their native districts as to preclude the possibility of their getting the usual leave of absence to visit their families, without which indulgence, men of good caste would not continue to enter our service. It would, besides, be attended with enormous expense, by making it necessary to raise the pay of the native part of the Bengal army to the same scale as the Madras, which on account of the difference of the price of labour and provisions is necessarily high. It would take the patronage for Madras and Bombay almost entirely from the governor and commander-in-chief of those presidencies, and throw it into the hands of the governor-general and commander-in-chief in India; and instead of being of service to the officers of the Madras and Bombay presidencies, by allowing them to be on the staff in Bengal, the probabilities are, that it would have quite a contrary effect, and that those presidencies would be inundated with staff officers from Bengal.

Capt. B. concludes his remarks on this branch of the subject by a kind of *argumentum ad hominem*:

I should respectfully press the consideration on the honourable the Court of Directors, that the defects in the organization of their army which I have already so fully pointed out, might be no inefficient argument in the hands of his Majesty's ministers to propose the union of the services under the direct control of the crown. They must see how the two different systems act, and can appreciate the merits and demerits of both.

In his last chapter but one, our author develops a plan for the establish-

ment of a military police in India, to be formed out of the veteran corps, recommended in a preceding part of the work. Whatever may be the advantages (and they are not inconsiderable) which would attend such a measure, we hope never to see it adopted. There can be no doubt that, in the present condition of the natives of India, a military police is the best adapted for keeping them in tranquillity and subjection; but soldiers are too apt to forget that their profession, honourable as it is, must ever be regarded with jealousy by a government which desires to engraft civil institutions upon the country under its rule. Without disputing one single argument which Capt. B. offers on behalf of this plan, we repeat that we hope it will not be adopted.

His concluding chapter is devoted to a consideration of the character and qualities of the native soldiery, which he depicts in favourable colours. In his suggestions for the amelioration of their condition, we fully concur, especially in that for the abolition of flogging. This punishment is rarely inflicted; but Capt. Badenach recommends that the lash should be wholly disused. "I do not make this recommendation," he observes, "on theoretical, but the most practical grounds; I know that there is no necessity for it, that it needlessly degrades individuals, and hurts the feelings of the population." He clearly demonstrates that the crimes punished by flogging in the King's army, are principally such as the peculiar habits of the Hindus restrain them from committing; and he suggests that expulsion from the service, extra duties, degradation of rank and reduction of pay, and lastly (that which a Hindu dreads more than death itself), hard labour, might be substituted for flogging, the mental agony attending which, especially where the subject is a Brahmin, renders the corporeal pain nothing in comparison. If the abolition of this punishment in the Indian army were proclaimed by the government, Capt. B. thinks it would be felt as a great boon.

We should have been glad to examine this work more in detail, but the unusual influx of temporary matter this month has narrowed the space allotted to our review department. Our military readers will doubtless satisfy themselves as to the merits of the work by a perusal of its contents. Its defects of style, arrangement, &c. are amply atoned for by the apology in the preface, wherein the author states that he has been for nearly twenty years employed in active military service, and that this is his maiden publication. We trust that, for the sake of all parties, his work will receive due attention.

Recollections of Egypt. By the BARONESS VON MINUTOLI. London, 8vo., 1827. Pp. 279.

THIS interesting volume is from the pen of a lady, whose husband is known to the world by a work on Egypt possessing strong claims to the attention of scientific readers. The "*Recollections of Egypt*" are not, however, devoid of pretensions to be associated with the Baron's more elaborate publication; they fill up *hiatus* therein, which are sometimes thought to be beneath the dignity of science to supply; they moreover, as the fair writer observes, are calculated to interest persons of her own sex, and we would add, that it is pleasing to readers of both sexes to remark the manner in which objects in Egypt strike a female mind, and the reflexions they suggest therein.

The Baroness thus describes the extraordinary scenes which occurred to her upon landing at Alexandria:—

It would be difficult to express the sensations which I experienced, when for the first time, I passed through the streets of Alexandria. It would require the talents of a

Hogarth

Hogarth to paint all the various scenes of this magic-lantern. What bustle, what confusion, is in these narrow streets, continually blocked up by an innumerable multitude of camels, mules, and asses; the cries of their drivers, incessantly calling to the passengers to take care of their naked feet; the vociferations and grimaces of the jugglers; the splendid costumes of the Turkish functionaries; the picturesque habit of the Bedouins, their long beards, and the grave and regular countenances of the Arabs; the nudity of some Santons, round whom the crowd throngs; the multitude of negro slaves; the howlings of the female mourners accompanying a funeral procession, tearing their hair and beating their breasts, by the side of the noisy train of a marriage; the cries of the Muezzims from the tops of the minarets, summoning the people to prayers; lastly, the afflicting picture of wretches dying with misery and want, and troops of savage dogs which pursue and harass you;—all this every moment arrests the progress and attracts the attention of the astonished traveller.

After her arrival at Cairo, the Baroness paid a visit to the Pyramids, and had the courage to enter the largest. She remarks, like other travellers, that when these monuments are seen at a distance, they do not appear of colossal size; it is only when they are approached closely that the immensity of their proportions can be perceived by comparison with other objects.

The Baroness and her party left Cairo for Upper Egypt in December 1821, when the country was clothed in all the beauty of spring.

On arriving at Thebes, the fair writer visited the magnificent remains in this part of Egypt. She thus speaks of the ruins of Carnac:—

The style of this architecture is grave, like the character and manners of the people that adopted it; every part of it is at once simple, striking, austere, and sublime. It is evident, that the religious ideas of the Egyptians, respecting the immortality of the soul and its return to this world, induced them to give their buildings that solidity and grand character, which distinguished their works from those of the Greeks and the other nations of antiquity. They wished to survive posterity; they fancied they were working for eternity; and yet these magnificent monuments, these temples dedicated to the protecting divinities of nature, if they have not already crumbled into dust like the hand which raised them, they are nevertheless in a state of decay, which proves the impotence of man to eternize the works of his hand:—such is the general lot of things here below! It is among the ruins of Thebes that all kinds of worldly ambition, even the most noble of those which inflame genius and imagination, are reduced to their true value;—it is there that we should come to meditate on the destiny of nations, and on the nothingness of the powers of the earth. Yet, while we are impressed with the inutility of the efforts of man in his struggle with time, the contemplation of these ruins is far from inspiring complete discouragement,—and we feel conscious that the being capable of such sublime conceptions, and of such mighty labours, is called to higher destinies and a more noble ambition. Here Genius survives Destruction, and like the phoenix of the fable, reviving from its ashes, the soul soars victorious from the bosom of the tomb to the abode of immortality.

At Damietta, the Baroness had an opportunity afforded her of visiting the interior of the harem of the Aga. As this is a scene which no male traveller can describe, the account given by the fair author will doubtless be read with interest. We subjoin a portion of it:—

I was accompanied by the lady of the Portuguese physician, who understood a little Italian and Arabic, and who was to act as my interpreter. The two wives, as well as the two daughters of the Aga, seated themselves next to me, while the slaves ranged themselves in a half circle before us, with their arms crossed on the breast, and preserving a respectful silence. As all these women spoke only Turkish, we needed a second interpreter, who, in her turn, understood only Turkish and Arabic, so that what I said in Italian had to be translated into Arabic, and the Arabic into Turkish; thus, to understand each other, we had need of three languages, and two interpreters.

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It may readily be supposed that the conversation could not go on fluently, as we depended on the good will and talents of our interpreters: in fact, the *qui pro quo* resulting from the bad translations of our questions and answers were truly comic, and excited so much gaiety that loud and repeated bursts of laughter soon established a good understanding between us. The oldest of the consorts of the Aga, however, maintained a dignified gravity, while the other, who was much younger, and of an animated and interesting countenance, repeated, with extreme volubility, the most insignificant questions, and did not fail to examine the whole arrangement of my toilette. They asked me many questions respecting the women in my country: as for Europe, I believe, they entertained very vague notions of it, and when I told them that our husbands had but one wife and no slaves, they looked at one another, undetermined whether to applaud or laugh at this custom.

They were nearly all natives of Syria, Circassia, and Georgia, and I had thus leisure to survey these beauties who enjoy so much celebrity. They undoubtedly merit their reputation; I can, however, tell my fair country-women, to comfort them, and to do justice to truth, that Europe certainly can boast of beauties equal to those of the East. Those whom I had now the pleasure of seeing, had the most agreeable countenances, and delicate and regular features: but what most attracted my admiration was their hair, which fell in waving and natural curls down to their waist. They had each preserved their national costume, which agreeably varied this pretty *parterre*; nor had they adopted the tresses of the Egyptian women, which rather disfigure than improve the figure. They had exquisitely beautiful teeth, but the clearness and bloom of youth were banished from their complexion; they all had a languid air, and I did not find among them that *embonpoint* which I had expected to meet. Perhaps their sedentary mode of life, and the destructive climate of Egypt, have contributed to tarnish the lustre of their charms.

The Baroness makes the following remarks upon the condition of women in Egypt:—

All that I have been able to learn by personal observation, and what I was told by several Levantine ladies, concurs to prove that the situation of the women in the East is not so unhappy as we generally fancy it to be. The different races and sects, of which the present population of Egypt is composed, have, it is true, this in common, that they shut up their women; and the Copts, though Christians, observe this custom with much more rigour than even the Arabs themselves: but this privation of liberty is only imaginary, and extends no farther than to prohibit them from appearing in public without a veil, which is a kind of cloak of black silk, which hides their form and their face in a frightful manner, and to exclude them from the society of the men. They are, notwithstanding, perfect mistresses at home, and exclusively command the slaves in their own service, who, in spite of the favours of their master, are no less dependent on the wife than on the latter. As their dwelling is always separated from that of their husband, they have a right to prevent him from entering it, by placing before the door a pair of slippers, which is a sign that they have company. The husband, who dares not appear in the presence of another person's wife, is obliged to respect this indication; and the German proverb, which says, "that a man is under his wife's slipper," may be perfectly applicable in the East. When they wish to visit any of their friends or relations, the husband has not the right of opposing them; and, attended by a faithful slave, they sometimes absent themselves from home for several weeks together.

Under the pretext of these visits, I was assured that they allow themselves incredible liberty; in spite of their veils, and the locks under which they are shut up, they find means to indemnify themselves for this constraint; and it is here that we most see the truth of that maxim, which says: "That virtue protects itself, and that good principles are the best dowry of a female."

The extracts we have made will give our readers some idea of what they may expect from these "Recollections," which are very pleasingly written, and well translated.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the society was held on Wednesday, Sept. 6th. The Hon. J. H. Harington, Esq., the president, in the chair. The following gentlemen were elected members: Dr. Burke, Captain Coulthard, Captain Crisp, the Rev. Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Avdall. Professor Jameson was elected an honorary member. The annual accounts of the society were submitted, shewing, after the payment of the cost of publishing the fifteenth volume of the *Researches*, a balance in the society's favour of 1,381 rupees. Dr. Burlini was elected assistant-librarian and assistant to the superintendent of the museum. A number of spare copies of the Society's *Researches*, subsequent to the fifth volume, remaining, it was resolved, that the members of the society should be supplied with all or any of the volumes upon their application to the secretary. The following communications were received at this meeting:

A translation by Capt. Low, of a Burman manuscript, containing lists of dynasties of princes who ruled in India, and the Peninsula.

Notice of a new locality of gypsum in the Indo-Gangetic tract of the Himalaya, by Capt. Herbert.

Extracts from a native history of Asam, kept by the Baelongs or priests of the ancient religion, and denominated the Baelong Pothi, by D. Scott, Esq.

Account of Aracan, with a history of the province, by Capt. Paton. This and the preceding were communicated by government.

A memoir respecting some new and improved methods of determining the difference of longitude between two terrestrial meridians, by Capt. Grant.

The chronological tables, translated by Capt. Low, purported to be of Burman kings, but the designation of Kusawadi (the Coosy), Megatha or Magadha (Behar) and Mithila (or Terhut) and Baranasi (Benares), leave no doubt of the applicability of the greater portion to the continent of India. As far as may be inferred from the dates assigned, the list may be supposed to commence from the twenty-ninth year of the Burman era, or about A.D. 1139. As the list, however, is unaccompanied by any comments, and the individual Indian names are, to all appearance, strangely metamorphosed by the Burman chronologer, so as not to be recognizable, except in a very few instances, it does not seem likely to throw much light on the chronology of India. In some places, however, an affinity may be

traced between parts of these tables and those published by Wilford and Buchanan. Towards the close, some dynasties of Burman princes occur, and two families, one of seven and the other of twenty-nine princes, appear as sovereigns of Chekkein Myoote, or Ava, between A.D. 1336, and Alom Mendra, or Alompra. The royal house of Prome was founded in 1262, and continued through twenty-one princes. The list of these is followed by five princes of Pegu, but whether these are continuous with the Prome family does not appear. There is also a list of eight princes of Wakroo or Martaban, which was founded in 1332. Wakroo is a ruined town south of Martaban.

The notice of a new locality of gypsum, by Capt. Herbert, was a continuation of his former communication to the society, on the occurrence of this mineral in the Himalaya. He then reported having observed it in three different sites: first, a mile and a half beyond the stalactitic cave (Sansar Dhara), in the Doom; second, in the bed of a stream, which falls into the Sansar Dhara nullah; and third, in the ascent from the village of Rajpooor to the hamlet of Jura Pani. The situation now discovered is in the ascent from the north side of which Masuri Tiba is one of the peaks. It is found in some quantity in clay slate formation, succeeding to mica slate, and occurs in an anomalous superficial mass, and associated with a sulphuretted limestone, occasionally of a black colour, which, in the immediate contact of the gypsum, passes into a black fragmentary rock, non-effervescent, yet giving out the odour of sulphuretted hydrogen, when rubbed or struck. The gypsum of the Himalaya occurs under circumstances in some respects peculiar, and is the more interesting on their account.

The history of Asam appears to be the same as that adverted to by Buchanan in the *Annals of Oriental Literature*. The record commences about the middle of the tenth century, when Khunlong and Khunlai, two brothers, descended, says the chronicle, from heaven by an iron ladder, and founded a family, which ruled over the countries of Mungram and Mungri. The thirteenth in descent from Khunlai, Sukapha, was the first prince of the Asam dynasty, in the year 1189 A.D. This history therefore still leaves the early state of Asam undetermined. It is clear from the names of the princes, that they were foreigners, probably from some of the mountains between Asam and China, whence to the present day, as in the case

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of the Sinphos, irruptions of barbarous tribes have often occurred. Prior to the date of this invasion, there can be little doubt that the western part of Asam, and the course of the Brahmaputra to the Brahmakund, was Hindu, as the scene of numerous legends and traditions, and bearing throughout Sanscrit designations. It was not till the beginning of the seventeenth century, that the ruling family again became Hindu, in the person of Gadadhar Sinh, the thirty-second sovereign. The annals of Asam present no very favourable specimen of the principles or policy of the court, and are filled with instances of treachery and assassination, a great part of which was, no doubt, owing to the constitution of the government, as well as its barbaric character, and the struggles for authority amongst the chief officers, and especially between the Bura Goheins, or hereditary ministers, and the kings.

This history of Arracan begins in A. D. 701, and continues through a series of a hundred and twenty native princes to 1784, when the country was conquered by the Burmese; after which, it records the events that occurred under nine Burman viceroys, to the beginning of the late war. According to these annals the kingdom of Arracan at different times, under warlike and able princes, comprehended Ava, and extended over part of China on the one hand, and Bengal on the other; but these brilliant periods were of short duration, and usurpation, dethronement, murder, and foreign and civil war, constitute the bulk of the narrative.

The object of Captain Grant's memoir is to explain and illustrate several methods of determining the longitude from observations of the moon: it is divided into three sections. The first and third of these comprehend some methods which are founded on the principle of determining the moon's right ascension at any instant of time, either from observations of the transit of her enlightened limb, compared with the transit of one or more stars on either side of her; or secondly, to determine from the observed and corrected altitudes of the moon's centre, at any instant of time, her distance in right ascension from the sun, or from one or more stars, and consequently her right ascension at that time. The second part treats of an improved method of computing the apparent time of the moon's passage over the meridian of Greenwich, or any other place whose longitude is known. The methods proposed by Capt. Grant are partly derived from his communications with Mr. Fallows, the astronomer at the Cape, and are partly the result of his own experience; and although founded on principles generally known and adopted, are considered by him as superior to any

in practice, which all involve errors of more or less extent.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, the 14th September, Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair. Mr. Pearson and Dr. J. Macgregor were elected members, and Sir James Macgregor and Dr. A. Duncan, jun. honorary members of the Society. Several works on natural history and medical science were presented to the Library by Mr. Young of Aurrangabad, and several preparations to the Museum, by Dr. J. Tytler. A case of *Lepra Mercurialis*, by Dr. Johnston; remarks on the Papeeta, or St. Ignatius' Bean, by Mr. Vauquell, of Cambay; and notice of the Chutwan, a febrile bark used amongst the natives, by Mr. Scott, were submitted to the Society.

The papeeta, although not used by the natives of Western India in spasmodic cholera, is administered by them in affections of similar site and character. The drug is rather scarce, and the plant that produces it not indigenous in that part of India. The drug is described by Loureiro, in his account of Cochin-China, and its medicinal properties are enumerated. The plant from which the bean, or more correctly the fruit, is obtained, is also described by him as a large shrub, with a stem like the trunk of a tree, long climbing branches, and large leaves. The nut and its powers have been long known in Europe, and accounts of it are to be found in various botanical and medical works, and in different volumes of the *Philosophical Transactions*.

The chutwan is a large tree, said to be common in Bengal, the bark of which is exceedingly bitter. It is used most commonly for the cure of chronic rheumatism, but is also employed as a febrifuge. The decoction or infusion yields a copious precipitate with infusion of gall-nuts.

The chief object of the Society's attention was a paper on the medical topography of Aracan, and the sickness which prevailed among the European troops stationed there in 1825, by Mr. Stevenson—the views taken in which correspond with those of a former communication on the same subject, noticed in our report of the Society's proceedings on the 1st July, and which we observe is one of the articles in the volume of the transactions announced for publication. The country, Mr. Stevenson remarks, consists chiefly of low marshy land overrun with jungle, presenting here and there a cultivated plain, skirted with wood, and more or less surrounded with water: the soil in general is argillaceous, but in the vicinity of the hills, and along the rivers, lakes and nullahs, a rich loam prevails. The capital

capital of Aracan is surrounded by hills with very little interruption, and amongst the hills are several lakes and marshes, communicating with a number of small streams running between low muddy banks, which are overflowed in the flood-tide. Rain falls in Aracan, it may be said, throughout the year, as showers are frequent in February, March, and April, and the periodical rains continue from June to November. In November and December also occasional, and sometimes heavy showers occur. The fall between the 1st of June and the end of October, is stated by Mr. Stevenson at 196 inches, during which period the greater portion of the country was under water. The topical character of Aracan, and its effects upon the health of the troops, agree so exactly with Dr. Lind's account of the coast of Guinea, that his description of the latter might, with the change of name, be applied to the former. He describes the coast of Guinea as overrun with vegetation, presenting only a few spots of cultivation, surrounded with a thick and impenetrable jungle. The soil is marshy, and watered by numerous streams, whose oozy banks are covered with sedges and noxious weeds. At Calechon, about thirty miles up the Gambia, of fifty-one Europeans stationed there, two-thirds died of fever and dysentery during the rains; and none, it is to be observed, were taken ill till after the rains began. Of the first detachment of British troops, also, which occupied the country of Galan, one-half were carried off soon after the commencement of the rains. The effects of the climate and locality of the country are, therefore, considered by Mr. S. to be fully accounted for, and to have been most fatal in proportion as the men were most exposed to them, by the nature of the ground they occupied, and by the greater or less success with which their quarters were kept dry and free from the effluvia, rising from swamp and mire beneath the floors of the raised huts in which they were cantoned. The occurrence of fever on the elevated situations about Aracan was not incompatible with the general conclusion of its being the result of local causes, as the hills were in general covered with luxuriant vegetation, and all were closely surrounded by jungle and morass. That the great mortality in Aracan was attributable to the quality of the food, Mr. S. considers destitute of proof; and he cites a remarkable instance in proof of its being wholly the consequence of climate, in the case of the two detachments ordered off from Aracan on the capture of that town, the one to Ramree, the other to Talak. In the former were eight companies of Europeans, and in the latter two; both were supplied from the same source, and with the same kind of provisions. The Ramree

party, after proceeding by sea to Ramree and Sandoway, and enjoying a refreshing cruise of six weeks, returned with the loss of two men, of whom one was an invalid at the time of setting out. The Talak party proceeded by an inland navigation, and thence made several marches after the rains had partially set in, the consequence of which exposure to the climate was, that almost the whole number were attacked with fever, which proved fatal in many cases, whilst those who recovered gained strength but slowly, and were very subject to relapse. On the subject of the treatment of the Aracan fever, Mr. Stevenson's chief reliance was placed in the use of the lancet, and he considers the employment of bark, wine, and opium, to have been productive of more harm than good. — *Ibid.*

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

A meeting of the members of this society was held at their house in Bruton Street, on the 7th March, Lord Auckland, vice-president, in the chair, when the Marquess of Lansdown was unanimously elected president, and the Rev. Dr. Raffles a member of the council of the society, in the place of the late lamented Sir T. S. Raffles. It was announced from the chair, that the museum of the society, consisting of extensive and well-arranged collections in every branch of zoology, is now open to the inspection of the members and their friends. The society's establishment in the Regent's Park was also stated to be in considerable forwardness; and the gardens, laid out in promenades, shrubberies, &c., with aviaries, sheds, and enclosures for some of the more interesting animals, ponds for fish and wild fowl, &c. &c. are expected to be opened early in the ensuing summer. Much attraction is anticipated to the inhabitants and visitors of the metropolis, from both these establishments.

SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. Florence, a land surveyor, and Mr. Rumker, the astronomical companion of the late governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, are about to set out on a scientific expedition: their instructions are to measure one or more degrees of the meridian in the latitude of Liverpool Plains. There have not been as yet made public any observations of this nature, in a higher southern latitude than from 22 to 23 degrees. — [*Australian*, Aug. 26.

ARABIC PERIODICAL PUBLICATION.

A work of an entirely novel nature will be commenced in July next, at Paris, and will be continued monthly, namely, a *Journal of Science and the Useful Arts*, in the Arabic language, for the benefit of

the East. It is to treat of mathematics (comprehending astronomy) geography, natural philosophy, chemistry, geology, (comprehending mineralogy) medicine, surgery, anatomy, agriculture, &c.

SIR HUDSON LOWE'S MEMOIR.

Sir Hudson Lowe, it is stated in the newspapers, has sent for publication to this country, a memoir of all the transactions at St. Helena, while he was governor of that island, and the custodian of Buonaparte.

CHARACTERS OF THE COURT OF AVA.

The *King* is mild, good-natured, and obliging, impatient of restraint, and incapable of close application. He is playful in his manners, addicted to favoritism, but fickle in his attachments: devoted to his queen, and wholly subject to her influence. He is fond of spectacles, theatrical performances, elephant-catching, and boat-races. He is not bigoted to his religion, but complies occasionally with its forms. Although usually gentle, he is subject to sudden gusts of passion, which, though transient, are not unfrequently fatal to the objects that have excited them. He is possessed of moderate natural talent, but is quick in catching an idea, forming an opinion, and giving a decision. He is partial to Europeans, desirous of encouraging an intercourse with them, and of benefiting the country by their skill and science. He is rather unfavourable to Mahomedans, and not influenced by the Bauddha priests, but a great patron of Brahmins—a firm believer in judicial astrology, magic, and alchemy, and a very great dabbler in experiments professing to discover the means of promoting vigour and prolonging life.

The *Queen*, having been elevated from an inferior rank, is very tenacious of her dignity: she is haughty and implacable—a woman of talent, but avaricious, and bigotedly attached to the religion of Bauddha. Although imperious, her manners are not devoid of grace, and she is capable of assuming an amiable and condescending deportment. She is by no means well disposed towards Europeans, nor pleased with the favour which the king is inclined to shew them.

The *Heir Apparent* is a fine boy of about twelve years of age: he is the son of a former queen, deceased. Notwithstanding his youth he feels his importance, and governs his officers and dependants with very manlike authority. He is shrewd, sprightly, and active, and promises well, if not spoiled by the servility of his adherents, and the habits of an eastern court.

The *Princess Su*, is the only daughter of his majesty, and is the child of the present queen: she is four or five years of age,

the idol of her parents, and in every respect a spoiled child.

The *Queen's Aunt* is an inmate of the palace, and a very confidential and important personage: much cannot be said in her favour: she has all the defects of an humble origin aggravated by the sense of influence, and unvarnished by the assumption of manners dignified or courteous.

The *Queen's Brother* is a character still more important; his title is that of *Great Prince*, and it is not insignificant. He is the superintendent of the privy council, acting public minister of state, and a sort of factotum to the king. His character is not dissimilar from his sister's, but his person possesses no attractions, and his manners are repulsive and austere. He does not want capacity for conducting public business after the Burmese fashion, and his cruelty, which is one of his characteristics, is probably of use to him in this respect. He is full of illiberal and narrow-minded prejudices, and consequently no friend to foreigners.

His wife, the *Princess of Salen*, is a smart active little woman, and has considerable influence with her husband and the queen. Ladies are no cyphers at the court of Ava.

The *Queen's Brother-in-law* was the last Viceroy of Rangoon: he is said to have laboured as a common cooly before the elevation of his wife's sister to royalty, it is no marvel, therefore, that he is not very brilliant; but he is a good-natured easy man, and wholly governed by the creatures about him. The king has no great respect for him, but he has the support of the queen: however, he holds no office, nor was he employed during the war.

The daughter of the last-mentioned personage by the queen's sister, who is dead, is entitled the *Princess of Mek-ha-rä*, and is a lady of great influence at court. She is a prodigious favourite with both king and queen, to whom she utters her sentiments without reserve. She is supposed not to be very scrupulous in her conduct, but this may be only Burman scandal. At all events, she is a very interesting woman, shrewd, sensible, witty, and high-spirited. It is said that she will probably be made a queen, but we do not profess to understand how queens are made at Ava.

The *Prince of Mek-ha-rä* is uncle to the king: he is a great metaphysician, and deep in ecclesiastical interests.

The *Brother of the king*, whom we call the *Prince of Sarawadi*, more properly *Tha-ra-watee*, is better known to Europeans than most of the members of the court, as he has always shewn a favourable leaning towards them, and has had several in his employ. He does not seem to have benefited by the intercourse, as he

he is addicted to gambling and various profligate habits. In other respects he resembles the king his brother, being good-natured and playful.

The *Princesses of Toung-gnue, Pagan, and Shewadoug* are the sisters of the king: the elder, who, according to the Burman custom, is unmarried, is a woman of considerable talent—the second, who is married to the Prince of Pagan, is also possessed of abilities, and is smart and high-spirited: but is addicted to some unlady-like habits, as chewing opium and smoking tobacco. The third is married to her half-brother, Prince *Myen-zain*, and is an amiable character, though of rather juvenile propensities.

The *Queen Mother* is the second wife of the present king's father, and is a kind, charitable, motherly old woman, something of a devotee, but not intolerant.

The *Prince of Myen-zain* and *Prince Kodau-oo*, are sons of the queen's mother, and half-brothers of the king. The first is subject to a paralytic affection, on which account he is not admitted into the palace—he is amiable and intelligent, and partial to Europeans. The second is not much known, but he is expected to rise in consequence by his marriage with the daughter of the queen's brother.

The *Princes of Rambya (Ramree), and Thandira (Sandow)*, are half-brothers of the king by inferior mothers—they are not unlike the king in disposition, and are great favourites at court. They were both much employed during the war.

All these, with the exception perhaps of the queen's brother-in-law, are considered of the blood royal, and are privileged to use gilt umbrellas.

The remaining members of the Burmese court, of whom we have received some brief descriptions, are of less dignified birth or connexion than those we have previously noticed; but they took a more active share generally in the late transactions, being the leading civil and military officers of the state. It may be advisable to premise the purport of the titles.

The *Woon-gyees* are literally "the Bearers of the Great Burthen," and, in fact, are the ministers of state; they are four in number, and form, with the princes of the blood, the *Loto*, or grand council.

A *Woon* or *W'oondock*, is a sort of assistant councillor: he sits and deliberates in the *Loto*, but has no vote.

The *Atwen-woons*, are the privy councillors of the king, and employed by him, at pleasure, in the interior administration of the kingdom; there are four of them, and also four *Woons*: the following are the principal persons in these three grades:

Kyee Woongyee, with whom we came latterly most frequently in contact, is

described as intelligent, brave, and prudent—uniformly opposed to the war, but exhibiting more talents in the field than any commander employed in it.

Hau-len Woongyee was the acting *Woongyee* at *Ava* during the war, until he was sent down to *Maloon*: he is a careful old man, but solely desirous of securing the favour of the king and queen, no matter on what terms; he is as avaricious as a subject, and, although scrupulously attached to the ceremonies of his religion, is wholly destitute of moral or religious principles: he is garrulous and sycophantic, but unworthy of trust, and notoriously treacherous and cruel.

Mayoo Woongyee was the first magistrate, or police governor of *Ava*, when the war commenced, but succeeded the last named chief as acting *Woongyee* at *Ava*, for some time—he is not now employed—his manners are dignified, but his propensities disgusting—he is naturally of an open and kindly temper, but was rendered selfish and unfeeling by a long course of police administration—he has always paid assiduous court to the king and queen.

La-kaing Woongyee ratified the treaty at *Yandaboo*, but was not long in office: he is a quiet man, of moderate abilities.

Moun-kaing, is only lately made a *Woongyee*: he is newly appointed viceroy of *Rangoon*, and is believed to be well qualified for the station. He enjoys the entire confidence of the king and queen, and is said to be a man of active talents and liberal mind, and friendly to foreign intercourse.

The *Queen's Woon Moun-gwa* has been lately made *Woongyee*; he was a strenuous supporter of the war, and opposed pacific measures to the last.

Atwen Woon Mung-za was lieutenant-general in *Arracan* throughout the war: he is one of the most intelligent and liberal-minded men about the court of *Ava*; he is fully sensible of the superiority of Europeans, and desirous of encouraging the introduction of their arts and sciences.

Atwen Woon Moun-gyan-nying was acting *Atwen Woon* during the war, but not decidedly of the war party—he is equally liberal and intelligent with the preceding, but more gentle in his disposition.

Atwen Woon Moun-ga-Payouk is a shrewd clever man, but not to be depended on; he has great influence in the palace, and was the real prime minister during the negotiations for peace: he ratified the treaty of *Yandaboo* in company with the officer named above.

Moun-g Shwa Tha, Woon-gyee and prince, although now in disgrace and confinement, is a person of considerable importance: he is a distinguished member of the old royal family, and is secretly befriended

friended by all connected with it and their adherents; he is an object of great dislike to the king and queen and to the queen's party, and this dislike is augmented by their dread of his connexions, as well as of his abilities and ambition. He is said to excel all his countrymen in genius, good sense, and information, but to be designing, avaricious, and unprincipled. He was formerly viceroy of Rangoon.

There are other members of the council or the court, who exercise some influence on the conduct of public affairs in Ava, but those we have recapitulated are the chief, and from this short review of their characters and dispositions we have every reason to anticipate the most favourable results from a further intimacy with these individuals—we have no barriers of caste in this case to overleap, nor any impediment to the interchange of social amenities, arising out of the inveterate distinction of daily and hourly habits. The spirit of the Bauddha religion is decidedly tolerant, and favourable to speculative inquiry; and there is a smartness and inquisitiveness in the Burmese character, that is not common to the inhabitants of Hindostan. Except, therefore, the consequences of that caprice by which every semi-barbarous government is liable to be influenced, we observe nothing in the constitution of the court, or the temperament of the nation, that is unfriendly to a continued and mutually beneficial intercourse between the states. [*Cal. Gov. Gazette.*]

REMEDY FOR THE BITE OF SNAKES.

The following recipe is from the *India Gazette* :—

Take two parts (*doo bhaug*) of sal ammoniac, known in every Indian bazar by the name nowshadur; dissolve in four parts of hot water; the solution is to be poured into a bottle, with the addition of one part of quick-lime or chunam; the bottle is to be corked, and shaken at intervals, during fifteen or twenty minutes, when it is to be allowed to settle, the clear liquid decanted off; and kept in a well closed glass vessel for occasional use. This will be found to supersede the use of *eau de luce*, which in all cases is useful only in proportion to the quantity of volatile alkali it contains. In case of a bite from a snake, take two tea-spoonsful, or in native language, twelve annas of the above mixture in a small cup of water; repeat shortly afterwards three tea-spoonsful, either more diluted with water or in the same way. Should the person be seized with vertigo or violent tremors, agitation, &c., give three-spoonsful more in a little water, and so on as circumstances dictate. Should the symptoms begin to moderate, the above may be continued in lesser quantities for a little while longer.

THE PRESENT SHAH OF PERSIA.

The Shah is excessively fond of money. It is the custom of the kings of Persia, on the occurrence of any fortunate event, to receive presents from their nobles; thus, when his majesty (who is very fond of the chase and is a capital shot) hits his game, he throws his hand behind him, crying "*Shabaash! sicca bajoklee*," "excellently done! the ducats if you please." But it is alleged against him, that even when he misses, he does the same instinctively; so that then his nobles are also obliged to fill his hand to pacify him for his bad success. Amongst other anecdotes of his avarice the following is related. A khan had won a considerable sum from the shah at chess, and his majesty was rather long in liquidating the debt. At last the khan, losing all patience, begged one day to remind his majesty that a month or two before he had lost a hundred ducats to him. "Very true," said the facetious old monarch: at the same time, holding up his feet to the khan, "here are my soles, Pntty Khan—hit away as long as you please; but, you know, I cannot part with my money." Whenever the children or the ladies in the *underoon* play, the king's bag is placed in the middle, into which the winner pays 10 per cent. of his gains, which all goes to his majesty, who seldom gambles himself.—[*Alexander's Travels in Persia.*]

SKELETON OF A DUGONG.

The *Diadem* transport, lately arrived at Portsmouth, has brought the skeleton of a dugong, erroneously supposed to be a mermaid! It was shot by Lieut. Emery, near the island of Mombasa, and died shortly afterward. When seen, the body of the animal was raised considerably above the surface of the water, and, from the near appearance of that part of it to the human form, was then judged to be a mermaid. It was in company with two others, and they were all wading their way, by means of what the spectators called their arms. Lieut. Emery ate some of the flesh, which he describes as being very savoury. He was unable to preserve the skin; but the bones are saved entire. It is rather more than five feet long.

EXAMINATION OF A MUMMY.

On March 10 there was opened, in the Gallery of Egyptian Antiquities, a mummy, which formed part of the fine collection of M. Passalacqua. Her Royal Highness Madame honoured with her presence the meeting, which was also attended by a number of foreigners and functionaries. After opening the external covering, which was attended with considerable difficulty, the bandages, which formed more than twenty-six turnings, from the head

to the feet, were unrolled. The body, thanks to the bituminous substances which had been employed in the process of embalming, was in a state of perfect preservation. All the parts were distinct. The nails of the hands were remarkable for their length. The hair was sound, and retained its colour, which was fair. The orbits of the eye were furnished with artificial eye-balls of enamel: this is the second example of the kind, such substitutes for the eyes having only been observed once before. The following circumstances rendered this operation very remarkable:—Two papyrus manuscripts were found; one rolled round the head, the other round the breast, and their perfect preservation enabled M. Champollion, jun. to collect some valuable information from them. It was found that this mummy, which proved to be a female, was the body of Tete-Muthis, the Minervian, or Athenais, the daughter of the Guardian of the little Temple of Isis, at Thebes. There was a necklace, composed of serpents, in rolls, and a cross with a handle, which with the Egyptians was the emblem of divine life. A scarabæus, in a serpentine form, which was placed on the breast, was so surrounded by layers of indurated balsam, that it took more than a quarter of an hour to disengage it, though even boiling water was employed. The date of the existence of this mummy can only be ascertained by an attentive perusal of the manuscripts. We believe, however, that it is more than 3,000 years old, and yet the skin, which is of deep brown colour, has retained its elasticity, and even exhibited humidity in some parts. The bones of the skull were whole. The os spheroides, in the upper part of the pharynx, is broken, to introduce into the interior of the head a considerable quantity of linen. The body was opened by Drs. Delatre and de Verneuil. The description here given, though correct as far as it goes, is necessarily imperfect, and we shall wait with impatience for the report of the investigation, which is to be drawn up by M. Champollion, jun.—*French paper.*

HINDOO ACTORS.

A band of performers from Manipur is now exhibiting in Calcutta, who represent the sports of Krishna with the Gopis—the musicians are men, but the singers are women, and they are dressed as Krishna, Lalita, Visakha, Chitra Rungaderi, Suderi, Champaklata, Vidyaderi, and Indurekha. Their flat-nosed countenances are rather indifferent representations of the beauty of the Gopis. A company of performers, under Haladhur, is also acting with great success at the houses of the Baboos; they represent the Jatras of Vidya Sundar, the

destruction of Sumbha and Nisumbha, and others.—*Samachar Chandrika.*

SHAKESPEARIAN BRIDGE OVER THE ARRAS.

Letters from Persia mention, that it is in contemplation to throw a Shakespearian Bridge over the Arras, the Araxes of antiquity, which maintains to the present day its classical characteristic, and still disdains a bridge. The Arras is a very narrow and rapid stream, being pent in between lofty rocks, by fragments of which it is more or less obstructed, and, consequently, pursues a very winding, turbulent, and dangerous course. It is also subject to sudden rises and falls, and, in winter, it is partially choked up with blocks of ice, so that no bridge of piles or boats can be constructed across the stream. The frequency of earthquakes is fatal to the permanence of any bridge of masonry thrown from rock to rock. But one bridge of this kind has lasted for any time, and that is built on a ridge of rocks; it is termed by the Persians, Khoda Aferid. We cannot doubt, therefore, that the Shakespearian Bridge, will be found well suited to the valley of the Arras, and still more so to the Caucasian mountains, where no structure has been yet contrived capable of resisting the violence of the mountain torrents. Facility of access throughout this chain is one of the means best calculated to promote the civilization or subjugation of the ferocious and predatory tribes who tenant its caves, and will, no doubt, be highly acceptable to the local Russian authorities. — *Calcutta Gov. Gaz. Aug. 24.*

CAPT. GRINDLAY'S VIEWS IN WESTERN INDIA.

We have been favoured with a sight of some of the plates, finished and unfinished, and drawings, for the *third part* of this splendid work, and we assure the patrons of it that they will experience a high degree of gratification when it appears.

PROWESS OF SEPOYS.

Captain Badenach mentions two instances of bravery among the British Sepoys, who served in the expedition to Java, which are astounding: one was a Sepoy (quite a lad) in the left grenadier company of the 6th Volunteer Battalion, who bayoneted ten of the enemy, French, Dutch, and Malays. It was the first action he ever engaged in. The other was a Hindoo of the same corps, who, when attacked by eight armed Malays, shot one, bayoneted three, and took the other four prisoners, and carried them along with him. Neither of these men was stouter in appearance than other Sepoys.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

March 3, 1827.—A General Meeting of the Society was held this day, which was made special, for the purpose of considering some alterations and additions in the Society's Regulations, which had been made by direction of the Council: the Director, H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., in the chair.

The Chairman, having stated the purpose for which the meeting was made special, proceeded to read the proposed emendations in the regulations; and, on the question being put, they were unanimously approved.

The usual business of the meeting was then commenced, by reading the minutes of the last General Meeting, which were confirmed.

John Guillemard, Esq. presented Eusebius's Chronicle, in Armenian, Greek, and Latin; together with an Armenian grammar and dictionary. Thanks were returned to Mr. Guillemard for his donation.

M. Eugène Burnouf, fils, of Paris, and Prof. C. I. C. Reuvers, of Leyden, were elected foreign members of the Society.

A paper on the dialects of the Arabic language, by the late Professor Carlyle, communicated by Wm. Marsden, Esq., was read.

This communication is contained in an extract of a letter from the Professor to Mr. Marsden, who had suggested to him, previous to his departure from England, some inquiries on the subject of the Arabic dialects. Prof. Carlyle states that he had considerable opportunities of comparing the dialects of the Arabic language, in the course of his journey to and from Jerusalem; and he thinks that, if allowance is made for three causes, viz. pronunciation, admixture and synonymes, little real difference will be found among the dialects of Arabic; none of which, he is of opinion, varies materially from the language of the Koran. Thanks were returned to Mr. Marsden for this communication.

The reading of Col. Francklin's Tour from Rajmahal to Gour was concluded.

This paper contains, as before noticed, a minute description of the ruins of Gour, and a considerable number of inscriptions in Arabic with translations. Among the buildings particularly described are the Sonah Musjid, or Golden Mosque, of the materials of which several specimens were presented by Col. F. to the Society; and the Nuttin Musjid, or Mosque of a Dancing Girl, of which Col. F. remarks that he has not met with any thing superior to it, either for elegance of style, lightness of construction, or tasteful decoration, in any part of Upper Hindostan visited by him.

Thanks were voted to Col. Francklin for the communication, and the meeting adjourned.

March 15.—The Anniversary Meeting of the Society was held this day, at one o'clock, P. M.; the Right Hon. Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, President, in the chair.

The proceedings of the day commenced by the reading of the minutes of the last general meeting, comprising the alterations, &c. of the regulations, which were now confirmed.

The report of the Council, on the proceedings of the Society since the last anniversary, was then read by the Acting Secretary. The report is as follows:

“ **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, *March 15, 1827.***

“ The Council of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland has

has the honour of presenting to the members the following report of the Society's proceedings since the last Anniversary Meeting.

" This Society, participating in the general national feeling, and in especial sentiments of regret, has to deplore the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, one of its Vice-Patrons.

" It has also to lament another of its Vice-Patrons, the Marquess of Hastings, one of its earliest and most zealous friends.

" In addition to these illustrious individuals, the Society has to regret Sir Stamford Raffles, one of its most distinguished members, who has contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge by his researches into the history and antiquities of the Malayan Archipelago, and in various branches of natural history.

" The casualties of the year have also deprived the Society of other valuable members. It has received an accession of a considerable number of foreign members.

" Your Council, considering that an extensive library and museum would be of great utility to the Society; and that many of its members, possessing duplicates in their collections or articles of interest, which for other reasons they could conveniently spare, and might be disposed to present to the Society, invited such donations by a circular letter, to which they are desirous of again drawing the attention of members.

" Among donations received during the past year, the Council has particularly to notice a valuable collection of printed papers presented by the Hon. the Court of Directors of the East-India Company. Lieut. Col. Franklin has presented to the Society a large collection of minerals, drawings, sculptures and inscriptions; and B. H. Hodgson, Esq. has sent from Nipal an interesting collection of Bhotea curiosities.

" Your Council had hopes that the Third Part of the *Transactions*, which will complete the First Volume, would be ready for distribution at this Anniversary Meeting. But unavoidable causes of delay have disappointed that expectation. It will, however, be ready for delivery before the close of the present session.

" In connexion with the subject of the Society's printed *Transactions*, the Council has the gratification of announcing that the Hon. Court of Directors of the East-India Company has lent to the Society engraved plates of the Babylonian inscription, procured by Sir H. Jones Bridges, at Hella, in the vicinity of Bagdad, and deposited in the Company's museum. This very curious but yet undeciphered inscription may not improbably be the subject of a communication in the second volume of *Transactions*.

" A reprint of the Society's Regulations being required, your Council deemed it a fit occasion for introducing such alterations and emendations as appeared to be expedient or necessary. These amendments having been accordingly brought forward and approved at the last general meeting, have now been submitted for confirmation.

" The Council considers it needless to draw the notice of the meeting to any of them particularly, excepting the clause for establishing a Committee of Correspondence, which had been previously instituted, as reported to the last anniversary meeting, and which, as a permanent institution, is now specially sanctioned by the by-laws of the Society. To promote the important objects for which the Committee of Correspondence is established, a clause has been introduced admitting a class of corresponding members; and it is hoped that their concerted exertions may materially assist the views of the Society
in

in the acquisition, preservation, and diffusion of knowledge in relation to Asia."

The reading of the Council Report being concluded, Lieut. Col. Blackburne delivered the report of the auditors as to their examination of the treasurer's accounts, and the state of the Society's funds. From this report it appears that the funded property of the Society remains the same as at the last anniversary, *viz.* £2,650; and the value of the furniture in the Society's house, taken at the cost price, is £793. 7s.; the cash balance in the hands of the treasurer is £190. 8s. 7d. These items comprize the assets of the Society. The receipts of the current year are estimated at £1,449. 15s., and the expenses at £785. 10s. 5d., leaving a probable surplus of £664. 4s. 7d.; but as this mainly depends upon the recovery of arrears now due from members of the Society, it cannot be considered at all certain. Lieut. Col. Blackburne concluded by stating that the auditors, in the examination of the accounts which were laid before them by the treasurer, received every possible aid and facility from that gentleman, and have found in the accounts themselves the highest degree of order, regularity, and correctness, with the most perfect correspondence between the disbursements and the vouchers.

The reports of the Council and auditors were then received, and thanks voted to the Council and auditors respectively.

The President then addressed the meeting in a speech, the principal topics of which were the great loss the Society had sustained since the last anniversary by the deaths of two of its illustrious Vice-Patrons and several valuable members, among whom he particularly mentioned Sir T. S. Raffles and the Bishop of Calcutta. After an allusion to the late conquests in the Burmese territory, which he expressed a hope would prove an extensive and fruitful field for the researches to which the attention of the Society is directed, the President concluded his address, of which the above is but a meagre outline, by moving that the thanks of the meeting be conveyed to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Clarence and Sussex, for their having been graciously pleased respectively to express their willingness to accept the office of Vice-Patron, vacant by the deaths of H. R. H. the Duke of York and the Marquess of Hastings, and that they be appointed Vice-Patrons accordingly: which was unanimously approved. The thanks of the meeting were then voted to the President, who returned thanks: and the thanks of the meeting were also voted respectively to the Director, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Acting Secretary.

The ballot being now opened, Richard Clarke, Esq. and Lieut. Col. Coombs were appointed scrutineers, and on their examination of the balloting lists being closed, they reported that the following noblemen and gentlemen were withdrawn from the Council, *viz.* the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Kingsborough, the Right Hon. J. Sullivan, Sir W. Ouseley, W. Ainslie, Esq., M.D., Col. J. Baillie, H. Holland, Esq., H. St. G. Tucker, Esq.; and that the following gentlemen were elected in their place, *viz.* Col. Sir R. Barclay, H. Alexander, Esq., B. G. Babington, Esq., Lieut. Col. G. Fitzclarence, J. Guillemand, Esq., Lieut. Col. T. L. Lushington, W. Marsden, Esq., W. H. Trant, Esq.

The only alteration in the list of officers was the substitution of Benjamin Guy Babington, Esq. M.B., as secretary, in the room of Andrew Macklew, Esq. who had kindly acted as secretary during the preceding year.

It was then announced that the next meeting of the Society would be on April 7th; and that there would *not* be a general meeting on June 2d.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Voyages of Discovery, undertaken to complete the Survey of the Western Coast of New Holland. By Capt. P. P. King, R.N. 2 vols. 8vo. 36s.

Sketches of Persia, from the Journals of a Traveller in the East. 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s.

Voyage of H. M. S. Blonde to the Sandwich Islands, in 1824-5, for the purpose of conveying the Bodies of the late King and Queen to their native country. Capt. the Right Hon. Lord Byron, Commander, 4to. £2. 2s.

Appendix to Capt. Parry's Second Voyage of Discovery, containing the Natural History, &c. 4to. £1. 11s. 6d.

Vindiciae Hebraicae; or, a Defence of the Scriptures. By H. Murwits, author of the "Hebrew Tales." 8vo. 8s.

La Socchia Rapita; or the Rape of the Bucket; an Heroic-comical poem, in twelve Cantos. Translated from the Italian of Alessandro Tassoni. With Notes. By James Atkinson, Esq. (of Calcutta). 2 vols. 8vo.

Sonnets and other Poems. By David L. Richardson. (Diamond Edition.) 3s. 6d.

The Zenana, or, a Nuwab's Leisure Hours; Tales illustrative of Oriental Life. By the Author of "Pandurang Hari, or Memoirs of a Hindoo," 3 vols. 12mo. 2s.

Servian Popular Poetry, translated by John Bowring. 1 vol. 12mo.

In the Press.

Flora Australasica, containing portraits of the finest plants of New Holland and the South Sea Islands, with their History and cultivation. By Mr. Sweet.

Lectures on the Hebrew Language, By Professor Lea.

Foreign Topography, or an Encyclopedick Account of the Ancient Remains in Asia, Africa, Europe (England excepted), and America. By the Rev. T. D. Fosbrooke, M.A., &c.

The Life, Voyages, and Adventures of "Naufragus": being a faithful Narrative of the Author's real Life, and containing a series of remarkable Adventures of no ordinary kind. 8vo.

The scene of this work lies in Asia, of which interesting part of the globe this volume will contain many lively sketches: together with a variety of information connected with the state of Society, and the Manners, Customs, and Opinions of the Hindoos (particularly of the Brahmans).

CALCUTTA.

Advice to Indo-Britons, as to the best means of bettering their condition, in two Pamphlets. 2 Rs. per copy.

An Appeal to Unprejudiced Minds, from one doomed "to Rot in Jail to the day of his death," or a Statement of Transactions between Mr. T. B. Swinhoe, and Capt. George Betham. 4 Rs.

Theatre of the Hindus, No. III., containing the Drama of "Malati and Madhava, or the Stolen Marriage," translated from the Original Sanscrit, by H. R. Wilson, Esq. 4 Rs.

A Letter to the Hon. Sir Antony Buller, Knt., one of the judges of the Supreme Court, Calcutta, on the grounds of his judgment in the case "Bryce v. Ballard and others," as reported in the Calcutta Journal. By the Reverend James Bryce, D.D., Senior Clergyman of the Church of Scotland at Fort William. (Reprinted.) Stitched.

The Stud-Book, containing Pedigrees of Horses bred in India: from the earliest accounts to the year 1826 inclusive. 12 Rs.

Twelve Select Views of the Seat of War, including Views taken at Rangoon, Cachar, and Andaman Islands. By J. Grierson, Esq. Oblong folio. 16 Rs.

Chart of Martaban River, including Amherst Island, from a Survey by W. Spiers. Rs. 11s.

A Geographical Sketch of the Burmese Empire, compiled at the Office of the Surveyor-General of India, and published with Permission of Government. Measuring 6 ft. 2 inch. by 3 ft. 3 inch., coloured, 48 Rs.

A ditto ditto, reduced from the edition published *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. XXIII. No. 196.

by permission of Government, to which is added part of Siam and the Delta of the Ganges, towards Calcutta. Coloured, 10 Rs.

Works patronized by Government, at the recommendation of the Council of the College of Fort William, and lately published, or now preparing for publication:—

The Futawa Hamadee, a celebrated work on Mahomedan law, in two octavo volumes, containing upwards of 900 pages of closely printed letter-press. This publication being held in high estimation by Mahomedan lawyers, forms a very valuable addition to the few good works of the kind that have hitherto been printed.

The Hoznun of Saadee, with a Commentary on the text in the margin of each page, and a familiar explanation of the words at the bottom of it, in easy Persian, so as to enable those who are mere beginners in the study of the language, to peruse this well-known moral Poem without the assistance of a dictionary.

Tables of the Arabic Language prepared for publication by C. T. Glass, Esq., of the Civil Service, wherein, as it were in a map, the whole system of inflection used in that ancient and highly artificial tongue, is at one view laid before the reader's sight, and cannot fail to have the effect principally intended by the editor, of enabling Persian students to form thereby a clearer notion of the meaning of Arabic words, under whatever forms they may occur, in the perusal of the Persian authors.

The three works above referred to have been printed at the lithographic press, and are highly creditable in the proofs they afford of the neatness, cheapness, expeditiousness, and accuracy with which printing of the most various and difficult kind, such as that of the Arabic Tables before alluded to, can be executed at that establishment.

A Collection of Proverbs in various Languages, Bengalee, Sanscrit, Arabic, Persian, Latin, and English, under the title of *Bloodurum*, edited by Neelruttun Hildar, and chiefly designed by him to promote the study of the first-named of those tongues, which, as nothing of the kind has hitherto appeared in Bengalee, and many of the proverbs are expressed in it, the editor may fairly hope to realize his expectations.

A Dictionary of Hindee, edited by Gunga Purasud Sookul, Bhakha Pundit of the College, under the superintendence of Capt. Price, Professor of that language, and designed to promote the study of the dialects derived from Sanscrit, that are used for both colloquial and written purposes by the Hindoos of every part of Hindoostan.

Works in course of publication under the authority of the Committee of Public Instruction, at the Education Press:—

In Sanscrit. The Mugdabodha, or Sanscrit Grammar of Vopadeva, in the Devanagari Character, one vol., duodecimo (printed).

The Rhatti Kavya, a Sanskrit Poem, illustrative of Grammar, with a Commentary. 8vo.

The Laghu Kaumudi, a Sanscrit Grammar, one vol. duodecimo.

Preparing for Publication.

The Lelavati, or System of Hindu Arithmetic. The Raghu Vansa, a Sanscrit Historical Poem. *In Arabic*. The Fatawa Alemgiri.

In Persian. An Abridgement of Seir Mutakheer-in-Ghulam Hosein.

A new edition of the Mujmoos Shemsi, or View of the Copernican System of Astronomy.

A Translation of the Lelavati and Biji Ganita, or Hindu Arithmetic and Algebra.

Printing at Bishop's College Press for the Committee.

A Persian Translation of Bridge's Elements of Algebra, by Mawlawi Abdooor Raheem, edited by the Reverend Principal Mill.

Tracts prepared by Mr. Bruton for the use of the Native Medical Institution since July 1826:—

In Hindoostanee, in the Persian, and Nagree characters: A Treatise on Vaccination; a ditto on Hydrocele; a ditto on mineral poisons; Nosological Table; references to various Anatomical Plates.

In Bengalee: A Treatise on Vaccination.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL
ORDERS.

VICE-PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL.

Fort-William, Aug. 4, 1826.—The Right Hon. Lord Amherst, Governor-General, having nominated His Exc. General the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, G.C.B., to be Vice-President and Deputy Governor of Fort-William, during the Governor-General's absence from the Presidency, His Excellency Lord Combermere has this day taken his seat accordingly, under the usual salute from the ramparts of Fort-William.

By order of the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council.

C. LUSHINGTON, Chief Sec. to Govt.

The Right Hon. the Vice-President has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Capt. F. H. Dawkins, Grenadier Guards, to be private secretary to the vice-president.

Capt. Sydney Cotton, H.M.'s 3d (Buff's) regt., to be military secretary to ditto.

Lieut. Godfrey Mundy, 2d (Queen's) regt., and Lieut. R. F. Dougan, 10th L.C., to be aides-camp on personal staff of ditto.

EUROPEANS VISITING THE UPPER
PROVINCES.

Fort-William, General Department, Aug. 4, 1826.—It having come to the knowledge of government, that Europeans are in the habit of visiting the Upper Provinces in the prosecution of commercial speculations, or for the temporary purpose of disposing of investments of goods, without having obtained the previous permission of government to proceed to the interior, Notice is hereby given, that instructions will be issued to the magistrates of the several districts bordering on the rivers to stop all Europeans, whether British-born subjects or otherwise, and Americans, not being in the service of His Majesty, or in the civil or military service or employment of the hon. Company, who may be found in the interior, at a distance of ten miles from the Presidency, and unprovided with a passport.

Applications for passports are to be made in writing to the Secretary to Government in the general department, and are to contain the following particulars:—

1st, the name and occupation of the person applying: 2d, time of his arrival in India, and whether with or without a license from the Court of Directors: 3d, the place or places to which the individual

may be desirous of proceeding; and 4thly, the general object of his journey.

By command of the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council,

C. LUSHINGTON, Chief Sec. to Govt.

RELIEF OF TROOPS.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Aug. 26, 1826—With the sanction of government the following relief of the troops will take place:—

2d L. C. from Neemuch to Muttra.

3d ditto from Muttra to Keitah.

5th ditto from Keitah to Neemuch.

H. M. 13th Foot from Berhampore to Ghazee pore.

H. M. 14th Foot from Meerut to Berhampore.

H. M. 44th Foot from Ghazee pore to Meerut.

2d Europ. Regt. from Cheduba to Agra.

1st N. I. from Gurrwarra and Hussingabad to Delhi.

8th ditto from Baitool to Bundah.

16th ditto from Barrackpore to Gorruckpore.

17th ditto from Bhopal pore to Delhi.

24th ditto from Delhi to Bhopal pore.

27th ditto from Dacca to Benares.

29th ditto (left wing) from Futtyghur to Etawa.

39th ditto from Cawnpore to Gurrwarra and Hussingabad.

45th ditto from Benares to Baitool.

49th ditto from Benares to Mirzapore.

51st ditto from Jubblepore to Cawnpore.

59th ditto from Banda to Barrackpore.

61st ditto from Arracan to Benares.

67th ditto from Arracan to Dinapore.

1st Extra N. I. from Futtyghur to Neemuch.

2d ditto from Cawnpore to Futtyghur.

3d ditto (left wing) from Etawah to Mynpooree.

4th ditto (right wing) from Mirzapore to Allahabad.

5th ditto from Benares to Jubblepore.

6th ditto from Dinapore to Mully, (right wing)—to Titalya (left wing).

PIONEERS.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 8, 1826.—The Commander-in-Chief is pleased to direct that, in future, not more than one regimental captain, besides the commanding officer, (if of that rank) shall be attached to the corps of Pioneers.

No subaltern officer will be appointed to the Pioneers who has not been in India four years, and done regimental duty for at least three years.

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REDUCTION OF LOCAL CORPS.

Fort-William, Sept. 29, 1826.—The Right Hon. the Vice-President in council having resolved to reduce the 4th or Dinagepoor battalion, the 5th or Chumparun light infantry, the 11th or Goruckpoor light infantry, and the 12th or Rampoorah battalion, these local corps are to be broken up on the 1st December next, and the native commissioned, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, disposed of in manner hereafter to be detailed, at as early a period subsequent to that date as they can be relieved from their present duties, by troops of the line, under instructions which the Commander-in-Chief will be pleased to issue to the officers commanding the divisions or districts in which these locals are respectively stationed.

In consequence of the displacing of intermediate numbers, the local battalions are to be re-numbered from No. 3, upwards.

Promotion and recruiting in provincial battalions are suspended until further orders.

TEMPORARY PIONEER COMPANIES.

Fort-William, Oct. 6, 1826.—The services of the three temporary companies of Pioneers, embodied chiefly at Chittagong, towards the end of 1824, and now at Aracan, being no longer required, their reduction has been determined upon by the Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council.

INDULGENCE TO ASSISTANT SURGEONS.

Fort-William, Oct. 13th 1826.—The Right Hon. the Vice-President in Council is pleased to direct, that Assistant Surgeons on the Bengal establishment, who have been appointed after the season 1822, shall receive the additional pay of one rupee a day, for the provision of a Palanqueen, when doing duty with European corps, without being in receipt of the established allowance for the supply of medicines.

2. His Lordship in Council is pleased to extend the same indulgence, in similar circumstances, to Assistant Surgeons of His Majesty's service, who have arrived in Bengal, since the 31st of December 1823.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

July 8. Mr. Holt MacKenzie, Secretary to Governor-General during period of his Lordship's tour to the Upper Provinces.

Mr. Andrew Stirling, Persian Secretary to Governor-General.

30. Mr. Edw. C. Ravenshaw, assistant to Persian Secretary to Governor-General.

Mr. G. T. Lushington, ditto ditto.

Oct. 5. Mr. Geo. Swinton, officiating chief secretary to Government.

24. Mr. H. T. Prinsep, officiating secretary to Government in territorial department.

— Mr. Edward Mahony, officiating secretary to Government in general department.

Political Department.

Aug. 25. Mr. C. Garstin, junior assistant to agent to Governor-General in Saugor and Nerbudda territories.

Oct. 6. Lieut. Byam, mil. estab. of Fort St. George, an extra assist. to resident at Hyderabad.

Territorial Department.

Aug. 4. Mr. H. Munday, salt agent for southern division of Cuttack.

24. Mr. F. J. Becher, assistant to collector of Midnapore.

Oct. 19. Mr. C. Bury, an assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

24. Mr. J. G. Deedes, assistant secretary to Board of Revenue, Western Provinces.

Mr. W. R. Kennaway, ditto ditto.

Commercial Department.

Aug. 17. Mr. J. W. Paxton, import-warehouse keeper.

Judicial Department.

Aug. 17. Mr. D. Macfarlan, judge and magistrate of Backergunge.

Mr. F. O. Wells, secretary to civil commissioner at Dehly.

Mr. G. J. Taylor, register of City Court at Moorshedabad.

Mr. W. B. Jackson, 2d register of Zillah Court at Bareilly.

Sept. 1. Mr. J. C. Dick, judge and magistrate of Futtehpore.

Mr. J. T. Rivaz, register of Zillah Court of Meerut and joint magistrate stationed at Boolundshehur.

Mr. C. G. Udny, 2d assist. to register of Courts of Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. F. J. Halliday, 3d assist. to ditto ditto.

Mr. J. R. Colvin, extra assist. to ditto ditto.

Oct. 5. Mr. N. J. Halhed, 2d judge of Provincial Court of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Moorshedabad.

Oct. 24. Mr. W. F. Dick, fourth judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for division of Bareilly.

Mr. J. C. Dick, judge and magistrate of Bareilly.

Mr. H. Graham, ditto of Seharumpore.

Mr. R. Walker, ditto of Futtehpore.

Mr. W. T. Robertson, magistrate of Goruckpore.

Mr. G. C. Chesp, ditto of Nuddeah.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, July 31, 1826.—Surg. D. Todd and R. Williams to be superintending surgeons.

Surg. G. Lambe to perform medical duties of civil station of Dacca, v. Todd prom.

Aug. 5.—Lieut. J. S. Winfield, 69th N.I., to command Reformed Bhopaul Contingent of horse and foot; date 31st July.

Capt. J. Chespe, corps of engineers, to be superintendant of public works in province of Cuttack; date 30th July.

Cadets admitted. Mr. H. Sanders to artill., and prom. to 2d-lieut.—Messrs. R. C. Gwatkin, J. De Fountain, and A. De Fountain to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. Edm. Tritton as an assist. surg.

Surg. W. Thomas's appointment to officiate as dep. superintend. surg. to South Eastern Division annulled.

Head-Quarters, July 27, 1826.—Ens. F. Raleigh to do duty with 7th N.I. at Berhampore.

Aug. 2.—Capt. E. C. Archer, 41st F., extra aide-de-camp, to be aide-de-camp on personal staff of com.-in-chief.

Ens. J. Baldock (recently admitted) to do duty with 57th N.I.

Cornets and Ensigns appointed to do duty. Cornets W. Kerr and A. Campbell with 1st L.C. at Sultan.

Sultanpore (Benares): W. H. Hall, 5th do., Kelah; C. Wallaston, 9th do., Cawnpore.—Ensigns J. E. Cheetham and H. Mackenzie, 6th extra N.I. Dinapore; W. Edwards, 45th N.I., Benares; W. Bartlett, 49th do., Benares; J. M. Simpson, 5th extra N.I., Benares; A. Balderston, left wing 4th extra N.I., Juanpore; G. Nugent, right wing ditto, Mirzapore; R. Beavan, 50th N.I., Allahabad; J. C. Haslock and A. Napier, 36th do., Sultanpore (Oude); J. Macky and N. Palmer, 38th do., Cawnpore; G. Gordon, 14th do., Lucknow; O. Campbell, 5th do., Muttra; P. N. Nicholson, 28th do., Barrackpore; A. D. Coull, 16th do., Barrackpore.

Superintend. Surg. Limond appointed to Berhampore Division, from 26th May.

Lieut. Hay, 39th N.I., to act as maj. of brigade at Berhampore during absence of Brig. Maj. Cooke.

Aug. 4.—Ens. J. King removed from 13th, and appointed to 62d N.I. at Benares.

Assist. surgs. McDonald and McLean to do duty with depot of H.M.'s troops at Chinsurah.

Capt. H. A. Newton, 64th N.I., to do duty with 1st Nusserie bat. at Sabathoo instead of Kumaoon local bat.

Fort William, Aug. 16.—37th N.I. Ens. H. B. Harington to be lieut. from 27th July, v. Bellew dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. W. Cumberland, W. T. Briggs, and G. A. S. Fullerton to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. C. Llewellyn as assist. surg.

Lieut. Fisher, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to resume survey of Sylhet.

Aug. 18.—18th N.I. Ens. C. C. Jenkin to be lieut. from 24th July, v. McMillan dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. M. N. Ogilvy to cavalry, and Mr. H. Palmer to infantry.

Appointment of executive engineer in Arracan abolished.

Surg. Geo. Skipton to be a superintending surg. on estab. from 1st Aug.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 12.—Ensigns appointed to do duty. R. C. Gwatkin with 60th N.I. at Meerut; J. N. Rind, 3d do., Mynpoore; A. De Fountain, 4th do., Mirzapore; and J. De Fountain, 50th do., Allahabad.

Lieut. A. Fisher, 35th N.I., to do duty with Sirmoor bat.

Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty. A. C. Duncan with 6th L.C., at Muttra; — Morice with detachment of H.M.'s troops proceeding to Upper Provinces; E. T. Downes and C. S. Grant with 2d Europ. Regt. in Fort William.

Aug. 16.—Assist. surg. G. S. Seton to do duty with detachments of H.M.'s troops at Chinsurah depot.

Aug. 17.—Lieut. Griffiths to act as Interp. and qu. mast. to 37th N.I., v. Bellew dec.

Assist. surg. H. Bousfield to assume medical charge of Champaran Light Inf. at Mullye; dated 2d Aug.

Cornet R. T. Knox to do duty with 1st L.C. at Sultanpore (Benares), and Ens. C. Hutton with 20th N.I., at Barrackpore.

Capt. J. E. Watson's name to be discontinued on rolls of corps of Hill Rangers.

Fort William, Aug. 25.—Infantry. Maj. J. Tod to be lieut. col. from 23d Aug., v. Short dec.

1st Europ. Regt. Ens. A. F. Maginniss to be lieut. from 7th Aug., v. Stewart dec.

40th N.I. Capt. J. C. B. Parke to be maj., Lieut. R. C. MacDonald to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. Stubbs to be lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Tod prom.

Cadets admitted. Mr. J. Moore to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Mr. C. T. W. P. Gafford to inf., and prom. to ens.—Messrs. E. T. Downes and J. Hardie as assist. surgeons.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 21.—Assist. surg. C. S. Grant app. to 1st L.C., at Sultanpore, Benares.

Aug. 22.—Assist. surgs. W. L. McGregor and H. Chapman to do duty with 3d Europ. Regt.

Aug. 23.—Assist. surg. J. Dalrymple posted to 56th N.I.—Assist. surgs. R. Mercer and R. Laughton directed to proceed to Nusseerabad, and place themselves under orders of superintend. surg. of Western Division.

Aug. 25.—Postings, &c. of Superintending Surgeons. Todd (new prom.) to Barrackpore; Williams (new prom.) to Nusseerabad; Skipton to Agra; Law removed from Meerut to Berhampore; Limond from Berhampore to Benares; Langstaff from Benares to Meerut; Durham posted to Allahabad.

5th L.C. Lieut. C. E. T. Oldfield to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Blair who resigns.

5th N.I. Lieut. W. Mackintosh to be adj., v. Jervis prom.

37th N.I. Lieut. H. B. Harington to be interp. and quart. mast., v. Bellow dec.

46th N.I. Lieut. H. W. Burt to be adj., v. Jones prom.

3d Extra N.I. Lieut. G. Kinloch to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Marshall prom.

Fort William, Aug. 25.—Lieut. P. La Touche, 7th N.I., to be a major of brigade, in room of Capt. C. Taylor, proceeded to Europe on furlough. Surg. J. Watson to be gar. surg. at Allahabad, v. Skipton.

Sept. 1.—28th N.I. Lieut. J. Aitchison to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. De W. C. J. Moir to be lieut., from 28th Aug., in suc. to Stewart dec.

Capt. D. D. Anderson, 29th N.I., to be a deputy assist. adj. gen., and Capt. N. Penny, 1st Extra N.I., to be a major of brigade, in suc. to Park prom.

Assist. surgs. appointed to Civil Stations. G. Carr, to Tipperah; J. T. Pearson, to Ramghur; G. S. Seton, to Bulloah; E. T. Downes, to Bheerbhoom.

To be Capt. by Brevet. Lieuts. W. W. Ross, 50th N.I.; G. R. Scott, artill.; Jas. Johnson, ditto; T. A. Vanrennen, ditto; F. C. Robb, 22d N.I.; Jas. Nicholson, 4th N.I.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 29.—Furruckabad Prov. Bat. Lieut. W. F. A. Seymour, 68th N.I., to be adj.-v. La Touche.

Moorshedabad Prov. Bat. Lieut. J. A. Fairhead, 28th N.I., to be adj., v. Seymour rem. to Furruckabad Prov. Bat.

Cornet John Moore to do duty with 2d L.C. at Muttra.

Aug. 30.—Ens. H. Palmer to do duty with 33d N.I. at Nusseerabad.

Lieut. H. C. Talbot, 61st N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign acting adj. of Mugh Levy.

Capt. Mackinlay, dep. assist. adj. gen., removed from Presidency to Cawnpore div. of army, v. Parke prom.

Capt. La Touche, major of brigade (new app.) posted to Bundelcund command.

Sept. 1.—Lieut. Col. T. P. Smith removed from 2d Europ. Regt. to 61st N.I., and Lieut. Col. T. Murray from latter to former.

Fort William, Sept. 1.—Mr. F. Mackeson admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Sept. 8.—Artillery. Br. Capt. and 1st-Lieut. R. C. Dickson to be capt., and 2d-Lieut. S. W. Fanning to be 1st-lieut., from 30th Aug., in suc. to Smith dec.

32d N.I. Ens. A. L. Wills to be lieut. from 4th July, v. Colquhoun dec.

Capt. Phillips, 49th N.I., and Lieut. H. Gordon, 28th do., to be assistants to commissioners in Arracan.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 4.—Lieut. W. E. Hay, 39th N.I., and Lieut. M. W. Gilmore, 3d Europ. Regt., permitted to exch. corps.

Capt. Shuldham, dep. assist. adj. gen., posted to Presidency Division.

Capt. Anderson, dep. assist. adj. gen. (latey prom.), posted to Sirdind Division.

Sept. 6.—Assist. surgs. Newton and Farnell to do duty with H.M.'s 47th regt.

Fort

Fort William, Sept. 13.—34th N.I. Ena. G. W. Hamilton to be lieut., from 23d Aug., v. J. Gibb, dec.

5th Extra N.I. Ena. W. E. Andrews to be lieut. from 29th Aug., v. Harvey dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. T. G. Blake, W. Wollaston, C. J. Mainwaring, G. B. Reddie, W. R. Dummore, E. Garrett, E. R. Lyons, and R. Long, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. D. B. Wardlaw and T. Spens as assist. surgs.

Sept. 15.—*Infantry.* Maj. John Smith to be lieut. col., v. Phipp retired, with rank from 23d Aug., v. Short dec.

7th N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. S. Walter (dec.) to be capt. of a comp., from 3d March, v. Costley prom.

11th N.I. Lieut. J. T. Kennedy to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. T. Goud to be lieut., from 20th Oct., in suc. to Boyes ret.

19th N.I. Capt. R. Rich to be maj., Lieut. J. W. Ingram to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. C. Symes to be lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Smith prom.

25th N.I. Ena. B. Marshall to be lieut. from 9th Sept., v. Senior dec.

Lieut. R. C. Jenkins, 61st N.I., to officiate as superintendent of cadets during absence of Lieut. Kerr.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 11.—*Appointments and Removals in Medical Department.* Surg. W. Thomas to 28th N.I. Surg. J. Jackson to 25th do. Surg. C. Ray to 48th do. Surg. Gerard to 3d do. Surg. Mercer to 22d do. Surg. Govan to 1st brig. Horse Artill. Surg. W. Farquhar to 46th N.I. Surg. W. Jackson to do duty with 20th do. Surg. Moscrop rem. from 3d to 39th do. Surg. J. Thompson from 30th to 68th do. Assist. surg. A. Smith to 65th do. at Penang. Assist. surg. J. Taylor to 68th do. Assist. surg. Hoare from 3d to 39th do. Assist. surg. D. M. Gray to 1st Nusseerabad bat. Assist. surg. J. F. Stewart from 69th to 59th N.I. Assist. surg. Bowron to 61st do.

34th N.I. Lieut. C. B. Leicester to be adj., v. Gibb dec.

Purneah Prov. Bat. Lieut. F. B. Corfield, 20th N.I., to be adj., v. Graham resigned.

Sept. 14.—*Medical Department.* Surg. Darby and Assist. surg. W. Thompson posted to 45th N.I. Assist. surg. Malcolm and Wynne directed to join 45th do. at Benares. Office Assist. surg. Oliver to do duty with 14th N.I. Assist. surg. H. Taylor posted to 58th do.

Fort William, Sept. 15.—22d N.I. Capt. T. J. Baldwin to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. F. C. Robb to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. W. A. Butler to be lieut., from 6th Sept., in suc. to Broadbent dec.

Sept. 22.—6th N.I. Ena. W. J. Martin to be lieut., v. Charlton transf. to pension list.

Assist. surg. H. Chapman to officiate as 1st assist. surg. of Fort William during absence of assist. surg. Hewett.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 18.—69th N.I. Lieut. P. Deare to be adj., v. Winfield app. to command Bhopaul Contingent of Horse; Lieut. G. C. Armstrong to be inter. and qu. mast., v. Deare.

Lieut. Col. Tomba removed from 3d to 6th L.C., and Lieut. Col. Becher from latter to former.

Fort William, Sept. 25.—28th N.I. Ena. W. H. Nicholls to be lieut. from 30th Sept., v. Murray dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. R. Macdonell to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. E. Blenkinsop, J. Anderson, F. R. Evans, R. E. T. Richardson, J. French, J. Butler, R. W. Palin, W. P. Jones, and J. R. Piercy to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. A. Murray, D. A. McLeod, and J. M. Brander, as assist. surgs.

Sept. 25.—5th Extra N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. H. Carter to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. E. K. Hopper to be lieut., from 23d Sept., in suc. to Price dec.

Lieut. A. Grant, 59d N.I., to be capt. by brevet from 19th Sept.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. J. K. Spence, G. F. Whitelock, H. D. Maitland, T. Wallace, G. W.

Bishop, and G. W. Williams to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Capt. Jas. Franklin, 1st L.C., to be surveyor of iron mines in Saur and Bundelcund districts.

1st N.I. Brev. Capt. and Lieut. W. H. Sleeman to be capt. of a comp., and Ena. J. V. Law to be lieut., from 23d Sept., in suc. to Read dec.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 22.—Surg. Jas. Thompson posted to 50th regt., and Surg. Corbyn, to 69th do.

Lieut. R. D. White, 1st Extra N.I., app. to corps of pioneers.

Sept. 25.—Lieut. W. J. Symons to be adj. of Rajpootana Div. of Artill., v. Middleton.

49th N.I. Lieut. J. W. Michell to be inter. and qu. mast., v. Macdonald prom.

Sept. 26.—*(ornets recently admitted) posted to Regiments.* A. Daniel to 3d L.C., proceeding to Keltah. N. Macdonald, 9th do., at Cawnpore. F. Collyer, 8th do., proceeding to Neemuch. M. H. Hailes, 10th do., at Meerut. W. J. E. Boys, 8th do., at Kurnaul. W. H. Tweedale, 6th do., at Muttra. W. B. Kelly, 7th do., at Kurnaul. C. E. White, 4th do., at Nusseerabad. John Moore, 1st do., at Sultanpore (Benares). J. S. G. Ryley, 2d do., proceeding to Muttra. H. P. Voules, 3d do., proceeding to Keltah. John Hamilton, 9th do., at Cawnpore. W. J. J. Fane, 6th do., proceeding to Neemuch. R. Macdonell, 10th do., at Meerut. C. Wollaston, 8th do., at Kurnaul. W. H. Hall, 6th do., at Muttra. W. Kerr, 7th do., at Kurnaul. A. Campbell, 1st do., at Sultanpore (Benares). R. T. Knox, 4th do., at Nusseerabad.

Ensigns (recently admitted) posted to Regiments. H. C. Reynolds to 25th N.I., at Barrackpore. E. Ironside, 69d do., at Benares. P. Abbot, 4th Extra do., at Allahabad. W. Dunlop, 5th Extra do., proceeding to Jubbulpore. A. Ramsay, 34th N.I., at Seetapore. F. A. Carleton 36th do., at Sultanpore (Oude). F. G. Beck, 13th do., in Assam. C. C. J. Scott, 33d do., at Keltah. J. A. James, 1st Extra do., proceeding to Neemuch. G. N. C. Hall, 28th N.I., at Barrackpore. G. Carr, 7th do., at Berhampore. J. Drummond, 19th do., at Nusseerabad. N. A. Parker, 58th do., at Agra. J. Iveson, 7th do., at Berhampore. J. Baldock, 23d do., at Midnapore. A. De Fountain, 39th do., at Shahjehanpore. R. C. Gwatkin, 6th do., at Meerut. J. N. Rind, 37th do., at Bareilly. C. Huton, 20th do., at Barrackpore. John De Fountain, 56th do., at Nusseerabad. C. Brown, 18th do., at Bhurtapore. W. Lamb, 51st do., proceeding to Cawnpore. J. H. Le Feuvre, 10th do., at Neemuch. T. Bennett, 9th do., at Secroza. J. R. Flower, 25th do., at Barrackpore. G. W. Stokes, 59th do., proceeding to Barrackpore. J. C. Cooper, 3d do., at Lucknow. A. M. Methven, 65th do., at Penang. C. E. Davis, 62d do., at Benares. J. G. A. Rice, 6th do., at Kurnaul. J. T. Fergusson, 2d Extra do., at Futtighur. E. K. Hume, 64th N.I., at Agra. H. H. Lloyd, 4th Extra do., at Allahabad. W. St. L. Mitchell, 13th N.I., in Assam. A. Macdougall, 5th Extra do., at Jubbulpore. T. G. Blake, 67th N.I., proceeding to Dinapore. W. Cumberland, 11th do., at Kurnaul. C. T. W. P. Gifford, 2d do., at Keltah. W. T. Briggs, 6th Extra do., at Mullya. H. Palmer, 46th N.I., at Neemuch. E. C. F. Beaumont, 33d do., at Keltah. J. B. Lock, 1st Europ. Regt., at Agra. P. J. Cheine, 34th N.I., at Seetapore. J. Alnalle, 40th do., at Dinapore. C. Clarke, 1st Extra do., at Neemuch. T. D. Martin, 28th N.I., at Barrackpore. G. Cedli, 13th do., at Loodiana. H. H. Say, 45th do., at Baltool. W. A. J. Mayhew, 8th do., at Bandah. M. J. Laurence, 69th do., at Barrackpore. E. F. Smith, 23d do., at Almorah. G. Borrodalle, 68th do., in Arracan. John Butler, 55th do., at Delhi. P. Shortreed, 58th do., at Agra. R. W. Palm, 5th do., at Muttra. W. P. Jones, 23d do., at Midnapore. J. R. Piercy, 29th do., at Shahjehanpore. J. E. Cheetham, 21st do., at Bhurtapore. A. Balderson, 16th do., proceeding to Goruckpore. A. D. Coull, 4th do., at Loodiana. A. Napier, 43d do., at Cawnpore. W. Lydlard, 2d Europ. regt., proceeding to Agra. G. Gordon, 50th N.I., at Allahabad. J. Mackay, 27th do., proceeding to Benares. W. Bartlett, 37th do., at Bareilly. F. Raleigh, 1st do., proceeding to Delhi. G. R. P. Becher, 38th do., at Saugor. O. Campbell, 43d do., at Saugor. G. Nugent, 30th do., in Cuttack. H. Mackenzie, 59th do., at Nusseera-

Nuseerabad. P. Nicolson, 26th do., at Barrackpore. N. Palmer, 54th do., in Assam. J. C. Haddock, 30th do., proceeding to Gururwarra. J. M. Simson 17th do., proceeding to Delhi. R. Beavan, 31st do., at Neemuch. W. Edwards, 18th do., at Bhurtpore.

Fort William, Sept. 23.—Capt. J. G. Drummond, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to have general control and superintendence of roads in Saugor and Nerbudda territories.

Capt. Hutchins, com. Gov. Gen.'s escort at Jubbulpore, and Lieut. A. C. Beaton, 2d N.I., to be assist. superintendents of roads under Capt. Drummond.

Assist. surg. G. Carr posted to station of senior civil commissioner and salt agent in Arracan.

Oct. 6.—56th Enrivs N.I. Ena. J. King to be Lieut., rom 26th Sept. 1836, v. the Hon. W. Stapleton dec.

Capt. W. Burroughs, 2d Europ. Regt., to be fort adj. at Allahabad, v. Rich prom.

Lieut. A. Irvine, of engineers, to be executive engineer of 5th or Allahabad Div. of Public Works, and of garrison of Allahabad, &c. &c.

Lieut. G. Thomson, of engineers, to be executive engineer in departm. of public works in district of Neemuch.

Lieut. W. Turner, 58th N.I., to be capt. by brevet from 13th Aug. 1836.

Assist. surg. E. Hickman permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Comp.

Capt. H. James, 20th N.I., to officiate as superintendant of cadets in Fort William, during absence of Lieut. Kerr, on sick leave.

Messrs. R. B. Duncan and T. B. Hart admitted on estab. as assist. surgs.

Maj. Gen. G. H. Pine appointed to general staff of army.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 4.—Brig. Maj. Penny app. to Agra and Muttra frontier.

Oct. 5.—*Removals of Ensigns.* J. R. Piercy from 29th to 5th Extra N.I. at Jubbulpore; J. E. Cheetham from 21st to 11th N.I., at Kurnaul; W. Bartlett from 37th to 68th do. at Sandoway (Arracan).

Ensigns posted to Regiments. G. B. Reddle to 29th N.I., at Shajehanpore. E. Blenkinsop, 21st do., at Bhurtpore. E. R. Lyons, 37th do., at Bareilly. W. Wollaston, 57th do., proceeding to Pertaubgurbh (Oude). C. J. Mainwaring, 1st do., proceeding to Delhi. R. Long, 25th do., at Barrackpore. W. R. Dunmore, 35th do., at Meerut. E. Garrett, 1st Extra N.I., proceeding to Neemuch. T. M. Brewer, 33d N.I., at Nuseerabad. W. Lindsay, 10th do., at Neemuh. P. Gordon, 52d do., at Chittagong. G. W. Bishop, 44th do., at Dacca. N. G. Mein, 15th do., at Allypurbh.

Oct. 5.—Lieut. Col. Stark and Maj. Rodber removed from 2d to 1st brig. of horse artil., and Lieut. Col. Faithful and Maj. Whish from 1st to 2d brig. ditto.

Surg. Stratton posted to 2d L.C.

Oct. 6.—34th N.I. Lieut. Angelo, interp. and qu. mast., and Lieut. Leicester, adj., permitted to exch. appointments.

Fort William, Oct. 13.—*Infantry.* Lieut. Col. A. Richards to be lieut. col. com. from 24th Sept., v. Lamb dec. Maj. Arch. Galloway to be lieut. col. from 24th Sept., v. Richards prom.

29th N.I. Capt. R. B. Jenkins to be major; Lieut. J. Satchwell to be captain of a comp., and Ens. F. C. Marsden to be lieut., from 24th Sept., in suc. to Galloway prom.

Assist. surgs. appointed to Civil Stations. D. B. Wardlaw to Sylhet; J. M. Brander to Tipperah; and D. Butler to Ghaseepore.

Mr. P. Shortreed admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Capt. R. W. Pogson, 69th N.I., to be agent for family money, and paymaster of native pensioners at Barrackpore, v. Read dec.

Lieut. P. Craigie, 38th N.I., to be a dep. assist. adj. gen. on this establishment, v. Pogson.

Assist. surg. E. T. Downs, to perform medical

duties of civil station of Nudden, v. Assist. surg. Harpur, placed at disposal of com.-in-chief.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 7.—*Unposted Ensigns appointed to do duty with Corps.* R. Richardson, F. R. Evans, and J. French, with 63d N.I., at Benares. Whitelock, with 57th do., at Pertaubgurbh (Oude). Williams, with 40th do., at Dinapore. Maitland, Wallace, and Anderson, with 7th do., at Berhampore.

Oct. 9.—Lieut. L. Vansandau, 68th N.I., to be 2d in command of Rungpore Local Inf.

Capt. T. Hepworth, 61st N.I., to officiate as major of brigade to troops in Assam, v. Martin resigned.

Oct. 10.—Maj. Gen. Pine posted to Cawnpore division of army.

Maj. Gen. Shuldham to command division of army on Sirhind frontier.

Ens. G. W. Bishop removed from 44th regt. to 3d Extra N.I.

Oct. 12.—Lieut. Col. Com. C. Fagan, removed from 68th to 41st N.I.; and Lieut. Col. Com. Whitehead from 41st to 68th ditto.

Lieut. Col. G. D. Heathcote removed from 68th to 60th N.I.; and Lieut. Col. Bowyer, from 60th to 69th ditto.

Assist. surg. J. Menzies app. to 16th N.I.

Ens. E. Blenkinsop removed from 21st to 34th regt. at his own request.

Fort William, Oct. 23.—Lieut. A. Knyvett, 64th N.I., to be assist. to agent for timber at Nauthpore.

Assist. surg. R. B. Duncan to perform medical duties of civil station of Calpee.

Assist. surg. J. R. Martin to be 3d permanent assist. surg. to Presidency Gen. Hospital.

13th N.I. Ens. Jas. Campbell to be lieut. from 30th Sept., v. Craigie dec.

57th N.I. Ens. W. Moultrie to be lieut., v. Cary dec., with rank from 24th Sept. 1835.

Assist. surg. E. W. W. Raleigh to have medical charge of escort accompanying Gov. General to Upper Provinces, during its progress on the river; dated 14th Aug.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 16.—1st N.I. Lieut. J. Fisher to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Mansfield resigned.

18th N.I. Lieut. W. Minto to be interp. and qu. mast., v. M. Millan dec.

Oct. 17.—Assist. surg. Harpur posted to Ramgurbh Local Battalion.

Oct. 18.—Ens. W. Kennedy removed from 3d to 2d Extra N.I.

Oct. 20.—Brigadier J. W. Adams to command Muttra and Agra frontier.

Brigadier Burnett to command Eastern frontier.

Capt. Newton, 68th N.I., to be 2d in command of 1st Nuseerbat.

Fort William, Oct. 20.—Mr. C. Grant admitted to cav., and prom. to cornet.

Oct. 24.—Surg. R. Tytler app. to 5th N.I., and Assist. surg. A. Murray and T. B. Hart directed to place themselves under superintend. surg. at Berhampore.

Capt. Craigie, dep. assist. adj. gen., posted to Meerut Division.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 19, 1836.—To be Capt. by Brevet in East-Indies only. Lieut. G. G. Shaw, 4th L. Dr.; Lieut. W. Atkinson, 30th F.; Lieut. C. Shaw, 31st F.; Lieut. A. O'Leary, 31st F.; Lieut. G. Bell, 45th F.

Aug. 26.—Lieut. Col. Tidy, 14th F., to assume charge of depot of King's troops at Chinsurah.

Aug. 29.—*Depôt at Chinsurah.* Lieut. and Brev. Capt. J. M. Dermot, 14th F., to be adj.; Capt. J. Clarke, 47th F., to be paymast.; Assist. surg. Selv-wright to be surg.

Sept. 8.—Capt. Elliott, 4th L. Dr., to be assist. adj. gen. of H.M.'s forces in India, v. Lieut. Col. Tidy

Tidy app. to command King's Depot at Chm-surah.

Sept. 15.—To be *Cpts. by Brevet in East-Indies* only. Lieut. W. Boardman, 31st F.; Lieut. A. G. Sidley, 45th F.

Sept. 27.—To be *ditto*. Lieut. G. Bell, 1st F.; Lieut. G. B. O'Brien, 38th F.

Sept. 29.—Lieut. R. R. Gillespie, 4th L. Dr., to be an aide-de-camp on personal staff of Governor-general.

Oct. 24.—To be *Cpts. by Brevet in East-Indies* only. Lieut. M. Andrews, 30th F.; Lieut. J. Burn, 59th F.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—July 31. Lieut. Col. T. Wilson, 29th N.I., for health.—Aug. 8. Lieut. Col. Com. J. M'Imes, for health.—Lieut. C. Cook, 21st N.I., for health.—Capt. W. Bacon, 66th N.I., for health.—18. Capt. R. A. Thomas, 48th N.I., for health.—Lieut. W. T. Savary, 26th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. J. Whiteford, 65th N.I., on private affairs.—25. Capt. A. Stewart, 28th N.I., for health.—Sept. 1. Lieut. H. Brown, 51st N.I., for health.—Ena. G. Ramsay, 61st N.I., for health.—4. Lieut. J. De W. C. J. Moir, 26th N.I., for health.—14. Asst. surg. D. Ramsay, for health.—Capt. J. Gouldhawke, 60th N.I., on private affairs.—1st Lieut. C. R. Whinfield, of artil., on ditto.—Lieut. E. Jackson, 68th N.I., for health.—22. Capt. G. Young, 68th N.I., for health.—Surg. W. Darby, on private affairs (via Bombay).—28. Capt. J. F. Berguer, 60th N.I., on ditto.—29. Lieut. C. Wilson, 2d Europ. Regt., for health.—Oct. 6. Lieut. J. Graham, 50th N.I., for health.—Capt. W. Simonds, 21st N.I., on private affairs.—13. Lieut. M. W. Gilmore, 39th N.I., for health.—Surg. J. Jackson, for health.—Capt. C. D'O. Aplin, 33d N.I., for health.—20. Lieut. T. W. Bolton, 2d N.I., for health.—Capt. J. F. Patton, of engineers, for health.—Lieut. J. Brackton, 29th N.I., for health.

To Singapore.—Aug. 8. Asst. surg. A. Stenhouse for six months, for health.—29. Lieut. C. H. Wiggins, of artil., for five months, for health.—Sept. 4. Lieut. R. Coddington, for four months, for health.—28. Asst. surg. G. G. Mac Pherson, for four months, on private affairs.

To Madras.—Aug. 18. Lieut. H. Clerk, artil., for six months, for health.

To Bombay.—Oct. 16. Lieut. Hunter, 15th N.I., for six months, on private affairs.

To Isle of France.—Aug. 25. Lieut. J. W. Scott, of artil., for six months, for health.

To Martaban.—Oct. 7. Lieut. J. Bartleman, 44th N.I., for four months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Aug. 8. Lieut. Agnew, 4th L. Dr., for health.—12. Capt. Evanson, 54th F., for health.—Capt. Hall, 14th F., on private affairs.—29. Lieut. Kingdom, 31st F., for health.—Sept. 2. Lieut. Murray, 56th F., to precede his regt. to England.—Maj. O'Reilly, 41st F., for health.—Lieut. Gilland, Queen's R. Regt., for health.—8. Br. Capt. Hilton, 16th Lancers, on private affairs.—30. Brv. Capt. Pender, 14th F., for health.—Brv. Capt. Long, 56th F., for health.—Oct. 2. Capt. Leslie, 54th F., for health.—16. Lieut. Berridge, 30th F., for health.—Capt. Woodgate, 54th F., for health.—21. Maj. Backhouse, 47th F., to precede his regt. to England.

To See.—Oct. 2. Lieut. Harris, 87th F., for three months, for health.

To New South Wales.—Oct. 16. Lieut. Wilson, 46th F., for one year, on private affairs.—21. Capt. Broderidge, 48th F., for one year, on private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, October 23, 1826.

In the charge delivered to the grand jury, at the opening of the court this day, the Chief Justice adverted to the new jury act, by which, he thought, all classes of

persons were competent to serve as jurors who professed the Christian religion.

"It appeared to his Lordship that in the present Act the legislature had two objects, one of which was that the term British subjects which was construed to apply only to those persons who were born in England, and which had led so many to believe that the population of this country were not all subject to the British law, should be better understood. After this there could be no doubt that any person born in Bengal, Behar, or Orissa, was liable to the Supreme Court.

"But the main reason of the legislature was, no doubt to admit all persons so considered, to the privilege of British subjects. So long as forty-three years ago, it was the opinion of a committee in the House of Commons that the use of juries in India was not dangerous.

"Whatever was the opinion of some persons, his Lordship thought it was the duty of the Court to give that effect to the Act which they considered was the object of the legislature; and he thought that the Grand Jury should explain to the intelligent natives of the country that it was for their benefit and accommodation that this change in the Jury system had taken place.

"While this Act admitted many persons into the privileges of British subjects, his Lordship thought there would be a difficulty in extending it to the natives. The first objection was that they did not generally understand the English language: and in civil cases it would be almost an impossibility to translate several things: the speeches of counsel for instance. A judge's charge, though his Lordship by no means meant to say that it could not be translated, yet, it was difficult to be done; and it was necessary that the niceties of English law, especially in cases of manslaughter, should be particularly understood by a Jury.

"His Lordship said he would make it a matter of consideration with the officer of the Court, to summon such persons as were competent to judge of the merits of a case; at all events he would take care to prevent ridicule from being cast on the proceedings of the Court. It was impossible that any thing could be so satisfactory to a man as the decision of his twelve neighbours. Our ancestors had approved of such a system, and Mr. Elphinstone of Bombay, a gentleman of much experience, had recommended its introduction among the Natives."

We quote the above passages from the *Bengal Hurkaru*; but it is stated in the *Government Gazette* that this report is "very inaccurate." The last-mentioned paper adds the following reflections upon this subject:—

"The admission of natives as petty jurors must continue for a long period at least,

least, to be wholly inoperative. The acquiescent of the English language to a sufficient extent for such a purpose, is confined to the principal members of the native community, and they certainly will think it neither an honour nor a pleasure to be placed in a jury box, even with European tradesmen. Individuals of any other description are wholly out of the question, as neither in knowledge nor in character, are they competent to sit in judgment upon offences against morality or law. We are disposed to think that a great mistake has been committed in the construction of this law as applicable to the natives, and that to have rendered their services beneficially available, they should have been rendered eligible to the grand jury especially: in that situation, their knowledge of their own language, and what is still more valuable, their knowledge of their countrymen, would be of invaluable assistance to the English associates; and their co-operation with a number of persons of the first respectability, would convert the duty into an honour, of which they would be fully sensible, and would be the most powerful incentive that could be offered to their feeling and maintaining a proportionate degree of moral and intellectual elevation. The omission, we trust, will be rectified as soon as opportunity may occur, as till then, the law is a dead letter as far as the natives of India are effected by its provisions."

October 24.

The King v. Wm. Ed. Hall, Robt. Pereira, Chas. Poole and Chas. Scott.—This was an indictment charging the prisoners with defrauding Messrs. Leyburn and Co. auctioneers, of a quantity of wine and spirits, by means of a forged order, purporting to be signed by Major Frith. It did not appear what the prisoners were; they associated together. The jury found Hall guilty, and acquitted the others.

October 28.

The King v. John Anthony, Francisco Martinaz, and Antony Fernandez.—This was an indictment charging the prisoners, who are Portuguese, with the wilful murder of an English sailor, named Wm. Howell, on the 26th September.

The murder took place at a house of ill-fame, to which the deceased had resorted. He was intoxicated, and whilst asleep, the prisoner Anthony attacked him, and stabbed him with a knife.

The jury found Anthony guilty, and acquitted the two others.

A technical difficulty occurred in this case: the deceased was struck in Calcutta, but died in the general hospital, which was out of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

The chief justice deferred sentence till

the proper authorities in England could be consulted on the point.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

We extract the following particulars from various papers:—

Lord Amherst and his family left Barrackpore on the morning of the 5th August, and embarked on board the fleet which got under weigh about 9 o'Clock. On the 8th they were off Mirzapore, as mentioned in our last; and on the 16th the fleet had reached Hazrehatty, a little above the debouche of the Jellinghy into the Ganges. The route was originally intended to be by Moorshedabad; but that *via* Jellinghy was afterwards preferred. After entering into the Great River from the Jellinghy, the course led through a branch of the Bhagirathi, and the boats proceeded by way of Sooty, which they passed on the 21st. The inundation was most extensive, and the force of the current tremendous, but no serious accidents occurred, and the wind continued sufficiently strong to enable the vessel to make tolerable way against the stream. In consequence of the inundated state of the country, scarcely any opportunity offered of going on shore after coming to anchor.

After being detained for several days at Sekri Gully, the fleet arrived at Bhagulpur on the evening of the 31st, where his lordship remained till the 4th September. On the 6th the foremost vessels passed Monghir, and reached Patna on the 14th. In passing the rocks of Colgong, a pinnacle of Lady Amherst's, we understand, was in imminent danger, the *goon* breaking and none of the crew being on board. The steersman, assisted by a khidmutgar, fortunately succeeded in letting go an anchor in time to prevent her being driven against the rocks. The only person in the vessel, we believe, was a young lady of her ladyship's family, whose situation naturally excited the most lively sentiments of alarm in those who were spectators of her danger. The country along the banks of the river, from Bhagulpur to Monghir, is described as entirely inundated, the rise of the river having been this year unprecedentedly high. Half the town of Monghir was under water, and the famous bastion of the fort was in the same predicament. The whole tract from Surajgher to the foot of the Kurruckpore hills was one sheet of water, which was the case with the greater part of the lands in the Bhagulpur district. The injury done to the khureef crop, must have been very extensive and serious.

The Governor-General and Lady Amherst landed amidst an immense concourse of spectators, and proceeded to the residence of Sir C. Doyley. On the 15th his Lordship held a levee, which was attended

tended by all the civil and military officers of the station and its vicinity. On the 16th a durbar was held, at which most of the principal zemindars of the province of Behar and the chief inhabitants of Patna were present. Honorary dresses were distributed to native gentlemen. Although the mornings were hot, and the attendance numerous, his Lordship went through the fatigue of both ceremonies without being sensibly oppressed. Lady Amherst had recovered her health materially since the arrival of the fleet at Patna, although not sufficiently so to appear in public. On this account no large station parties were given, but a numerous assemblage took place daily, at the dwelling of the hospitable entertainers.

After a stay of some days at Patna, the party embarked for Benares; and after a tedious voyage, owing to winds and currents, they arrived at that city on the 12th October. The Governor-general and Lady Amherst landed in state at Raj Ghat, where they were received by the principal civil officers of the station, and proceeded thence to the house prepared for their accommodation at Secrole, being escorted by a troop of the body guard. On the day following a levee was held in the morning, and a drawing-room in the evening, which were attended by all the civil and military members of the society of Benares. A durbar was held on the 16th. The members of the royal family residing in the city, the sons of the late Mirza Khorrem Bukht and Mirza Shogsteh Bukht, and the Raja of Benares, were admitted to a private interview, preceding the public presentation of the principal native gentlemen, the zemindars and merchants of the city and the vicinity, who were severally introduced to the Governor-general by Mr. Brooke and Mr. Stirling, to the number of fifty or sixty. Honorary dresses were conferred on the Raja of Benares, on Raja Jayprakash Singh, Zemindar of Bhojpur, Baboo Siv Narayan Singh, Jagirdar of Sayidpur, Gopal Surun Singh of Shahabad, and Baboo Ram Das of Benares, on the son of Raja Kalisankar Gosal, and on the Dewan of the Raja of Benares. A khelat was also sent, in the usual manner, to the widow of the late Biswambher Pundit.

On the morning of the 17th the Governor-general returned on board the boats, and the fleet passing the whole length of the city with a favourable but gentle breeze, the party had an opportunity of seeing the place to the greatest advantage. Few places in Gangetic India offer a more picturesque or imposing appearance than Benares from the river. The bank is lined with an uninterrupted range of spacious ghats, and crowned with an infinite number of small temples of the most elaborate workmanship, which pre-

sent themselves to view in rapid and varied succession. Structures of more bulk and greater extent, the dwellings of opulent individuals or the domiciles of religious orders, occupy the intervals between these lighter edifices, and the back-ground is filled with a series of lofty buildings, rising tier above tier, and topped with every possible variety of pinnacle and minaret. The whole is of grey or red stone, diversified by the variegated tints which time has given to their hue. The picture is perfect, without the addition of human figures: but when, as on the present occasion, the ghats and surmounting edifices are covered with a dense population, dressed in the greatest possible variety of colour and costume, a scene occurs to which it would be difficult for the pencil, and still more so for description, to render justice.

After passing the city, the fleet came to at Ramnagar, on the opposite bank, at the palace of the Raja, Lord and Lady Amherst having accepted an invitation to an entertainment to be given there in the evening, with all the splendour and display worthy of the occasion, and for which the Raja of Benares is celebrated. The fleet was to resume its progress on the morning of the 18th, and it was expected would reach Allahabad in ten or twelve days. Thence the journey proceeds by land, and the tents were ordered to be in readiness by the 25th.

Lord Amherst had suffered from fever on the voyage; and his lady, after leaving Patna, sustained much inconvenience from the heat. Both, however, had much improved in health and strength at Benares; they expressed themselves highly pleased with their reception, and with the objects they saw.

MESSRS. PALMER AND CO., OF HYDERABAD.

The Calcutta papers contain a report of the proceedings at a special general meeting of the creditors of the late firm of William Palmer and Co., of Hyderabad, held at their office in that city, Aug. 21st, pursuant to public notice; Lieut. C. Arrow in the chair. The statement of the cash and receipts and disbursements, from 8th Sept. 1825 to 17th Aug. 1826, represents the former at 2,59,984 Hyderabad rupees, and the latter at 2,29,539: leaving cash in hand 30,414 Hyderabad rupees, besides 1,15,119 available at Calcutta, Madras, and Hyderabad. The trustees state that they are unable to realize the debts due to the firm, by reason of the Resident not having rescinded the promulgation made at Hyderabad, that the contracts of the late house were void on the ground of the illegality of the interest charged, notwithstanding the decision of the twelve judges in England, that the contracts were valid. The mere publica-

tion of the opinions of the judges would, they observe, be ineffectual till they were promulged by authority of the Resident. The trustees also complain of the instructions sent out by the Court of Directors to the Resident regarding the affairs under trust.

BOW BAZAR GAETIES.

The gay season has already commenced, we learn, in peculiar quarters of the town. In the Bow Bazar, in the course of the last few days, there was a kind of Almack's-in-the-East entertainment, which collected together all the fashionables in that direction.

The charming revels of the evening, it was understood, would consist of a fancy dress ball and supper. At an early hour the way was thronged with buggies and palankeens, and there was a wild kind of interest given to the scene by a beautiful exhibition of pugilistic excellence, which took place at the foot of the staircase leading to the ball-room. Whether this was intended as a part of the entertainment we cannot take it upon us to say. Dancing commenced as soon as space could be cleared, and in the pauses, whether excited by the example of the persons alluded to or not, we cannot pretend to guess, there were several brisk encounters, in which the side arms of nature were flourished with a happy union of grace and vigour. Altogether there was a kind of "I bite my thumb disposition" evinced by some of the cavaliers present, which brought to mind the chivalric days of Romeo and Juliet, the Capulets and Montagues. It is inconceivable what a degree of uncommon spirit is given to an entertainment by a little variety of this kind.

At a late hour the ladies and gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous supper. The cold beef, the beer, the gin and water, the punch, and the other delicacies, were excellent, and did infinite credit to the entertainers.—*India Gaz.* Oct. 15.

SUTTEE.

A letter in the *John Bull*, dated Oct. 12, describes a suttee which took place at a village about forty-five miles above Calcutta. The deceased was a Brahmin, seventy-two years of age; his two wives (who were very old, probably fifty or sixty), after bathing, and walking *once* round the pile (being too feeble to walk *seven times*, the prescribed number), ascended the pile, and in two minutes it was lighted by one of the sons of the deceased: he raised a shout, in which the spectators joined. The ceremonies were of the kind usually observed at these horrid scenes.

RUNJEET SINGH.

We find from the Native Papers, that

the warlike demonstrations in the Punjab have led to no further results, and that the officers of Runjit Singh's army are allowed to repair to their respective dwellings. The setting in of the rains, and the swollen state of the rivers of the Punjab, render military operations at this season impracticable, and the Sikh chieftain must have been well aware that this would be the case before his troops could move; and he intended merely, in all probability, to frighten the Afghan governor into some territorial or political concessions. The invasion of Peshawar is now postponed till the commencement of the cold season; but a variety of circumstances are likely to intervene to prevent its taking place, at least in the life-time of the present ruler of Lahore. No further notice occurs of the departure of Sha Shuja from Ludhiana, and the intelligence to that effect was probably inaccurate.—*Calcutta Govt. Gaz.* Aug. 7.

ENSIGN WRIGHT.

The report of the murder of this officer in the Oude territories, stated in our last, upon the credit of the *Hurkaru*, turns out to be untrue. Mr. Ricketts, the Resident at Lucknow, has expostulated with the editor of that paper upon the subject, in a letter wherein he pronounces the statement "an infamous and cruel falsehood," and requires an apology from the editor for the highly disrespectful remarks towards the government of Oude with which the statement was followed up. A letter from Ensign Wright, dated at Lucknow, demands the editor's authority for publishing a report calculated to occasion distress and anxiety to his friends in Europe. The editor of the *Hurkaru* states that he derived the account from a letter from an officer of rank at Lucknow; he, however, refuses to apologize for his remarks.

These inaccurate reports of deaths are extremely injurious.

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

On Friday, October 27, the *Sleeping Draught*, and the *Miller and his Men*, were performed before one of the most brilliant and crowded audiences ever witnessed at this theatre. The pieces were got up in a hurry, which accounts for some failures in the scenery and machinery. The performers were also mostly new to these boards, and allowance must be therefore made for any little defects. There was no great necessity, however, for the charity of the house, and would have been still less if the performers had made less frequent appeals to the prompter. The representative of *Popolino* evidently possesses considerable dramatic talent. On this occasion it was displayed in the comic line most especially, but it is not exclusively

sively, and possibly not most decidedly humorous.

Doctor Vincolo is also a new performer of great merit, and he would be a great acquisition to the Chowringhee boards in this line of character. He has abundant energy and no want of humour, and his person and voice are well adapted to testy old men.

Gabriotto, another debutant, had but little to do, but in that little exhibited a humour that would turn to good account in a more important part. *Yaldo* and *Rinaldo* were also first appearances; the first had nothing to say, but imitated a dumb man very creditably; and the latter was, what is much less interesting on the stage usually than any where else, perhaps, a lover—he did not seem to have pined much over his passion.

The part of *Bruno* was in the hands of a veteran, who we were happy to see fully maintained the credit of the old corps, against the new recruits. To the ladies, we presume, we must not apply such an epithet as we have attached to *Bruno*: but they were not debutantes, and performed with their usual spirit and vivacity.

The *Miller* and his *Men* is so familiar to a Calcutta audience, that it can scarcely continue to be effective. Incongruities of scenery, and mishaps of machinery tended still further to impair its efficiency on the occasion, and like the train at the close, it rather hung fire. The acting, however, was as good as we have ever seen it in this piece, and wanted nothing but scenic support.

Karl was undoubtedly the best personation of the melo-drama, and excited much merriment. *Kelmar* was by the *Popolino* of the first piece, and afforded a favourable specimen of the versatility of his powers. The *Count* was a debutant. *Claudine* was interesting, and *Ravina* respectable, although not quite *au fait* at lighting a train. Perhaps, however, the tardy explosion of this last member of the *dram. pers.* was not altogether the fault of the exploder, and we should recommend to the managers before they repeat this piece, to change their powder manufacturer. Every pistol was most obstinately mute, and the train laid for the mill "wound its slow length along" after the mill was blown up. If this had gone off as it ought, the same might have been said of the evening's entertainments.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Oct. 30.

DUM DUM THEATRE.

We understand that the repairs of the Dum-Dum theatre are nearly completed, and that it will re-open early next month. The house has undergone every necessary alteration and considerable improvement. The gallery, which was the subject of so much annoyance to the boxes, is entirely

removed, and the pit much extended. The theatre will consequently afford more accommodation than it did before.—*Ibid.*, Oct. 23.

SCHOOLS FOR DEAF AND DUMB.

We have been informed that it is in contemplation to form a school, attached to the Serampore College, for the deaf and dumb, under the immediate superintendence of one of the gentlemen of that establishment, who was for years connected with the most respectable institution in England for the instruction of children labouring under so melancholy an affliction. The children of natives will be instructed gratuitously if their protectors wish it, and taught to read, write, and understand (from the motion of the lips, we imagine) language, either English or Bengalee.—*Beng. Hurk.*, Oct. 25.

IMPROVEMENT AMONGST THE NATIVES.

It is pleasing to observe the gradual desire for improvement among the respectable natives of Calcutta. It is daily becoming more apparent; their intercourse with Europeans and their own good sense must shew the native gentlemen how much more creditable it is to their taste and character to expend the large fortunes which many of them possess in some more useful way than giving gaudy nautches, and gorging all who wish to visit them with the most expensive wines and richest delicacies; and exhibiting, for the amusement of the thankless crowd, the fêtes of mountebanks and jugglers. Several native gentlemen, who were in the habit of giving an annual public feast at an enormous expense, have seen the folly of the practice, and wisely discontinued it; and they soon found the benefit of their resolution, as they were enabled to relieve numerous fellow creatures pining in distress, and adorn their native city with splendid buildings. Among others, the Baboo Dwarkanuth Tagore at present is erecting a beautiful mansion on the Dum Dum road, under the superintendence of an able European architect, surrounded by gardens quite in the English style.—*Ibid.*

MILITARY RETIREMENT FUND.

A proposal for the formation of a fund of the above character has been talked of at Calcutta, and a meeting of officers of the Bengal army was contemplated to take place at the Town Hall, on the 16th October. A notice to that effect was inserted in the public papers, signed by the Adjutant-General, Col. Watson, which stated that the Commander-in-chief had sanctioned the calling of such meeting. The object, it was understood, was to raise a fund by subscription to promote the retirement of officers, by increasing

creasing their allowances. Some misunderstanding, however, seems to have existed as to the sanction of Lord Combremer, who forbade the meeting; the project has therefore failed for the present.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Sept. 18. *Britannia*, Lamb, from the Cape, and *Phoenix*, Taylor, from London and the Mediterranean.—21. *Emulous* (steam-packet), from London.—22. *Prince Regent*, Hosmer, from London.—24. *Harriet*, Guthrie, from London.—25. *Providence*, Ardile, and *Hope*, Flint, both from London.—26. *Venus*, Hogue, from London.—27. *Calcutta*, Merien, from Stockholm.—Oct. 3. *Duke of Bedford*, Parsons, from London.—9. *Melpomene*, Johnson, from London.—18. *Rose*, Marquis, from London.—20. *Asia*, Balderston, and *Carnaroe Castle*, Davey, both from London.—21. *Malcolm*, Eyles; *Sarah*, Miller, and *Eliza*, Worth; all from London.—22. *Florentia*, Aldham; *Abberston*, Percival; *Lady Raffles*, Coxwell; and *Morley*, Halliday, all from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

Sept. 24. *Eliza*, Mahon, for London.—Oct. 7. *Euphrates*, Scott, for London.—8. *La Belle Alliance*, Hunter, for Isle of France.—21. *Providence*, Ardile, for Penang.—28. *Caroline*, Kidson, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 2. At Nussereabad, the lady of Capt. A. F. Richmond, 33d N.I., of a son.
19. At Nussereabad, the lady of Major Gramshaw, of artillery, of a son.
24. At Lucknow, the lady of J. M. Sinclair, gar. civil engineer, of a son.
Aug. 2. At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. Twemlow, of artillery, of a son.
4. At Futtighur, the lady of C. Blackburn, Esq., of a son.
7. At Muttra, the lady of Capt. J. Jervis, 5th regt., of a son.
8. At Dinapore, the lady of Edw. Phillips, Esq., surg., 6th Extra N.I., of a son.
At Allahabad, the lady of R. M. Tilghman, Esq., of a son.
10. At Patna, Mrs. J. Radcliffe, of a daughter.
At Ramnisserepore, Mrs. C. Manley, of a daughter.
11. At Agra, the lady of G. Webb, Esq., surg. 1st Europ. Regt., of a daughter.
12. Near Julalabad, district of Furuckhabad, the lady of H. Bebonau, Esq., jun., indigo-planter, of a son.
13. At Jessore, the lady of H. M. Pigou, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
16. At Popper Mhow, near Allahabad, the lady of Capt. Farby, agent for gunpowder, of a daughter.
At Barrackpore, the lady of the late Alex. Falconer, Esq., of Belnaberry, of a son.
At Jessore, Mrs. D. Johnson, of a daughter.
18. At Berhampore, the lady of Lieut. H. Temple, adj. 7th N.I., of a son.
20. At Patna, the lady of W. A. Pringle, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
Mrs. G. Gomes, of a son and heir.
21. Mrs. G. H. Huttman, of a son.
At Entally, Mrs. C. Doucet, of a son.
At Chandernagore, Mrs. P. Roquet, of a son.
23. At Humserepore, North Bundelkhand, the lady of M. Alsitie, Esq., of a daughter.
26. At Kidderpore, Mrs. A. Bowle, of a son.
At Cossipore, the lady of W. F. Clark, Esq., of a daughter.
28. At Nagpore, Mrs. Pierrepont Gardiner, of a daughter.
30. The lady of J. R. Best, Esq., civil service, of a son.

Sept. 3. At Futtighur, the lady of the Rev. W. Fraser, chaplain, of a daughter.
7. At Futtighur, the lady of Capt. Brandon, 1st Extra N.I., of a daughter.
9. At Burrarah, district of Purneah, Mrs. G. Buckland, of a son.
10. At Nagpore, the lady of R. Jenkins, Esq., resident, of a daughter.
11. At Neermuch, the lady of Lieut. C. J. Lewes, sub-assist. com. gen., of a daughter.
At Balasore, the lady of John Becker, Esq., of a daughter.
At Purneah, the lady of B. R. Pery, Esq., of a daughter.
Mrs. F. D. Bellew, of a daughter.
13. At Moradabad, Mrs. Dorrington, of a son.
At Barrackpore, the wife of Mr. A. Pinharlo, merchant, of a son.
Mrs. J. Grocer, of a son.
14. The lady of the Hon. J. H. Harrington, of a daughter.
The lady of M. Gisborne, Esq., of a son.
At Moradabad, the lady of Dr. Alex. Davidson, of a son and heir.
Mrs. G. Scott, of a son.
The lady of Capt. H. Ross, 49d N.I., of a son.
20. At Dinapore, the lady of the Rev. C. Wimberley, district chaplain of Allahabad, of a son.
At Moradabad, the lady of A. N. Forde, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
At Moradabad, the lady of Mr. Tommochy, of a son and heir.
21. The lady of W. Linton, Esq., of a son.
The lady of A. C. Seymour, Esq., of a daughter.
22. At Ishapore powder-works, the lady of Maj. Galloway, agent for gunpowder, of a daughter.
At Silhet, the lady of Lieut. Fisher, D. A. Q. M. G., of a daughter.
23. The wife of Mr. W. Spence, H.C.'s marine, of a daughter.
The lady of Edm. Molony, Esq., civil service, of a son.
Mrs. J. Silverton, of a son.
Mrs. M. De Rosario, of a son.
24. At Hissar, the lady of Capt. J. D. Parsons, of a daughter.
At Howrah, the lady of Capt. Randle, of a daughter.
25. At Sahurrunpore, the lady of Capt. J. Hebbrow, of a son.
26. At Futtighur, the lady of Capt. D. Crich-ton, 1st Extra N.I., of a son.
At Allahabad, the lady of W. W. Bird, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
28. At Chandernagore, the lady of Geo. Johnson, Esq., of a son.
The lady of C. Hogg, Esq., of a daughter.
Mrs. J. Gray, of a son.
29. At Cawnpore, Mrs. M. C. Wiley, of a daughter.
At Seebpore, the lady of Brigade Major Currie, of a son.
At Barrackpore, the lady of Major Wm. Swinton, of a daughter.
30. At Howrah, the lady of Poynts Stewart, Esq., M.D., of a son.
At Chandernagore, Mrs. C. A. Viguland, of a daughter.
Oct. 1. At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. G. A. Vetch, of a son.
2. At Allahabad, the lady of A. F. Hampton, Esq., of a son.
At Garden Reach, the lady of Lieut. H. Hunter, R.N., of a daughter.
4. At Kiyat, the lady of Lieut. E. M. Blair, of a daughter.
5. At Serampore, the lady of John Brown, Esq., of Tirhoot, of a son.
Mrs. M. J. Hopkins, of a son.
8. The lady of Capt. J. Taylor, assist. com. gen., of a son.
At Chandernagore, Mrs. C. F. Pinnetz, of a daughter.
9. At Revalunge, the lady of Capt. Heyman, 13th L. Drags., of a daughter.
At Monghyr, the lady of the Rev. W. Moore, of a son.
10. At Bomandee factory, Nuddeah, the lady of E. Thompson, Esq., of a daughter.
The lady of Capt. H. J. Vardon, of a son.
At Jenurpore factory, Mrs. H. V. Ingels, of a son.
11. At Allahabad, the lady of the Hon. J. R. Elphinstone, of a son.

13. At Sylhet, the lady of J. S. Sullivan, Esq., of a daughter.
 — At Garden Reach, the lady of J. F. Sandys, Esq., of a daughter.
 14. The lady of Capt. P. Roy, of the country service, of a daughter.
 15. At Ghazepore, the lady of John Hunter, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 — Mrs. H. C. Watts, of a son.
 16. At Kurnaul, the lady of Lieut. F. Angelo, 7th Light Cavalry, of a son.
 18. At Patna, the lady of John Shum, Esq., of a son.
 — At Barrackpore, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Vincent, of a son.
 19. Mrs. J. Thomas, of a daughter.
 — Mrs. W. Sinclair, of a daughter.
 20. Mrs. H. W. Twentyman, of a daughter.
 — Mrs. G. Shearwood, of a son.
 21. The lady of Capt. Gavin Young, of a daughter.
 22. Mrs. C. Cornelius, Jun., of a daughter.
 — The lady of D. McN. Liddell, Esq., of a daughter.
 24. The lady of Capt. G. Story, Madras army, of a daughter.
 25. Mrs. D'Silva, wife of Mr. Joseph D'Silva, late of Jessore, of a son.
 28. Mrs. Joseph Savigny, of a son.
 29. Mrs. G. R. Gardener, of a daughter.
 31. Mrs. C. Esperança, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- Aug. 3. At Bareilly, H. Graham, Esq., civil service, to Jane Augusta, second daughter of W. Cowell, Esq., civil service.
 21. John Allan, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Cumming and Co., to Jane, eldest daughter of the late R. Menzies, Esq., of Dabreach, Perthshire.
 — Francis Sheppee, Esq., of the Bombay medical establishment, to Miss Isabella Allan.
 24. At Burrisal, Chas. Smith, Esq., civil service, to Maria Jarvis, daughter of the late Isaac Rowe, Esq.
 — At Cawnpore, Thos. Morton, Esq., to Mrs. Burrows.
 Sept. 13. At Benares, Capt. R. E. Chambers, 9th L.C., to Ellen, only daughter of T. Yeld, Esq.
 16. Mr. W. Kemp, firm of Burn and Co., to Miss M. Smith.
 — Mr. G. Mollis, of the Hindoo College, to Miss M. Lopes.
 18. Mr. M. Morrison to Miss M. A. Ward.
 19. Major Auriol, 2d Europ. Regt., to Mrs. Irwin, widow of the late Capt. John Irwin.
 — At Berhampore, Ens. H. Morehouse, H.M.'s 13th Lt. Inf., to Susan, only daughter of Peter Cochrane, Esq., late senior member of Medical Board of this presidency.
 21. At Cawnpore, Rich. Laughton, Esq., assist. surg., to Miss E. E. Torckler.
 — At Asimgurh, Lieut. H. Patch, 5th Extra N.I., to Mrs. Sturmer, relict of the late John Sturmer, Esq., of Nizamabad.
 22. Mr. W. Polhill, assist. surveyor, to Ann Apollonia, daughter of the late Mr. A. D'Mello.
 23. At Benares, Lieut. J. F. Douglas, 49th B. N.I., to Mrs. C. S. Kelly.
 25. At Cawnpore, Lieut. Alex. Mercer, 2d Extra N.I., to Mrs. Mary Smith.
 — At Meerut, Capt. John Luard, H.M.'s 18th Lancers, to Elizabeth, second daughter of the late Wm. Scott, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.
 26. Lieut. W. S. Menteth, 1st Extra N.I., to Sarah Brevita, daughter of Capt. Hamilton, H.M.'s 16th Lancers.
 30. Mr. John Paternoster, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of W. Bason, Esq.
 Oct. 11. At Berhampore, Dr. J. Henderson, H.M.'s 89th Foot, to Elizabeth, daughter of M. Sheridan, Esq., H.M.'s 13th Lt. Inf.
 12. Mr. John Gleeson, of Judge Adv. General's Department, to Mrs. E. Lawson.
 14. At Muttra, Mr. W. Thompson, Barrack Department, to Miss E. Simmona.
 23. J. R. Martin, Esq., of the Governor-General's Body Guard, to Jane Maria, youngest daughter of the late Col. John Paton, of the Bengal establishment.
 27. Mr. P. J. De Vine, to Mrs. F. Ravenscroft.
 28. Mr. W. Jackson, of the Noacolly Salt Agency, to Miss Mary Marsack.
 28. Mr. M. Le Blanc, to Miss S. Gregory.
 30. At the Cathedral, Thos. Campbell, Esq., to Maria, eldest daughter of H. J. Flellerup, Esq., late of the Danish Company's service.
 31. The Rev. F. Goode, H.C.'s chaplain, to Caroline, youngest daughter, of T. Driscoll, of Harcourt Street, Dublin, Esq.
 Nov. 3. A. R. Jackson, Esq., assist. marine surg., to Margaret, second daughter of C. Paterson, Esq., of the Bengal C. S.
 Late. At Meerut, Capt. E. Gwatkin, dep. paymaster at Meerut, to Penelope, widow of Capt. Alex. Bannerman, late assist. com. gen.

DEATHS.

- July 25. At Nussereabad, Sophia, the lady of Major Gramshaw, of artillery.
 29. At Dinapore, of apoplexy, Major Edw. Stafford, sen. capt. in H.M.'s 31st Foot, aged 39.
 Aug. 3. At Chowringhee, Thos. Pattle, Esq., aged 19.
 4. At Agra, Margaret, infant daughter of Mrs. W. Campbell.
 8. At Cawnpore, R. Mercer, Esq., M.D., an assist. surg., aged 94.
 10. At Ghazepore, aged one year, Francis, the son, and on the 7th Sept., aged two years, Maria, the daughter of R. Barlow, Esq., sen. collector of the above district.
 14. Near Kedgerie, on board the H.C.'s pilot vessel *Henry Meriton*, Mr. J. C. Stapleton, branch pilot and commander of the above vessel, aged 46.
 17. At his residence in the Armenian church, the Rev. Kaloos Arratoon, aged about 70.
 22. At Mongher, Matilda, infant daughter of Mr. T. Steele, aged two years.
 26. At Kidderpore, the infant son of Mr. A. Bowie.
 27. Eliza, wife of Capt. F. Bean, of the country sea-service.
 28. At Saugor, R. Macfarlane, Esq., officiating assist. surgeon.
 — At Nagpore, the infant daughter of Lieut. W. Pierrepont Gardiner.
 — Capt. Alex. Stewart, 28th regt. N.I. aged 42.
 29. Mr. Henry Fleming, aged 38.
 — At Benares, Lieut. G. D. Harvey, 5th Extra N.I.
 30. At Doomree indigo factory, of fever, Andrew Conson, Esq.
 Sept. 3. At Midnapore, K. A. Aird, Esq.
 — At Nagpore, Elizabeth Annabella, wife of Lieut. W. Pierrepont Gardiner, 2d Madras Europ. Regt., aged 24.
 4. On the river Ganges, near Allahabad, Capt. C. Wilson, H.M.'s 38th regt.
 6. At Dinapore, of bilious fever, Maj. T. W. Broadbent, 22d N.I.
 — At Cawnpore, Mr. H. Duhan.
 7. At Ghazepore, Maria Catherine, youngest daughter of R. Barlow, Esq.
 9. Lieut. W. Senior, 25th regt. N.I., aged 26.
 — At Bankipore, Patna, Mariana, eldest daughter of Col. H. Griffiths, regulating officer, Shahabad.
 10. At Burrisol, Wm. Miller, infant son of J. Shaw, Esq.
 12. At Chandernagore, Mons. J. B. A. Rigordy, aged 72.
 13. At Muttra, George Bosanquet, son of Dr. G. Paxton, 41st regt. N.I., aged five months.
 14. At Sulkea, John Foster, Esq., aged 62.
 15. Mr. J. Mackertich, aged 27.
 17. Capt. C. G. Bidwell, country service, aged 30.
 19. Mr. H. Minet, musician, aged 38.
 20. At Barrackpore, Lieut. W. Murray, 28th N.I.
 — At Patna, Anne, second daughter of Dr. R. M. Thomson.
 21. Antony, infant son and only child of the late Antony Dorrett, Esq., aged ten months.
 — At Howrah, Jos. Johnston, Esq., aged 40.
 22. At Sulkea, Capt. J. Price, 5th Extra Regt., and superintendent of buildings at Sulkea.
 — At Nussereabad, Wm. Scott, infant son of Capt. J. W. Ingram, 19th N.I.
 — Rose Ann, infant daughter of Mrs. J. Pereira.
 23. At Midnapore, near Berhampore, Agla Charlotte, lady of John H. Savi, Esq., of Coolbaria indigo works, aged 25.
 — At the New Anchorage, on board the *Dunira*, Capt. Jas. Read, 1st N.I., and superintendent of family money at Barrackpore.
 — Mrs. Elspeth Lyall, aged 40.

23. Mrs. Pearson, wife of Mr. G. H. Pearson, H.C.'s Bengal Marine, aged 26.
 24. At Jubbulpore, Lieut. Col. Com. W. Lamb, commanding 51st N.I., in his 48th year.
 — The youngest son of Mr. J. M. Heritage, H.C.'s marine.
 25. At Barrackpore, Capt. the Hon. Wm. Stapleton, second son of Lord Le Despencer, and aide-de-camp to the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, commander-in-chief.
 — Sarah, wife of Mr. L. de Lanougerede, of the Calcutta police, aged 27.
 26. At Rungpore, aged 18, the lady of Capt. Alex. Davidson, 13th N.I., assist. political agent north-eastern frontier.
 — Margaret, the lady of E. S. Ellis, Esq., marine paymaster, aged 24.
 27. Mr. J. G. Pengelly, of the firm of Pengelly, Mortimer, and Co., aged 30.
 28. At Cuddappah, Mary, the wife of J. Hay, Esq., aged 30.
 — Mr. John Jones, aged 59 years.
 — At Garden Reach, J. Iriarri, Esq., aged 33.
 Oct. 1. At Baitool, James Day, fifth son of Capt. G. Hicks, 8th N.I.
 — On the river Ganges, Maria, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. C. J. Doveton, 38th N.I.
 — Mr. J. H. Burn, drowned while proceeding to Barrackpore, aged 19.
 — Mr. T. Sheppard, late penakoner in H.C.'s marine, aged 51.
 2. Eleanor, lady of W. Graham, Esq., M.D., Chittagong, aged 34.
 — Thomas William, second son of Mr. J. Silvertown, aged 5 years.
 3. Joaquin Gracia, Esq., a native of the province of Andalusia in Spain, aged 22.
 4. The infant son of Mr. J. Gray.
 5. Mr. H. R. Stout, H.C.'s marine, aged 29.
 6. Mr. Hypolite Serge, aged 30.
 7. Mr. L. Morrison, chief officer of the ship *David Clark*, aged 27.
 — Louisa Georgiana, aged one year, third daughter of Dr. R. M. M. Thomson.
 — At Blahenath, in Assam, Lieut. Jas. Craigie, 13th N.I.
 — At Coling, near Bhaugulpore, Margaret, wife of the Rev. Wm. Fraser, chaplain.
 9. At Bhaugulpore, James Stewart, Esq., in his 33d year.
 10. The infant son of Mr. J. Silvertown.
 11. Mr. T. D'Bruyn, many years examiner in the Military Accountant's Office, aged 56.
 12. At Pertaubghur, near Neemuch, Lieut. and Adj. John Wyllie, Rampoorah Local Bat., aged 29.
 — Mrs. Augusta Emily Hall.
 — Mrs. R. Mabert, aged 19.
 13. Capt. H. W. Pridham, of the country service, aged 32.
 — At Muttra, Lieut. F. Dibdin, 3d L.C.
 14. At Cuttack, Rich. Becker, Esq., aged 37.
 15. At Rajepoor, near Delhi, Samuel Shetford Watson, eldest son of Capt. S. Watson, 55th regt., aged two years.
 16. At Chinsurah, Mr. C. S. Verboon.
 17. Mr. E. Brands, an assistant at the Presidency Paymaster's Office.
 18. At Howrah, the youngest child of Mr. C. A. Fenwick.

Madras.

COURTS MARTIAL.

MAJOR PATERSON, H. M.'s 13TH LIGHT DRAGOONS.

Head Quarters, Calcutta, 19th August, 1826.—At a General Court Martial, held at Bangalore, on the 3d of April, 1826, and continued by adjournments to the 24th of the same month, Maj. J. F. Paterson, of H. M.'s 13th Light Drags., was arraigned on the following charges; viz.

"For highly unofficer-like and disrespectful conduct towards me, his senior officer, in the following instances:"

1st. "In stating, on or about the 16th

inst., with a view to the breach of a regimental order, that he had directed the assembly of a regimental court-martial for the trial of Private John Brown, H. M.'s 13th Drags., in consequence of information obtained from adjutant Rosser; whereas the order for the assembly of the said court, was issued before the information (falsely said to have occasioned it) had been communicated to him; or words to the same effect."

2d. "In evading repeated applications made by me for an explanation of the apparent contradiction expressed in the first charge."

"(Signed) S. BOYSE, Lieut. Col."

H. M. 13th Drags. Comg. Bangalore. Bangalore, 20th Feb. 1826.

Upon which charges the Court came to the following decisions: *—

"The Court find the prisoner, Lieut. Col. Paterson, H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. guilty of the first charge, with exception of the word "falsely," the mis-statement appearing to have been inadvertently, not wilfully, made, nor was it made with a view to justify the breach of a regimental order.

"The Court find the prisoner guilty of the second charge, viz. in evading repeated applications made by Lieut. Col. Boyse, C. B. for an explanation of the apparent contradiction expressed in the first charge; such conduct being unofficer-like and disrespectful.

"The Court having found the prisoner, Lieut. Col. Paterson, H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. guilty, as above stated, which being in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Col. Paterson, to be reprimanded, in such manner as his Exc. the Com.-in-Chief may deem fit."

"The Court re-assembles, in obedience to orders from his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, as conveyed in a letter from the Dep. Adj. Gen. H. M.'s force, to revise their former sentence.

Revised Opinion.—The Court having taken into mature deliberation the preceding letter of his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, feel themselves bound to adhere to their former opinion.

"On the reasons assigned by the Court, I confirm the finding and the sentence.
 (Signed) "G. T. WALKER, Lieut. Gen."

The reprimand which it is the Lieut. Gen. Sir George Walker's duty here to communicate to Lieut. Col. Paterson, will, he hopes, admonish him to be more particular in future, in all explanations required by his senior officer, and to bear always in mind, that however severe the terms in which they may be addressed, it is a duty to

* Lieut.-Col. Paterson's promotion to his present rank was officially announced, subsequently to these charges being preferred.

to the service of his country that he is fulfilling, and not to be considered an act of subserviency to the individual.

LIEUT. BERWICK, H. M.'s 13TH LIGHT
DRAGOONS.

At a General Court-martial, held at Bangalore, on the 10th of April, and continued by adjournment to the 2d of May, 1826, Lieut. George Berwick; H. M.'s 13th Light Draga. was arraigned on the following charges; *viz.*

"For conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, in involving himself in pecuniary transactions with non-commissioned officers under his immediate command, calculated to weaken the ties of authority and respect which are essential to the due preservation of military discipline:

"In the following instances; *viz.*

1st.—"In having borrowed from a Mr. Cormack, during the month of May last, through the instrumentality and upon the security of troop Major M'Naughton, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1500 rupees, or thereabout, upon the plea that his commission was at stake, and undertaking to repay the same by stated specified instalments within a certain period, which engagement he did not fulfil, having, at the expiration of the given time, paid only 500 rupees, thereby rendering Serjeant Major M'Naughton responsible for the payment (with interest) of the remaining part of the debt, or in case of failure, subject to the penalties of the law.

2d.—"In having during the month of September last, borrowed the sum of 2450 rupees, or thereabouts, from the said Serjeant-Major Alexander M'Naughton, to purchase a house from Quarter-Master Minchin, which house he falsely represented for a considerable time as his own *bond fide* property, although he had previously stipulated, that it was immediately upon its purchase to become the property of the said Serjeant-Major M'Naughton, and though upon the title-deeds, a legal transfer thereof to Serjeant-Major M'Naughton is subscribed by Lieut. Berwick, dated 16th September, 1825, the day following that on which he purchased it from Quarter-Master Minchin.

3d.—"In having agreed to hire the said house from Serjeant-Major M'Naughton at a monthly rent of twelve pagodas, the terms of which agreement he has not fulfilled, being now indebted to Serjeant-Major M'Naughton, on that account, in the sum of 150 rupees, or thereabouts.

4th.—"In having borrowed, on or about the beginning of December last, from troop Serjeant-Major Richard Baxter, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1100 rupees, or thereabout, promising to

repay the same by transferring to Serjeant Major Baxter, monthly, the surplus that might remain of the money to be received on account of the troop contract, after discharging the cost of such line articles as might be provided by the Serjeant-Major, thus rendering the duty of the Serjeant-Major inimical to his interest, and violating the spirit of regimental orders.

5th.—"In having neglected to fulfil the above engagement, entered into for the gradual liquidation of his debt to Serjeant-Major Baxter, and having on the contrary, increased the same by not paying even for the whole of the line articles furnished by the troop Serjeant-Major, since the agreement was made.

"The whole of such conduct being in breach of the articles of war and subversive of discipline, as especially set forth in general orders by the late Commander-in-chief in India, general the hon. Sir Edward Paget, G. C. B., and re-published at Madras on the 30th April, 1824."

"Upon which charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding.—"The Court having maturely weighed the evidence on the prosecution, together with what the prisoner has urged in his defence, is of opinion, that he, Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Light Dragoons, is guilty of the first part of the first charge, *viz.* in having borrowed from a Mr. Cormack, during the month of May last, through the instrumentality of troop Serjeant-Major Alex. M'Naughton, the sum of 1500 rupees, or thereabouts, but do acquit him of all the remaining part of the charge.

"The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the second charge.

"The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the third charge.

"The Court find the prisoner guilty of that part of the fourth charge, *viz.* 'In having borrowed, on or about the beginning of December last, from troop Serjeant-Major Richard Baxter, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, the sum of 1100 rupees, or thereabout, promising to repay the same by transferring to Serjeant-Major Baxter, monthly, the surplus that might remain of the money to be received on account of the troop contract, after discharging the cost of such line articles as might be provided by the Serjeant-Major;' but acquit him of the remaining part of the fourth charge.

"The Court fully and honourably acquit the prisoner of the fifth charge.

"The Court acquit the prisoner of ungentleman-like conduct; but having found him guilty, as above stated, which conduct being unbecoming an officer, subversive of discipline, and in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, to lose one step, by being placed immediately below the lieutenant who, at this

this date stands next to him in the list of officers of H. M.'s 13th Dragoons.

Revised finding.—The court having re-assembled for the purpose of revising their finding and sentence, if there should appear grounds for so doing, in obedience to the orders of his Exc. the Commander-in-chief, as conveyed in the Dep. Adj. Gen.'s letter of the 24th April last, do, after mature deliberation, abide by their former opinion on the first charge.

"The Court acquit the prisoner of the second charge.

"The Court abide by their former opinion on the third charge.

"The Court abide by their former opinion on the fourth charge.

"The Court fully acquit the prisoner of the fifth charge.

"The Court acquit the prisoner of ungentleman-like conduct, but having found him guilty, as above stated, which conduct being unbecoming an officer, subversive of discipline, and in breach of the articles of war, do sentence him, the said Lieut. Berwick, H. M.'s 13th Dragoons, to lose one step, by being placed immediately below the lieutenant who, at this date, stands next to him in the list of officers of H. M.'s 13th Dragoons."

The finding and sentence of the court (as on the last page) is hereby confirmed.

(Signed) "G. T. WALKER,"
"Lieutenant-General."

—
LIEUT. COL. BOYSE, H. M. 13th LIGHT
DRAGOONS.

At a General Court-Martial, held at Bangalore on the 25th of April 1826, and continued by adjournments to the 9th of May following, Lieut.-Col. Boyse, 13th Light Drags., commanding the cantonment of Bangalore, was arraigned on the following charge, preferred against him by Major-Gen. Sir Theophilus Pritzler, K. C. B. commanding the Mysore division of the army.

"For disrespect to me, as the officer commanding the division, in treating my orders with contempt, by issuing a regimental order, bearing date 7th Feb. 1826, in direct opposition to the instructions conveyed to him personally by me on that day, before the commanding officer and officers of H. M.'s 13th Drags., assembled for that purpose, and in communicating the same through the Adjutant of the 13th Drags., in direct and immediate disobedience of those my orders."

"Such conduct on the part of Lieut.-Col. Boyse being unbecoming his character as an officer, prejudicial to His Majesty's service, and subversive of all order, and military regulation and discipline.

(Signed) "THEO. PRITZLER, Maj.-Gen.
Commanding Mysore Division."

Bangalore, 15th Apr. 1826.

Upon which charge the court came to the following decision:—

Opinion. "The Court, having taken into mature consideration the evidence on the prosecution, together with what Lieut.-Col. Boyse, C. B., has adduced in his defence, is of opinion, that he, Lieut.-Col. Boyse, C. B., H. M.'s 13th Light Drags., is not guilty of the crime laid to his charge, and do therefore most fully and most honourably acquit him of all and every part thereof."

The above finding and sentence is confirmed.

(Signed) G. T. WALKER, Lieut.-Gen.

[We are compelled to omit the remarks of Gen. Walker on these proceedings, owing to their length, but we subjoin those by the Commander-in-Chief.]

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon. the Commander-in-Chief in India cannot promulgate to this army the proceedings of the foregoing general Courts-Martial, without expressing his full concurrence in all the remarks made upon them by His Exc. Sir G. Walker, and which he has in consequence, published for general information.

The state of relaxed discipline into which H. M.'s 13th Light Drags. has been permitted to lapse, owing to the unmilitary dissensions of the senior officers, is truly deplorable, and after a very attentive consideration of the subject the Commander-in-chief is sorry to be obliged to observe, that the decisions of the court now under notice, are not calculated either to re-establish order in the corps or support the proud honour of the army.

The subject, as regards the individual officers who have been brought to trial, is of so serious a nature, that His Lordship will refer it for the decision of superior authority, trusting that, in the mean time, a material benefit will be derived from the measures which have been adopted by the Commander-in-chief of the Madras presidency, for the restoration of discipline and order.

The general orders of this army, especially those relating to the trial of an officer at Buxar, by the late Commander-in-chief, and forbidding an officer borrowing money from a Non-commissioned officer or soldier, are so explicit, so consonant with the feelings of an officer and a gentleman, and so perfectly in accordance with justice and common sense, that his Lordship would have supposed the necessity for offering any further remarks on the subject could never have occurred. It appears, however, that a Court-Martial has been convened, entertaining different sentiments, and attending to what it considered the law of a part of the question, has given a judgment apparently without attention to the principle and substance of the

the charge which was under its consideration. Lieut. Berwick was found guilty of having borrowed two distinct sums of money from or through the instrumentality of two non-commissioned officers of the corps, one of them the Serjeant-Major of the troop under his immediate command; upon these grave and penal offences an adequate sentence should have been passed;—the other points on which he was acquitted, were immaterial, and by no means affected the substance of the charges.

It has caused serious concern to the Commander-in-chief to learn, that a system of borrowing money from non-commissioned officers could exist among the officers of any corps, and he now desires, that the officer commanding the 13th Light Drags. will adopt measures for the future prevention of so disgraceful a practice.

It is the peculiar province of the President of a Court-Martial to attend to the nature of the evidence which may be brought before it, and prevent the introduction of matter foreign to the subject under investigation. Had this duty been attended to in the present case, much unnecessary labour would have been spared, and the minds of the members of the court could not have been diverted from the subject of their inquiry.

As the dissensions amongst the officers of the 13th Light Drags., appear to have, in some measure, originated from the relative situations of an officer commanding a station where his regiment is quartered, and the officer in the immediate command of the corps, not having been clearly understood, the Commander-in-chief takes the opportunity of publishing his sentiments on the matter, and desires that they may in future be considered as the standing order of this army.

The senior officer of a corps, on being appointed to command a station, must give up entirely the command of his regiment, and from that time he will not, as regards its interior economy, consider it as more especially under his superintendence than any other corps in the cantonment.

The officer who succeeds to the command of the corps will be held responsible, in all respects, for its appearance, good conduct and discipline. The full powers of the commanding officer devolve upon him with the exception of altering any of the standing orders or known established practices of the regiment, for which, by H. M.'s regulations, he must obtain the sanction of the senior and permanent commanding officer.

The officer commanding the corps should invariably consult the senior officer respecting the officers to be recommended for promotion or exchange, and especially on the appointment of an officer to the Adjutancy: should any difference of

opinion exist upon such points, it must be especially reported for the decision of the Commander-in-chief, or stated on the body of the return which is required periodically from the officer commanding the regiment.

H. M.'s regulations strongly enjoin unanimity and good understanding to be maintained amongst the officers of a corps: these feelings are essentially requisite in the superior officers, and where they exist, no difficulty can arise in carrying on the duties of the relative situations now alluded to. Courtesy will induce the junior to consult with the senior on all important matters connected with the regiment; whilst the senior, though freely giving his opinion, will see the necessity and justice of leaving unhackled the junior, who is individually responsible for the discipline and good order of the corps; even should a difference of opinion arise on the alteration of a standing order, which either may consider of importance, an early reference to the decision of the general officer commanding the district will decide the point without any breach of good feeling or mutual confidence.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order books, and read at the head of every regiment in H. M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,
A. MACDONALD,
Adj.-Gen. H. M.'s Forces in India.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Aug. 31. Mr. Robert Bayard, collector and magistrate of Rajahmundry.

Mr. H. Gardiner, ditto of Visagapatam.

Mr. W. H. Babington, register to Zillah Court of Salem.

Sept. 28. Mr. E. Breunen, master attendant at Tellicherry.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, July 28, 1836.—Capt. W. J. Butterworth, 38th N.I., to be assist. in qu. mast. gen.'s depart., v. Highmoor.—Capt. W. G. Page, 49th N.I., to act as assist. in ditto until return of Capt. Butterworth from foreign service.

Rifle Corps. Lieut. C. F. Liardet, 14th N.I., to be adj., v. Trollope permitted to return to Europe.

2d Europ. Regt. Lieut. H. F. Barker to be qu. mast. and paym., v. Puget prom.

43d N.I. Lieut. E. C. Manning to be adj., v. Claridge prom.

Infantry. Sen. Maj. W. Jollie, from 4th N.I., to be lieut. col., v. Pepper dec.

4th N.I. Sen. Capt. B. Baker to be maj., Sen. Lieut. Brev. Capt. T. Watson to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. A. Miller to be lieut. in suc. to Jollie prom.

Messrs. F. Hamilton and T. L. Place admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Aug. 1.—Col. T. Boles, of inf., placed on staff of army of Fort St. George, and appointed to command Ceded Districts, v. Hewitt dec.

Col. A. Macdowell, of inf., to command Hyderabad Subsid. Force, v. Boles.

3 Z

Lieut.

Lieut. Col. Com. C. Deacon, 40th N.I., to command Nagpore Subsid. Force, v. Macdowell.

Lieut. Col. Com. T. Pollok, 23d N.I., to command Light Field Div. of Hyderabad Subsid. Force at Jaulnah, v. Deacon.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. Welsh, 41st N.I., to command field force in Doonab, v. Pollok.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. D. Greenhill, 34th L.I., to command Travancore Subsid. Force, v. Welsh.

Lieut. Col. Com. E. Boardman, 45th N.I., to command presidency cantonment, v. Greenhill.

Capt. J. Sinclair, 29th N.I., to command 1st bat. pioneers, v. Crowe dec.

8th L.C. Sen. Cornet C. C. Cottrell to be lieut., v. Shaiprinvalided.

45th N.I. Sen. Ens. W. R. A. Freeman to be lieut., v. Wilford dec.

Capt. J. Low, 17th N.I., to be political agent at Jypore, from 9th June 1826.

Aug. 4.—46th N.I. Sen. Ens. J. Hayne to be lieut., v. Stephenson dec.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 5, 1826. — Ens. A. M. M'Call to do duty with 35th N.I.

Aug. 8.—Maj. Gen. J. Dighton removed from 11th to 32d N.I., and Lieut. Col. Com. T. Stewart (late prom.) posted to 11th N.I.

Removals and Postings of Lieut. Col. of Infantry.
E. W. Snow from 23d to 1st N.I. A. Andrews from 45th to 49th do. B. B. Parlyb from 30th to 19th do. G. Cadell from 6th to 23d do. G. L. Wahab from 35th to 33d do. H. W. Sale from 49th to 35th do. B. W. Lee from 19th to 11th do. R. West from 15th to 45th do. G. Jackson from 39th to 32d do. H. A. Purchas from 17th to 39th do. J. Wight from 37th to 4th do. J. Wahab from 33d to 34th do. A. Grant from 4th to 37th do. A. Balmain from 1st to 30th do. G. M. Steuart (late prom.) posted to 17th do. M. Cubbon (late prom.) to 6th do. W. Jollie (late prom.) to 15th do.

Fort St. George, Aug. 8.—Postings of Field Officers of Invalid Establishment. Lieut. Col. J. Nixon to Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat.; Lieut. Col. S. Taynton to 1st Nat. Vet. Bat.; Lieut. Col. J. Haslewood to 2d do.; Maj. J. Simpson to 3d do.; Lieut. Col. C. Mandeville to 4th do.

Aug. 11.—Lieut. Col. Armstrong, H.M.'s Royal Regt., to command at Bangalore.

18th N.I. Sen. Ens. H. Green to be lieut., v. Milne dec.

43d N.I. Sen. Ens. T. Sharp to be lieut., v. Moor dec.

Aug. 15.—Capt. C. G. Alves, 18th N.I., to resume his app. of maj. of brigade in centre div. of army.

Mr. T. P. Walsh admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Aug. 22. Capt. T. K. Limond, 3d L.C., to be paym. to Hyderabad Subsid. Force, v. Browne dec.

Capt. W. Williamson, 3d Lt. Inf., to be paym. in Ceded Districts, v. Baker prom.

Lieut. H. Power, 32d N.I., to be 2d assist. to mil. auditor gen.

Capt. H. Mitchell, 6th N.I., to act as paym. to Light Field Div. of Hyderabad Subsid. Force at Jaulnah, during absence of Capt. Laurie.

Aug. 26.—*Artillery.* Sen. Maj. W. M. Burton to be lieut. col., v. Mackintosh ret.; Sen. Capt. J. Ketchen to be maj., v. Wilkinson dec.; Sen. Ist-Lieut. W. S. Hele to be capt., v. Lewis dec.

6th L.C. Sen. Lieut. G. Sandys to be capt., and Sen. Cornet J. Oakely to be lieut., v. Balmain ret.

1st Europ. Regt. Sen. Lieut. R. J. Charlton to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. H. Hopper to be lieut., v. Fenwick retired.

46th N.I. Sen. Ens. J. Benwell to be lieut., v. Mayo retired.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. R. R. Hunter and H. Montgomery to artil., and prom. to 2d-lieuts.—Mr. W. H. Atkinson to engineers, and prom. to 2d-lieut.—Messrs. T. H. Woodhouse, A. Heywood, J. C. Fortescue, R. Bradstreet, E. Hughes, T. Back, C. W. Walker, W. H. Dearsley, J. Thomson, D. Hayes, R. Gordon, G. Pinnock, T. W. Steele, J. O. C. Farran, F. Gray, A. M. Kinloch,

and F. W. Humphreys, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 11.—Postings in Artillery. 2d-Lieuts. H. Rumsey to 3d bat.; A. Beadnell to 2d bat.; H. H. Mortimer, G. Balfour, and W. K. Lloyd to 3d bat.

Aug. 15.—Ens. T. D. Roberts removed from 30th to 36th N.I., and Ens. T. W. Jones from 11th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.

Aug. 18.—Assist.-surg. J. Kelman removed from 27th, and posted to 36th N.I.

Ens. J. J. G. Congdon removed from 2d to 46th N.I.

Aug. 23.—*Re-postings and Postings of Cornets.* E. A. Humphreys to 8th L.C. J. Whistler, 6th do. H. Fraser, 5th do. J. K. Macdonald, 8th do. P. T. Cherry, 4th do. F. F. French, 6th do. C. C. Ferrers, 7th do. J. M. Macdonald 5th do.

Re-postings and Postings of Ensigns. W. H. Yarde to 2d Europ. Regt. C. W. Burdett, 41st N.I. J. Bowser, 28th do. H. Harriott, 39th do. J. A. Macartney, 38th do. A. Barker, 33d do. W. Buckley, 18th do. J. H. Robley, 43d do. W. Fyfe, 45th do. D. Birley, 27th do. H. Pritchard, 8th do. H. A. Kennedy, 14th do. A. B. Johnston, 46th do. R. Taylor 11th do. T. L. Place, 44th do. F. Hamilton, 2d Europ. Regt. Jos. Martyr, 36th N.I. John Wilkinson, 36th do. C. H. Warren, 25th do. T. M'Goun, 6th do. A. M. M'Call, 28th do. T. W. Cooke, 23d do. J. E. Hughes, 47th do. T. H. Hull, 1st Europ. Regt. W. G. Yarde, 3d or P. L. I. R. Gordon, 37th N.I. E. Hughes, 39th do. J. C. Fortescue, 1st do. T. H. Woodhouse, 28th do. C. W. Walker, 29th do. A. Heywood, 15th do. D. Hayes, 36th do. J. Thomson, 5th do. T. Back, 9d do. R. Bradstreet, 33d do. W. H. Dearsley, 18th do. J. V. Wilkinson, 9th do. T. J. Ryves, 43d do. H. Wilson, 31st do. P. Penny, 7th do. H. O. Marshall, 43d do. J. W. Nixon, 17th do. J. E. Glynn, 41st do. G. A. Tulloch, 45th do. C. A. Butler, 2nd do. N. Spence, 24th do. J. M. Madden, 27th do. J. Wright, 19th do. J. S. Greenwell, 48th do. W. N. Fortescue, 8th do. E. L. Dumas, 29th do. B. Poggon, 22d do. H. R. Dardis, 13th do. J. Cannan, 14th do. W. H. Pigott, 46th do. H. J. Willins, 30th do. A. R. Rose, 60th do.

Aug. 26.—*Postings of Cornets and Ensigns.* Cornet R. Taylor to 2d L.C.—Ensigns E. M. Kinloch to 34th or C. L. I. G. Pinnock, 12th N.I. J. O. C. Farran, 11th do. T. W. Steele, 40th do. F. W. Humphreys, 44th do. F. Gray, 2d Europ. Regt.

Lieut. E. Amsinck removed from 1st to 2d brigade horse artillery, and Lieut. A. G. Hyslop from 2d to 1st brigade ditto.

Aug. 28.—*Cornets and Ensigns appointed to do duty.* Cornets H. S. Waters and B. S. Sullivan, with 3d L.C.—Ensigns J. S. Moore with 2d Extra Regt. W. Cantis, 6th N.I. J. Stewart, 43d do. T. S. Wilson, 2d Extra Regt. F. Gottreux, 6th N.I. G. Reade, 42d do. E. W. Kenworthy, A. S. Gore, P. A. S. Powys, and J. Kempthorne, 2d Extra Regt. J. Halpin and G. Halpin 26th N.I. Jackson, 2d Extra Regt.

Aug. 31.—*Removals.* Lieut. J. T. Ashton from 3d to 4th bat. artil.; Surg. J. T. Conran from 7th L.C. to 2d N.I., and Surg. H. Neilson from latter to former; Ens. T. W. Steele from 40th to 16th N.I.

Sept. 2.—*Removals.* Ens. F. Gray from 2d Europ. Regt. to 35th N.I.; Ens. G. A. Tulloch, from 43th to 33d N.I.; Corn. J. M. Macdonald from 5th to 1st L.C.; Ens. J. M. Madden from 37th to 43d N.I.; Ens. R. Bradstreet from 33d to 37th ditto; Ens. J. Wright from 19th to 5th ditto.

Fort St. George, Aug. 29.—Cadets admitted. Messrs. B. S. Sullivan, H. S. Waters, and L. Moore to cav., and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. G. Reade, E. W. Kenworthy, A. S. Gore, P. A. S. Powys, J. Stewart, J. Kempthorne, J. S. Moore, W. Cantis, F. Gottreux, T. S. Wilson, J. Halpin, H. Jackson and G. Halpin, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Capt. J. Howison, 6th N.I., re-admitted on estab.

Lieut. v. Mathias, 14th N.I., to have rank of brev. capt. from 24th Aug.

Messrs. W. Bulter and A. Millingen admitted as assist.

asst. surg., and app. to do duty with gar. surg. of Fort St. George.

Sept. 1.—1st L.C. Sen. Corn. P. A. Walker to be lieut., v. Thwaites dec.

29th N.J. Sen. Lieut. J. Forrest to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. L. Nicolay to be lieut., v. Cooke dec.

Mr. D. H. Stevenson admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Sept. 5.—Capt. F. B. Doveton, 4th L.C., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Sir John Doveton, commanding centre div. of army.

Ens. R. Taylor, of inf., transferred to cav., and prom. to cornet.

Sept. 8.—*Cadets admitted.* Messrs. H. W. Wood, C. M. Maclean, J. D. P. O'Neill, J. R. Grose, F. B. Lys, R. Dawney, J. S. Lang, H. S. Kennedy, J. G. M'Nab, to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. J. Ladd as an asst. surg., and app. to do duty under gar. surg. of Fort St. George.

Sept. 12.—25th N.J. Sen. Ens. C. O. Backhouse to be lieut., v. Sparrow dec.

Lieut. R. Garstin, 2d L.C., permitted to place his services at disposal of resident at Hyderabad.

AUGMENTATION TO THE ARMY.

Fort St. George, Sept. 15, 1826.—In conformity with instructions received from the Hon. the Court of Directors authorizing the addition of two regiments of Native Infantry to the regular establishment of the army of Fort St. George, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the 1st and 2d Extra regts. of N.I. shall be formed into the 51st and 52d regts. of Native Infantry respectively.

The Governor in Council has resolved that the commissions of the European officers promoted for this augmentation shall bear date from the 8th instant, and that the transfer of officers to the new regiments shall be regulated by the army rank in conformity with the regulations adopted by the Government at Fort William with regard to augmentations of the army of that presidency.

The following promotions and removals are ordered accordingly.

All casualties which may have occurred prior to the 8th inst., but of which no official report has yet been received at the Adj. General's Office, will be considered as affecting officers in those regiments only to which they have been removed without reference to their former corps.

Native Infantry.

To be Lieut. Col. Commandant. Sen. Lieut. Col. A. Fair and W. C. Fraser, to complete estab.

To be Lieut. Col. Sen. Maj. S. S. Gummer, from 45th N.I., v. Fair prom.; H. Downes, from 21st do., v. Fraser prom.; J. Green, from 24th do., to complete estab.; T. King, from 27th do., to complete estab.

45th Regt. Sen. Capt. W. Godley to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) J. Macdonald to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. J. M. Anderson to be lieut., in suc. to Gummer prom.

21st Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Stewart to be maj., Sen. Lieut. G. Gray to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. H. Considine to be lieut., in suc. to Downes prom.

24th Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Morgan to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) G. Hutchinson to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. Gordon to be lieut., in suc. to Green prom.

27th Regt. Sen. Capt. H. Munn to be maj., Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) H. Bevan to be capt., and Sen. Ens. H. Vandersee to be lieut., in suc. to King prom.

8th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) G. Lee to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. de Blaquiere to be lieut., v. Maclean prom. in 51st regt.

12th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) R. Shedden to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. S. Mowatt to be lieut., v. Fenwick prom. in 52d regt.

4th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. St. J. Grant to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. C. Chinnery to be lieut., v. Hunter rem. to 51st regt.

41st Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) A. Macarthur to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. E. L. Evelyn to be lieut., v. Leggatt rem. to 52d regt.

37th Regt. Sen. Lieut. E. A. M'Curdy to be capt., and Sen. Ens. A. Cuppuge to be lieut., v. Leighton rem. to 51st regt.

46th Regt. Sen. Lieut. A. Fraser to be capt., and

Sen. Ens. J. Gerrard to be lieut., v. Newman rem. to 52d regt.

24th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. Sinclair to be capt., and Sen. E. W. Snow to be lieut., v. Steele rem. to 51st regt.

23d Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) C. H. Gibb to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. Beaumont to be lieut., v. Cameron rem. to 52d regt.

7th Regt. Sen. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) A. Hendrie to be capt., and Sen. Ens. J. S. Elliott to be lieut., v. Hitchins rem. to 51st regt.

4th Regt. Sen. Lieut. J. Metcalfe to be capt., and Sen. Ens. T. J. Fisher to be lieut., v. Grant rem. to 52d regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Jones to be lieut., v. Wheeler rem. to 51st regt.

25th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. Biddle to be lieut., v. Pace rem. to 52d regt.

49th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. Pickering to be lieut., v. Baddeley rem. to 51st regt.

25th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. A. Cosby to be lieut., v. O'Dell rem. to 52d regt.

36th Regt. Sen. Ens. G. P. Vallancy to be lieut., v. Barton rem. to 51st regt.

44th Regt. Sen. Ens. R. Gill to be lieut., v. M'Cally rem. to 52d regt.

35th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. C. Boulderson to be lieut., v. Dowell rem. to 51st regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. C. M'Leod to be lieut., v. Deane rem. to 52d regt.

45th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Thomas to be lieut., v. Seddon rem. to 51st regt.

32d Regt. Sen. Ens. G. Gibson to be lieut., v. Gilby rem. to 52d regt.

19th Regt. Sen. Ens. P. Wilkie to be lieut., v. Hitchins rem. to 51st regt.

36th Regt. Sen. Ens. R. H. Robertson to be lieut., v. Musgrave rem. to 52d regt.

47th Regt. Sen. Ens. P. Ensor to be lieut., v. Pantom rem. to 51st regt.

30th Regt. Sen. Ens. E. J. Gascolgne to be lieut., v. Baillie rem. to 52d regt.

37th Regt. Sen. Ens. E. J. Simpson to be lieut., v. Wright rem. to 51st regt.

48th Regt. Sen. Ens. P. Mellish to be lieut., v. Bower rem. to 52d regt.

50th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. Dickson to be lieut., v. Hammond rem. to 51st regt.

6th Regt. Sen. Ens. C. J. Cole to be lieut., v. Clarke rem. to 52d regt.

26th Regt. Sen. Ens. G. A. Smith to be lieut., v. Mackinlay rem. to 51st regt.

15th Regt. Sen. Ens. J. G. Deck to be lieut., v. Harris rem. to 52d regt.

45th Regt. Sen. Ens. W. Fyfe to be lieut., v. Thomas rem. to 51st regt.

The following officers are posted to the 51st and 52d Regiments N.I. :—

51st Regt. Maj. A. Maclean from 8th N.I.—Capt. R. Hunter from 4th N.I. J. Leighton from 27th do. S. W. Steele from 24th do. E. R. Hitchins from 7th do. F. H. M. Wheeler from 30th do.—Lieuts. C. H. Baddeley from 49th N.I. T. R. Barton from 36th do. R. Dowell from 35th do. J. H. Seddon from 45th do. H. T. Hitchins from 19th do. T. Pantom from 47th do. H. Wright from 37th do. G. Hammond from 50th do. W. S. Mackinlay from 26th do. J. Thomas from 45th do.—Ensigns J. C. Power from 34th N.I. W. E. Lockhart from 13th do. E. Usher from 49th do. J. M. Maddon from 43d do.

52d Regt. Maj. R. Fenwick from 12th N.I.—Capt. G. Leggatt from 41st N.I. C. Newman from 45th do. J. Cameron from 23d do. C. St. J. Grant from 4th do. W. N. Pace from 25th do.—Lieuts. R. D. O'Dell from 25th N.I.; A. M'Calby from 44th do. J. Deane from 30th do. W. B. Gilby from 32d do. J. F. Musgrave from 36th do. G. A. Baillie from 30th do. H. Bower from 48th do. T. A. Clarke from 6th do. H. L. Harris from 16th do. W. Fyfe from 45th do.—Ensigns T. Bayles from 24th N.I. R. R. Scutt from 3d do. T. P. Walsh from 16th do. J. Wright from 5th do. The 3d Extra Regt. will in future be denominated the 1st, and the 4th the 2d Extra Regt.

Head-Quarters, Sept. 19.—Lieut. W. Shairp, of inv. estab., posted to Carnatic Europ. Vet. Estab. 3 Z 2

Sept. 23.—*Cadets posted.* Cornet C. P. Wilder to 8th L.C.; Ens. G. P. Taylor to 33d N.I.; Ens. R. H. James to 35th N.I.; Ens. W. Hollis to 36th N.I.

Sept. 26.—Ens. W. E. Lockhart removed from 13th to 45th N.I.

Sept. 27.—*Removals and postings of Lieut. Col.* A. Fair (commandant) to 51st N.I.; W. C. Fraser (commandant) to 52d do.; R. H. Yates from 27th to 44th do.; J. M. Coombs from 21st to 52d do.; R. West from 45th to 51st do.; T. Smithwaite from 24th to 16th do.; S. S. Gummer, to 45th do.; H. Downes to 51st do.; J. Green to 24th do.; T. King to 27th do.

Surg. A. Shedden posted to 52d, and Assist. surg. J. Caswall posted to 51st N.I.

Cornet C. P. Wilder removed from 8th to 6th L.C.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Aug. 15. Lieut. S. Carr, 11th N.I., for health.—22. Lieut. H. L. Harris, 15th N.I., for health.—26. Capt. G. Milson, 9th N.I., for health.—29. Lieut. W. Tudor, 8th N.I., for health.—Assist. surg. G. Beeson.—Sept. 1. Lieut. Col. C. Deacon, 40th N.I.—Surg. J. T. Conran (via Bombay).—12. Capt. R. Gordon, 26th N.I.—Capt. J. Smith, 2d L.C. (via Bombay).

To Sea.—Aug. 8. Capt. J. J. Gamage, of artill., for six months, for health.—25. Capt. R. Smith, 18th N.I., ditto ditto.—Lieut. T. Stockwell, 28th N.I., for four months, for health.—Sept. 12. Ens. H. C. Barrow, 28th N.I., for six months, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Aug. 18. Capt. J. Street, 7th L.C., for twelve months, for health.—22. Capt. W. Shaw, 18th N.I., ditto ditto.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Hon. the Governor left Madura on the 26th August, and the Camp reached Courtallum on the 1st inst. Heavy rain had fallen immediately after they left Madura; but the weather in the Tinnevely district to the above date had been fine. The party remained at Courtallum till the morning of the 6th—all much pleased with the fresh air and beautiful scenery of the place. The Governor had visited the nutmeg plantations and the falls, and had also examined the sculptures of the Pagoda. The camp was quite healthy.

The Governor reached Dindigul on the 14th; the weather was very hot, but the party quite healthy. Letters of the 16th instant state, they were to quit Dindigul the following day, on route to the Neilgherry Hills, which it was expected they would ascend about the 24th or 25th.

Letters of the 9th Oct. from the camp, state, that it was expected they would reach Bangalore on the following day—they were all well. Their probable stay at the above station is not mentioned.—*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*

PUBLIC ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly on Monday evening was attended by a very numerous party, so crowded indeed that quadrilles were danced in the northern room, as well as that usually appropriated to the purpose. Most of the passengers by the ships from England were among the company present,

and the entertainment was kept up with great spirit till a very late hour.—*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Sept. 7.*

VIOLENT STORM.

H. M. 30th Regiment, in prosecution of their march to Madras from Hyderabad, suffered severely from the commencement of it, to the Kistnah river, by the inclemency of the weather. At Mulkapoor, on the 28th of August, a storm, accompanied by torrents of rain, thunder and lightning, set in with a violence seldom witnessed in these parts, by which all in camp were drenched. This was followed up by another storm if possible more severe, at Narrainpoor, which commenced in the evening of the 29th, and about two o'clock on the morning of the 30th the lightning struck a tent in which two officers were sleeping, split the pole into several pieces from top to bottom, reducing some parts of it to shreds without the slightest marks of fire appearing upon it, while the cloth of the tent was much scorched. A sword was partly melted, and other articles inside the tent bore evidence of fire. The matter which struck the pole burst, making an explosion similar to the report of a 13-inch shell. The shock was felt by the whole regiment, who on repairing to the spot where were the remains of the tent, were astonished to find the two gentlemen uninjured; they of course received hearty congratulations on their remarkable escape.

The roads have been dreadfully cut up, by the constant bad weather overflowing of tanks, &c. [*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Sept. 14.*]

LAW PROCEEDINGS AT BOMBAY.

Our friends at Bombay have either strangely changed in character of late from a quiet peaceable set of people into a litigious quarrelsome community, or the newspaper reporters pay more attention to the proceedings of the Supreme Court than they were wont to do; for we scarcely take up a paper now without a long legal report—which is the case we presume not to decide. The lawyers on that side of India really seem to have all the fun to themselves, for as far as we can learn there is very little doing here.—*Mad. Cour. Sept. 5.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Sept. 4.—*Palmira*, Lamb, from London.—28. *Lady Raglan*, Coxwell, and *Morley*, Halliday, both from London.—Oct. 1. *Hope*, Flint, from London.—3. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, from Calcutta.—7. *Georgiana*, Haylett, from Calcutta.—9. *Jane*, Moncrieff, from Calcutta.—10. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, from London.

Departures.

Aug. 31.—*Venus*, Hogue, and *City of Edinburgh*, Milne, for Calcutta.—Sept. 8. *Palmira*, Lamb, for Calcutta.—24. *Melpomene*, Johnson, for Calcutta Oct.

—Oct. 4. *Morley*, Halliday, and *Abbottson*, Percival, both for Calcutta.—7. *Hope*, Flint, for Calcutta.—10. *Lady Ragless*, Coxwell, for Calcutta.—11. *Circassien*, Douthwaite, for Ceylon and London.—14. *Jane*, Moncrieff, for Ceylon.—15. *Georgiana*, Haylett, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 12. At Berhampoor, the lady of J. T. Anstey, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
Aug. 2. At Kamptee, Mrs. M. Cornelius, of a son.
12. At Wallajahbad, the wife of Mr. G. G. Donald, of the medical department, of a son.
14. At Bangalore, the lady of the Rev. W. Campbell, of a daughter.
16. The lady of C. Gulkhard, Esq., junior, of a daughter.
19. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Capt. J. Fulton, dep. assist. qtr. mast. gen. southern division, of a daughter.
— At New Town, Mrs. A. E. Halfcome, of a daughter.
— Mrs. S. D. Vanspall, of a daughter.
21. The lady of F. A. Robson, Esq., civil service, of a son.
26. At Pondicherry, the lady of John Benjamin, Esq., of a son.
28. The lady of Arathoon Kerakoose, Esq., of a son.
Sept. 6. At Arcot, the wife of Mr. Sub. Assist. surg. J. Hall, of a son.
8. The lady of Edw. Gordon, of Myrtle Grove, Esq., of a daughter.
10. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. W. Ager, 3d regt. Nizam's infantry, of a daughter.
21. At Secunderabad, the lady of Capt. Cuxton, of a son.
22. At Girgaum, the lady of Capt. Crockett, of a son.
24. At Trichinopoly, the lady of James Wyse, Esq., of a son.
— At Trichinopoly, the lady of John Bird, Esq., of a son.
Oct. 1. At Vellore, the lady of Lieut. H. Cotton, quart. mast. and paymast. 10th N.I., of a daughter.
2. Ann Amelia, wife of Mr. H. Hamilton, of a daughter.
5. The lady of Lieut. C. Keating, of a son.
6. At Ingeram, Mrs. Linares, of a daughter.
7. The lady of F. W. Russell, Esq., of a son.
9. At Lux, Mrs. J. S. Corner, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 19. Mr. R. Ashton, engraver, to Miss A. H. Coombs.
Aug. 17. At Bangalore, Lieut. and Quart. Mast. F. Chalmers, 22d regt. N.I., to Miss Marianne Smith.
— Lieut. N. F. Johnson, 26th regt. N.I., to Bridget Mary Ilbert, second daughter of the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras.
19. At Vepery, Mr. G. W. Steele, of the Medical Department, to Miss C. Purcell.
31. Edw. Hughes, Esq., Madras Military Establishment, to Mary Sophia, daughter of C. W. Steer, Esq., of the Bengal civil service.
Sept. 9. Lieut. Col. F. H. Smith, commanding 7th regt. N.I., to Frances Ann, youngest daughter of the late H. Atkins, Esq., of Aird, Inverness-shire.
Oct. 2. At Bangalore, Cartland Taylor, Esq., of the horse artillery, to Emily Mariana, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. Chambers, H.M.'s 67th regt.
6. W. Frazer, Esq., M.D., Madras Establishment, to Miss Jane Innes.
14. At Bangalore, Lieut. J. Smith, 31st or T. L. I., to Miss Saurel.
16. Mr. W. Cooke to Miss M. Fountaine.

DEATHS.

July 11. On board the *William Money*, Lieut. C. P. Moor, 43d regt. N.I.
30. Lieut. Mowbray Stephenson, 36th N.I.
Aug. 10. Henrietta Jane, infant daughter of Mr. M. Blacker, aged 11 months.

11. W. D. Brodie, Esq., of Brodie, in North Britain, and register of the Carnatic debts at Madras.
13. At Secunderabad, Isabella, third daughter of the late Geo. Maddman, Esq., Madras civil service, aged 21.
15. At Pondicherry, Ann Emily, lady of P. Parizet, Esq., commissaire de marine at this presidency.
16. At the Callachabootu Ghaut, on the left bank of the Kistnah, Lieut. John Campbell and Fraser, of H.M.'s 46th regt., of spasmodic cholera.
21. Mrs. S. D. Vanspall, second daughter of B. A. Stork, Esq., late resident at Poornacall, of his Netherlands Majesty's service.
24. Mrs. R. Hayes, aged 39.
31. Ena. J. G. Brew, 35th regt. N.I., aged 94.
Sept. 3. Charles, infant son of Mr. C. Jean.
6. Patrick Miller, Esq., M.D., 5th N.I., son of W. Miller, Esq., late major Royal Horse Guards.
8. At Trichinopoly, Lieut. Nixon, H.M.'s 48th regt.
9. At Bangalore, Esther, wife of Mr. G. Braisher, aged 47.
10. Mr. R. Archbold, troop quarter-master, of 1st brigade horse artillery, aged 36.
11. Mr. W. Dubiere, trumpet-major of the Hon. the Governor's Body Guard.
12. J. D. Newbolt, Esq., of the civil service, eldest son of the late Sir John H. Newbolt, formerly chief justice of the Supreme Court of this settlement.
— The infant son of Lieut. S. Prescott, 5th N.I., aged one year.
15. Thomas Charles, infant son of Mr. J. R. Dally.
18. At Quilon, Capt. G. B. Wardell, 15th N.I.
20. At Ellichpore, Lieut. J. W. Wakefield, of the Bengal Artillery, aged 23.
23. Robert McLeod, infant son of Mr. P. Carstairs.
26. At Masulipatam, Thos. Trotter, Esq., superintending surgeon northern division.
27. At Pondicherry, St. L. J. Watkins, only son of Capt. A. Watkins, 7th L.C., aged five months.
28. Mr. E. Kenny, of the Accountant General's office, aged 26.
29. Capt. and Paymaster E. G. Smith, H.M.'s 54th regt.
Oct. 5. Christopher, infant son of Lieut. Keating.
6. Mary, youngest daughter of the late John Brady, Esq., of the Victualling Office, Somerset House., aged 90.
8. The infant son of F. W. Russell, Esq.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Sept. 2, 1826.—Messrs. G. W. Walker, W. G. Duncan, C. S. Mant, J. R. Hibbert, and A. Meadows, admitted to infantry and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. J. Gibson admitted an assist. surgeon.
Sept. 9.—2d Gr. N.I. Lieut. W. C. Freeman to be adj., v. Rollings prom.
Sept. 15.—Lieut. J. Laing, 21st N.I., to have rank of capt. by brevet from 5th Sept.
14th N.I. Ena. R. Shortreed to be lieut., v. J. S. T. Rebenack dec.; Ena. C. G. Calland to be lieut., v. D. L. Victor dec.
19th N.I. Lieut. H. Hancock to be capt., and Ena. D. Graham to be lieut., in suc. to McIntyre dec.
20th N.I. Ena. C. Short to be lieut., v. Hawkes dec.

AUGMENTATION TO THE ARMY.

Bombay Castle, Sept. 16, 1826.—The Hon. the Court of Directors having been pleased to sanction an augmentation to the army under this presidency, by the conversion of two of the extra battalions into regiments of the line, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, that the 1st and 3d extra battalions be in future designated the 25th and 26th Regiments of Native Infantry, respectively, and the following promotions and removals

removals are accordingly ordered, to have effect from the 8th instant.

Infantry.

Sen. Lieut. Cols. E. W. Shuldham and John Mayne to be lieut. cols. commandant on augmentation.

Sen. Majors W. H. Stanley and J. J. Preston to be lieut. cols., v. Shuldham and Mayne prom.

Sen. Majors C. W. Ellwood and C. Whitehill to be lieut. cols. on augmentation.

European Regiments.

1st Regt. Ens. J. Stirling to be lieut., v. R. J. Crozier to 26th N.I.; Ens. T. G. Fraser to be lieut., v. A. Ore rem. to 25th N.I.

2d Regt. Sen. Capt. J. Sheriff to be major, Lieut. C. W. Watkins to be capt., and Ens. G. C. Pulling to be lieut., in suc. to J. J. Preston prom.; Lieut. Edw. Steuart to be capt.; and Ens. H. Stiles to be lieut. in suc. to G. C. Taylor rem. to 26th N.I.

Native Infantry.

1st Gr. Regt. Sen. Capt. J. B. Dunsterville to be major, Lieut. T. R. Billmore to be capt., and Ens. H. Stark to be lieut., in suc. to Jos. Brown rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. A. C. Hightington to be lieut., v. H. C. Teasdale rem. to 25th regt.

3d Regt. Lieut. C. F. Elderton to be capt., and Ens. John Hallett to be lieut., in suc. to — Hancock rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. John Wright to be lieut., v. H. Stephenson rem. to 25th regt.

4th Regt. Ens. F. C. Holl to be lieut., v. T. H. Ottley rem. to 25th regt.

5th Regt. Ens. W. Unwin to be lieut., v. H. Spencer rem. to 25th regt.

6th Regt. Ens. G. J. Graham to be lieut., v. J. B. M. Gillanders rem. to 25th regt.

7th Regt. Lieut. G. Lloyd to be capt., and Ens. G. Richardson to be lieut., in suc. to J. B. Seely rem. to 25th regt.

8th Regt. Lieut. Edw. Dumaresq to be capt., and Ens. W. C. Manesty to be lieut. in suc. to T. Marshall rem. to 25th regt.

9th Regt. Sen. Capt. R. W. Flemming to be maj., Lieut. R. Meldrum to be capt., and Ens. J. B. Bellasis to be lieut., in suc. to C. W. Ellwood prom.; Lieut. J. A. Crosby to be capt., and Ens. Wm. Purves to be lieut., in suc. to S. Powell rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. M. Smith to be lieut., v. G. Smith rem. to 26th regt.

10th Regt. Sen. Capt. A. G. Rigby to be major, Lieut. E. Hallum to be capt., and Ens. Geo. Wilson to be lieut., in suc. to C. Whitehill prom.; Ens. H. Ashton to be lieut., v. G. Wilson rem. to 26th regt.

11th Regt. Ens. J. Whitmore to be lieut., v. T. R. Gordon rem. to 26th regt.

12th Regt. Ens. T. Maughan to be lieut., v. F. Fortune rem. to 26th regt.

13th Regt. Ens. J. C. Carpenter to be lieut., v. G. Tollenmache rem. to 25th regt.

15th Regt. Sen. Capt. E. Pearson to be major, Lieut. J. Saunders to be capt., and Ens. J. F. Forster to be lieut., in suc. to W. H. Stanley prom.; Ens. J. Cheshyre to be lieut., v. B. McMahon rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. J. Jackson to be lieut., v. G. Macan rem. to 25th regt.

16th Regt. Ens. S. Landon to be lieut., v. H. Hopkins rem. to 25th regt.

17th Regt. Lieut. (Br. Capt.) W. Stirling to be capt., and Ens. G. Johnson to be lieut., in suc. to P. W. Pedlar rem. to 25th regt.; Ens. A. Goldie to be lieut., v. C. C. Rebenack rem. to 26th regt.

18th Regt. Lieut. J. H. M. Luyken to be capt., and Ens. D. Davidson to be lieut., in suc. to M. Soppitt rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. W. D. Cruikshank to be lieut., v. C. J. F. Pottinger, rem. to 26th regt.

20th Regt. Ens. S. C. Baldwin to be lieut., v. J. Munt rem. to 25th regt.

21st Regt. Lieut. and Brev. Capt. J. Laing to be capt. on augmentation, and rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. J. Holland to be lieut., v. J. Laing rem. to 26th regt.

22d Regt. Lieut. R. W. Smith to be capt., and Ens. G. Pope to be lieut., in suc. to A. Grafton rem. to 26th regt.

23d Regt. Sen. Capt. in Line R. Barnwell to be major on augmentation, and rem. to 26th regt.;

Lieut. Scott to be capt., and Ens. B. W. Gautier to be lieut., in suc. to R. Barnwell prom., and rem. to 26th regt.; Ens. P. T. French to be lieut., v. A. Woodburn rem. to 25th regt.

24th Regt. Lieut. T. M. Baile to be capt., and Ens. J. C. Anderson to be lieut., in suc. to W. Ogilvie rem. to 26th regt.

The 25th and 26th regiments are to be officered as follows:—

25th Regt. Major J. Brown—Captains P. W. Pedlar, A. Grafton, J. Hancock, J. B. Seely, and F. Marshall—Lieuts. B. McMahon, H. Spencer, H. C. Teasdale, H. Hopkins, G. Macan, H. Stephenson, A. Woodburn, A. Ore, J. Munt, and G. Tollenmache.—Ensigns G. Clarkson, H. H. Doherty, and F. D. Bagshawe (2 vacant).

26th Regt. Major R. Barnwell—Captains M. Soppitt, W. Ogilvie, S. Powell, G. C. Taylor, and J. Laing.—Lieuts. G. Smith, W. W. Dowell, C. C. Rebenack, F. R. Gordon, F. Fortune, T. H. Ottley, R. J. Crozier, C. J. Pottinger, J. B. Gillanders, and G. Wilson.—Ensigns E. H. Ramsey and C. S. Thomas (3 vacant).

As the principles on which the preceding promotions and removals have been made differ materially from the rules hitherto observed on such occasions, the Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to publish to the army the following detail of the system acted on in the present instance.

1st. The two senior lieut. cols. are promoted to the rank of lieut. cols. commandant.

2d. The two senior majors are promoted to lieut. cols. in succession to the above, and the two next seniors to the same rank for the augmentation.

3d. The promotion to majors, captains, lieutenants, and ensigns, in succession to the foregoing, being in strict conformity to the usage of the service.

4th. The promotions of the two senior captains on the gradation list to majorities for the augmentation, and the consequent regimental promotions in succession.

5th. The posting of majors to the new regiments by selection of one out of the majors in those corps whose senior captains have been made majors for the augmentation, with reference to the standing in the line of the next captain of the same regiment.

6th. The transfers of captains, lieutenants, and ensigns have been calculated on the principle lately acted upon by the Supreme Government, viz. that the removing officers if requisite in the class they may happen to be in their old corps, if by such removal they can be placed higher up in the same class for succession to a majority; and also of allowing the brevet rank of captain conferred on subalterns of fifteen years' standing, its full operation in selecting for transfer to a new regiment, without reference to the date of the last regimental commission of an officer who has been previously promoted to the rank of captain by brevet.

Back rank will not be granted to officers removed to any of the new regiments, in consequence of casualties in their former corps not known to Government on the date of promulgating the final orders of promotion, and postings; and on the same principle the old regiments will not be entitled to the advantage of any casualty of an officer removed, such casualty is to be filled up from the date of occurrence in the corps to which the officer may be removed.

Sept. 18.—Cadets T. W. Hickey and J. E. Scott Waring permanently posted to artillery; to rank as 2d-lieut. from 16th Dec. 1826, and 1st-lieut. from 3d June 1826.

Sept. 23.—The promotions and transfers consequent to the augmentation of the army leaving a lieutenancy vacant in the 9th N.I., and the ensigns in others unequally distributed, the following removals are to be made to equalize the latter rank by the transfer of the eight senior of those ensigns who have signified their consent to be removed to another regiment with the advantage of gaining a step, the first of whom (Ens. G. Whichelo) is promoted to fill the vacant lieutenancy in the 9th N.I., with the date of rank 1st Sept. 1826:—

Ensigns G. Whichelo from 21st to 9th N.I.; H. H. Doherty from 26th to 7th do.; C. S. Thomas from 26th to 23d do.; E. A. Guerin from 6th to 14th do.; F. D. Bagshawe from 26th to 5th do.; N. Thornbury from 8th to 4th do.; P. K. Skinner from

from 11th to 9th do.; G. Lloyd from 19th to 7th do.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Sept. 6. Lieut. W. Tudor, 8th Madras N.I.—G. Capt. R. Gordon, of engineers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

On Saturday the 29th Sept. was held the Annual Meeting of the Auxiliary Bible Society, when the report of the committee was read; from which it appeared that 9,711 copies of the whole, or parts of the Scriptures, have been distributed during the year. Of these, 9,141 were different books of the scriptures in the Mahratta and Goojurattee languages. Copies of the scriptures in Arabic, Persian, and Syriac have been sent into Persia, for the use of the different classes of Christians in that country. A new edition of the New Testament in Goojurattee is now in the press, and it is proposed to print a second edition of the Old Testament in that language. The last edition of the New Testament in Mahratta having been nearly all distributed, a new edition of 5,000 copies will shortly be commenced upon: for this five hundred reams of printing paper have been granted by the parent society. The assistance which the Auxiliary Society affords in bringing the scriptures in Mahratta and Goojurattee through the press, is by paying the expense of printing. The benefactions and annual subscriptions for the last year amount to Rs. 1,150; the amount of payments to Rs. 2,505, of which Rs. 2,000 is for the expense of printing the second edition of the New Testament in Goojurattee. The balance in favour of the Society is Rs. 9,622. Many applications are made for the Scriptures in Mahratta and Goojurattee, and as education shall be extended, these calls upon them will doubtless become more numerous; but the Society relies with confidence upon the liberality of its friends to enable it to meet them.—*Bom. Cour. Oct. 7.*

THE MOHARAM.

Tuesday was the last day of the Musselmaun festival of the Moharam. We have not heard whether any people actually lost their lives during this scene of riot and drunkenness, but several were, we understand, severely hurt, and we ourselves saw two Sheeahs, whose broken heads and bloody faces shewed that they had not witnessed with indifference the insult offered to the memory of the sons of Ally. We understand that during the celebration of the Moharam in Calcutta, none of those engaged in it are allowed to

carry weapons of any sort about them; and that on the day of the grand procession of the taboot, the whole of the shops of the liquor-venders are ordered to be shut up. We wish similar regulations were adopted here, as large clubs and naked sabres appear to be reckoned at present the most necessary and ornamental paraphernalia of the pagantry, but which, in our opinion, might be much more safely disposed of than in the hands of those whose minds are often in a state of undue excitement, from the effects of arrack or intoxicating drugs. It has been brought to our notice, that on Sunday last the congregation had hardly left St. Thomas's Church before that place of worship was surrounded by itinerant groups of pseudo-fakeers and drunken bacchanals, whose deafening howling and yelling, and the noise and discordancy of the attendant music, disturbed the whole neighbourhood for several hours; and it is much to be questioned whether we do not on some occasions carry our tolerating principles in this country a little too far. The measures taken by the police prevented any serious disturbance: but still accidents must occur where there are opposing sects, and where arms are allowed to be carried in such processions as are likely to bring them into collision. We have often wondered that some of the more learned Mahomedans have never endeavoured to put down a festival, which is not acknowledged in those countries where their religion is supposed to exist in its greatest purity, and which is generally attended by inhabitants who shew that the prophet's injunctions in respect to temperance are but little attended to in the present day. If it must go on, however, we would wish to see it conducted under better regulations than exist at present.—*Bom. Cour. Aug. 17.*

SHIP-BUILDING.

We are glad to observe the activity which now prevails in the dock-yard at this port, where, in addition to the ships building for his Majesty's and the Honourable Company's service, and those undergoing repairs, a new ship of 600 tons, intended for the trade between London and this port, was commenced on the 1st of last month, and is already in such a state of forwardness as to be expected to be floated out in December.—*Bom. Cour. Aug. 13.*

LIMJEE CAWAJEE.

On Tuesday last Limjee Cawajee gave a splendid ball and supper, at the new house lately erected by him in Neabit Lane. Among the party we noticed Sir Edward and Lady West, Mr. and Mrs. Warden,

Warden, Sir Charles Chambers, and many of the leading members of our society, as also a number of respectable natives. The party was one of the largest we have witnessed in Bombay, nearly two hundred and fifty people having sat down to supper. The hospitable landlord did all he could to make his guests happy and comfortable, and succeeded most admirably. Dancing was kept up till nearly three o'clock, and in fact, society is indebted to Limjee Cawjee for the enjoyment of as pleasant and amusing an evening as has fallen to their lot for a long time past.—*Bom. Cour. Sept. 9.*

EXPLOSION AT MAZAGON MILLS.

We are sorry to state that one of the warehouses at the powder manufactory, containing a great quantity of gunpowder in a state of preparation, blew up on Friday night last. The concussion was felt all over the island, and several houses, as far as regarded ceilings, venetians, lamps, wall-shades, and glass windows, suffered severely, while their inmates were subjected to great temporary alarm. Four of the sepoys on guard, and three men in boats, or in the Mazagon dock, which is in the immediate neighbourhood, were killed by the explosion. It is quite impossible to account for the ignition of the powder, as all the usual precautions had been taken to prevent people from approaching the manufactory. The loss in materials and buildings, we understand, amounts to 70,000 rupees.—*Bombay Courier.*

THE RACES.

We are happy to observe from the plan for the ensuing races, that there is every prospect of good amusement this season, and that some new cups have been added to the usual number. One of these, a cup of one hundred guineas, from the Lodge of Freemasons, has been presented by them to the Turf Club, as a return for the accommodation so politely afforded the Lodge by the Club, granting them the use of the race bungalow to hold their meetings in until suitably provided with a lodge-house.—*Ibid.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGE, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Aug. 25.* At Kaira, the lady of John Williams, Esq., of a son.
Sept. 17. At Belville, the lady of Lieut. Col. Leighton, C.B., adj. gen., of a son.
Oct. 8. The lady of Capt. Law, of artillery, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

- Sept. 4.* At Poona, John Bax., Esq., civil ser-

vice, to Jane, daughter of the late W. Ironside, Esq., of Houghton-le-Spring, county of Durham.

DEATHS.

- Aug. 25.* At Kaira, the infant son of John Williams, Esq.
31. William, second son of Mr. G. Higgs, aged 16 months.
Sept. 4. At Malligaum, Lieut. Rebenack, 14th N.I., of fever contracted on the march from Mhow.
 — Mr. R. Macdowall, superintendent of the Government lithographic press.
5. At Gos, Susanna Jane, wife of Capt. Poulton, 5th N.I., and eldest daughter of J. Leicester, Esq., of White Place, near Reading, county of Berks.
7. At Surat, Mrs. Maria Ormond, relict of the late Asist. surg. Ormond.
11. Anna, wife of Mr. A. Kevork, Armenian, Interpreter and translator to the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, aged 40.
20. Mr. J. E. Campbell, aged 36.

Ceylon.

BISHOP HEBER.

At a meeting of gentlemen of Colombo, it was resolved to propose the following resolutions.

That feeling deeply those sentiments of reverence for the character of our late excellent Bishop which have been manifested throughout India, we deem it right to record them by a testimonial to be put up in the church of Colombo.

That for this purpose a subscription be entered into to defray the expense of a mural tablet, bearing a suitable inscription.

That the amount of each subscription, at in the instance of Bishop Middleton's monument, do not exceed one guinea.

A meeting for the above purpose will be held at the King's-house, at one o'clock, on the 1st day of September next.

At a meeting of the Subscribers for the support and education of Cingalese youths at Bishop's College, Calcutta:

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late excellent Bishop Heber, the "Colombo Exhibition," as voted by the resolutions of the 11th September last, shall henceforth be called "Bishop Heber's Exhibition."—*Ceylon Gov. Gaz. Aug. 26.*

BIRTHS.

- July 27.* At Tangalle, the lady of W. Gisborne, Esq., Ceylon civil service, of a son.
Aug. 28. At Colombo, the wife of Mr. C. Holdestein, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

- Sept. 25.* At Colombo, Mr. D. Landsberger to Miss S. Taylor.

DEATHS.

- Aug. 4.* At Point De Galle, Mr. Rymker Van Alken, secretary to the sitting magistrate of that station, aged 35.
13. At Colombo, George Ormrod, third son of Lieut. Meaden, Ceylon regt., aged 14 months.

Penang.

CHANGE IN THE GARRISON.

The following is an extract of a letter from Penang:—

"An order has been received at Madras to send Madras troops here, it being the intention of the Court that this place shall in future be garrisoned from Madras and not from Bengal. It is expected, however, that a reference will be made to the Court, and that the Bengal troops actually here will not be removed until the usual time for their relief arrives. The idea in sending Madras troops here is, that they will be cheaper, though I do not understand how they make it out, as their pay, I am assured, is actually higher than that of the Bengal sepoys."—*Bengal Chron.*

NAVAL ETIQUETTE.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the H. C. cruiser *Antelope*, dated Penang, 12th Sept. 1826:—"We arrived here on the 8th instant from Bombay, which we left 9th ultimo, and Colombo (27th), when we landed Sir H. Lowe and suite. On our arrival here we were boarded by H. M. ship *Rainbow's* first lieutenant, who was sent by his commander (Hon. Captain Rous), to know by what authority we hoisted a pendant; in reply to which our commander, Lieutenant Eluon, went on board the *Rainbow*, and waited on the Hon. Captain Rous; to whom he stated that the Hon. C. cruisers had long been accustomed to wear pendants, and that, too, in company with H. M. ships, some of which carried admirals, one in particular (Admiral Blackwood). Lieutenant Eluon shewed his Company's commission (derived from the King), and entered into further explanation, but all to no purpose; and as Captain Rous was not satisfied, and being resolved that no vessel should bear a pendant except the King's, according to the instructions lately received from the Admiralty, he requested us to haul down our pendant—which we refused; and thus perceiving our just but determined obstinacy, he sent his first lieutenant with a boat's crew for that purpose, which was effected by them without opposition. We appealed to the Hon. Mr. Fullerton, governor, for redress, but did not meet with that satisfaction naturally due on such an occasion; he stated he could be of no avail, but would forward to the Admiral of the station, and the Governor in Council at Bombay, the whole proceedings."—*Beng. Hurk.* Oct. 26.

BIRTHS.

July 28. The lady of A. J. Kerr, Esq., of a daughter.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 136.

Sept. 30. The lady of Lieut. Col. Com. Boyd, of an.

MARRIAGE.

Sept. 14. P. O. Carnegie, Esq., of the civil service on this establishment, to Susan, second daughter of Lieut. Col. Imlach, military auditor general, Bengal.

DEATH.

July 13. The Hon. W. Armstrong Clubley, senior member of council of this presidency.

Singapore.

The union of this settlement and Malacca to Penang took place on the 1st of August. The *Singapore Chronicle* of September 28th states, that some difficulties connected with the change had occurred at home, relating to the duties to be levied at this port, in which the Court of Directors and Board of Control had been at issue. It is added, that the charter of justice for the incorporated settlements was probably delayed on that account. The same paper of Oct. 12, however states, that the home government had sent out orders to abolish all duties at Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, which are to be free ports.

On the subject of the "incorporation," the following remarks occur in the *Bengal Hurkaru*, of November 1:—

"To Malacca the effects will not be near so injurious, because it is not nor ever was the commercial rival of Pulo Pinang, and its agricultural products would, if judiciously managed, be sufficiently abundant to supply the wants and prevent the scarcity which very frequently prevails in the Pinang markets. The produce of that island is not equal to the support of one-half the inhabitants, and the supplies from the adjacent coast are any thing but regular; the consequence is, that at one time the market is glutted, and at another the commonest necessary of life cannot be procured without paying the most exorbitant price: with Singapore it is different. The highly reprehensible conduct of persons in authority at Pinang towards that colony is well known, even from the time of the first establishment of Sir Stamford Raffles at Singapore. It is an ascertained fact, and we think it will not be questioned at the present day, that no effort was spared to thwart the views of Sir Stamford: and it has even been said, in a quarter not used to make random accusations, that there were those who, from an envious and petty fear of rivalry, united with the Dutch at Malacca, and encouraged them to throw every obstacle in the way of the establishment at Singapore. The Honourable Court of Directors certainly entertain an undue partiality for Pinang, and we

have heard that it was a question hotly discussed, when the unceasing complaints from Pinang made it necessary for the Court to give the rival islands equal advantages with respect to duties, whether it would be more advisable to place the same clogs on the trade of Singapore and Malacca as those which fettered the trade of Pinang, or to make the three ports all equally free. Thanks to "innovations and new theories," the latter measure was agreed upon; but to make amends to Pinang, we suppose, for not adopting the suggestion of its government, the other ports were annexed to it as dependencies. The suggestion, or to use the official words, *recommandation*, was, that the same system of duties, 'with all the vexatious impositions of a native custom-house,' should be established at each of the settlements."

NEW TRADING PORT IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The *Donna Carmelita* arrived here on the 8th from Mazatlan, on the coast of South America. We were not before acquainted with this port as a place of trade, and we understand that it is likely to become a place of some commercial importance. It is situated about 100 miles to the southward of San Blas, and is the nearest sea-port to several extensive towns in the interior. At Rozario, a considerable town about sixty miles inland—there are mines of silver which are at present wrought but in a very imperfect manner. The towns of Kulikan and Corsela, the former a large place containing 20,000 inhabitants, are also situated at no great distance, and all the supplies of foreign goods for these places go now through Mazatlan, where a custom-house has lately been established. The port has only been open to foreign trade since the establishment of the republican government; a direct trade having only been permitted formerly with Acapulco and San Blas. The inhabitants are consequently far behind those of Acapulco, in civilization and knowledge; and although the country affords abundance of silver, there is little of the appearance of wealth amongst the inhabitants, who are on the contrary extremely poor, and generally ill clothed and worse housed. The *Donna Carmelita* lay at Mazatlan for nine months, during which period several British and American vessels had touched there with investments from Europe, China, Manila, &c. The French also drive a considerable trade direct from France, and the unrestrained introduction of the various manufactures of these countries, but particularly that of cotton cloths from England, is likely to supplant the more expensive cotton fabrics of Bengal, which used to be in such general demand.—*Sing. Chron.* Oct. 12.

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

The following is copy of a letter addressed by the old Sultan of Jojokarta to the Government of Java:—

"From Sultan Mangka Boewansa Sepoe, Senapati, Hingnalogo, Abdul Rehman Syedi, Ponotogomo Khalifet Ullah, Adiningrat of Jojokarta, on the ship of war *Melampus*. I send my greeting to the high and illustrious Commissioner General at Batavia, and exercising supreme authority over the Eastern settlements. I solicit from his Excellency, if it be allowable, permission to return to Jojokarta, that I may be once more in the vicinity of the tombs of my forefathers. With respect to the affairs of Jojokarta, I will, with all my ability, promote the views of the government, that the country may be again restored to prosperity. I acknowledge my great grandson as Sultan, and I feel grateful to government for having taken him under their protection and guidance, and I hope that His Excellency will allow me again to see him once more, and to become the medium of confirming his union with the government. I can never consent that Dipo Nagoro shall be Sultan, nor am I satisfied with the conduct of Mangko Boemie. Finally, I request to form a convention with the government. Written on Saturday, the 9th of Soero, in the year 1246 (August 1826)."

The old Sultan landed from the *Melampus* on the 15th of August, and was conducted in state to Buitenzorg on the 17th, where he was received by the commissioner, and all the civil and military functionaries. Articles of a convention between him and the King of the Netherlands were then agreed upon, and sworn to by him on the koran; after which he was proclaimed lawful sultan of Jojokarta by the name of Sultan Sepoe. Presents were then made him, and a royal salute was fired, and the ceremonies terminated with a dinner and a ball.

This prince is the Amangka Buana II, who was deposed by the British Government in 1812. The Sultan whom he supersedes is his great grandson, a minor.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

The New Commissioners.—Our mercantile correspondents complain, that the Netherlands Commissioner De Gessinghies, so far from relieving the distresses of the trade of Batavia, as was fully expected and understood on his arrival from Holland, continues the miserable policy of adding to the already overburdened imposts and vexatious exactions. It is difficult to conjecture what will be the final issue of such complicated embarrassments, and

and pertinacious misgovernment.—*Beng. Hurk.*

The Insurrection.—We have received to-day the *Batavian* papers to the 28th of October. From the several reports published in them, we perceive, indeed, that at the end of September the enemy was very far from being discouraged, and had in various places attacked our troops with numerous corps, and for the most part with great intrepidity; but that our men had almost every where in the end had the advantage, and that the insurgents had suffered much loss. In particular, on the 5th of October, the *deffa* of Diatinom, fortified with cannon, was attacked by our troops, and after an obstinate resistance, taken and burnt. Other *deffas*, belonging to the insurgents, have been destroyed in several places. On the 15th of October there was a general engagement near Socracarta, with Doppo Negoro in person, who was advancing against that place with 4,000 men. The enemy defended himself with great fury, and when the first line was driven out of the field, a second, chiefly consisting of pirates, endeavoured to renew the battle, but in vain. It appears that Doppo Negoro has since returned to the mountain Merapie, there to put himself in an almost inaccessible position; but it is thought that he will soon be obliged to retreat for want of provisions. Besides the active services of the moveable columns, great praise is given to the conduct of the officers who have the defence of various forts at Klallan, Tempel, &c. The commander of the fort had made a sally with so much bravery and success, that he reduced the surrounding country to submission, and returned into the fort with great accession of strength.

The old Sultan had arrived on the 20th at Djocjocarta, without much loss, though the journey from Klallan had been attended with some difficulties, all the bridges having been broken down by the rebels. Several Tommongongs on the road from Klallan to Djocjocarta had submitted to the Sultan, and several had fallen in the various actions. All was quiet at Djocjocarta at the end of September. His Excellency the Commissioner General has made a visit to Bantam, from which he returned on the 4th October. His Excellency proceeds in his measures of retrenchment. The last accounts from Djocjocarta were of the 8th, and from Socracarta of the 17th October.—*Dutch Paper, March 10.*

Disputes in the Government.—The *Singapore Chronicle* states that Messrs. Viane de Grave and Dosee, two members of council, having differed in opinion with the commissioner, protested against his measures, opposed the execution of his decrees, and proceeded to depose the commissioner. The latter, however, is-

sued his mandate in the King's name for the arrest of the councillors, who were transmitted to Holland in October.

NOTICES TO NAVIGATORS.

Batavia, 17th August 1826.—The Committee for the Improvement of Indian Charts hereby gives notice to all navigators, that according to a report received from the First Lieutenant, G. H. C. Lutkens, commanding His Majesty's schooner *Zephyr*, a reef was discovered, on the 11th of July, on approaching the roads of Penang, about one mile and a quarter* south from Poelo Tiga, extending about two cables' length from north-east to south-west, and of which the bearings may be laid down as follows, viz.

Poelo Tiga, north,

Poolo Niamo or Mosquito, south-east.
Batavia, 29th August 1826.—The Vice Admiral, President of the Committee for improving the Indian Charts, hereby gives notice to all navigators, that the master of the English schooner *Dhaulie*, G. Bloxland, has discovered a new shoal in the China Seas, from one to two English miles in circumference, and on which there are three fathoms water, according to the statement of the above-named commander. This shoal is situated in 8° 19' N. lat., and 111° 44' E. long. from Greenwich.

Siam.

The H. C. hired brig *Guardian* arrived at Penang on Sunday last, having on board Capt. H. Burney, the Envoy to the Court of Siam from the Right Hon. the Governor General. We are happy to state that the accounts which we had heard of the total failure of the Mission are not quite correct. A treaty of friendship and commerce has been concluded with the Siamese Government, subject to the ratification of the Governor General. We are unable to learn the precise stipulations of this treaty, but we understand that the mission has succeeded in the primary and most important objects for the attainment of which it was deputed. The mission, before its departure from Bangkok, released and forwarded to Tenasserim another party of 640 men (in addition to about 500 already released at Capt. Burney's instance), women and children, whom the Siamese had inhumanly carried away as slaves from our Burmese possessions.—*Penang Gazette, Sep. 16.*

The Calcutta papers have published the particulars of a treaty said to be concluded between the king of Siam and the East-

* Sea miles, or leagues, probably.

East-India Company, on the 15th May, after many difficulties thrown in the way of the measure by the court of Siam. This treaty is said to stipulate for the liberation of captives, the inviolability of the territories of the contracting parties, a friendly intercourse and explicit mutual communication as to each other's projects, &c. This report of the treaty is, however, now stated to be altogether incorrect, but no particulars of its real purport have yet reached us,* nor will be published, probably, till Capt. Burney's return to Calcutta.

Persia.

THE WAR.

We learn, from private sources, that a Mirza (Mahomed Allee) has been sent to Teflis with an offer to treat for peace, and that it is expected a Persian ambassador will shortly proceed to St. Petersburg.

The progress of the war, so far as we collect from the Russian papers, promises no decisive result; the Persians seem passive, and the Russian troops confine themselves to incursions into the territories of the enemy.

Gen. Madatoff passed the Araxes on the 28th Dec. (9th Jan.), and in conjunction with Col. Mitschenko advanced in the direction of Ardabeel, to the little river Zambour, where he surprised a body of nomade Persian tribes. The cavalry of Karabagh and Shirvan, with the Armenians of Karabagh, attacked their camp with success, and took a vast number of sheep, besides camels and horses. The chief of the Shah Savund Illiauts joined the Russians. About 500 nomade families of Karabagh submitted to the Russians.

Spreading a report that he intended to enter the Khanet of Talish, the Russian general induced the nomade tribes on the borders of that district to take refuge in Meskine, where he attacked them with his light cavalry and Armenian infantry. A vast number of cattle were taken, and Prince Madatoff occupied the little town of Laka or Lori, in the district of Meskine. Allee Khan, the governor of the district, and his brother, placed themselves under the protection of Prince Madatoff, and took an oath of fidelity to Russia. The terror of this incursion reached to Tabreez, which the Russians approached within sixty miles. The corps under the command of the prince is stated at 11,000 troops of different descriptions, with thirty-five pieces of artillery.

Prince Madatoff has since re-crossed the Araxes, and retired.

* Except those given in p. 366.

China.

POLITICAL STATE OF THE EMPIRE.

On this subject we refer our readers to a communication from a valuable correspondent at Canton, intimately acquainted with the country, which is inserted in a preceding department of this month's journal. The intelligence it affords is highly important.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Accounts from Canton so late as the 2d October, were received at Singapore by the *Francis Warden*. The commercial reports were rather unfavourable, particularly as regards opium; the price of which had declined to 1,100 dollars per chest for Patna, and 930 for Malwa. The demand at the same time was very languid, and the stock in the market so great, that any rapid improvement in price could not be expected. In all descriptions of Straits produce a fall in price had been experienced, and from the numerous cargoes which have lately gone on, the market is likely to be overstocked.

The opium receiving ships still continue to lay at Lintin, and to conduct their illegal traffic without molestation; the Chinese being either unwilling or afraid to proceed to extremities in expelling them.

Spanish India.

MANILLA.

Advices from Manilla have been received through Batavia down to the 15th July. We regret to learn that the government of that country, so far from acting upon the liberal and enlightened principles which were expected from the new governor, appear to be resolved to ruin the trade of the country, by pursuing the same wretched policy which has lately been followed in Java, and which has occasioned so much injury to the prosperity of that island. We would have imagined that, with such an example before their eyes, the government of the Philippines would have acted more prudently. They have imposed very large additional duties upon particular descriptions of British manufactures, which will operate as an entire prohibition. The ostensible reason is, to protect the native Philippine manufacture of these articles; but this is known to be an absurdity, and the real object of the measure is to get hold of a little money for immediate wants, as a quantity of these goods had just been imported by the American ship *Houqua* from London. In this, however, they would be disappointed, as the agents for that vessel had resolved to

to tranship the goods for Canton, rather than submit to the ruinous exaction.

In addition to this, it is said that the resolution of turning the Chinese out of the country has passed the Consulado, and that a petition to that effect, recommended by all the branches of the government, is to be sent to Spain for the sanction of the home government. Unmarried persons are to be allowed nine months to quit the country, and married persons eighteen months.—[*Sing. Chron. Sept. 28.*]

Australia.

We have received files of Sydney papers to the middle of October; they contain no news of any moment. Governor Darling, with the advice of the legislative council, has published an act, appointing Port Macquarie, Moreton Bay, and Norfolk Island, penal settlements for the transportation of offenders convicted in New South Wales, and prohibiting vessels from touching at those places without license. Governor Darling has also issued regulations for the granting and sale of lands, amongst which we observe the following:

“Land granted without purchase, to be held in free and common socage, the grantee paying a quit rent of five per cent. per annum on the value to be fixed by the commissioners.

“The payment of the quit rent not to commence until the end of seven years after the grantee have been authorized to settle on the land. Within that period, however, the grantee must expend, in improvements on the land so granted, a sum equal to one-fourth of the value estimated by the commissioners, under the penalty of forfeiting the grant.

“The quit rent to be redeemable at the option of the grantee, on payment into the colonial treasury of a sum equal to twenty years' purchase, provided such payment be made within twenty years after the date and execution of the grant.

“Lands to be granted in square miles, in the proportion of one square mile, or 640 acres, for every £500 sterling of capital, which the applicant can immediately command, to the extent of four square miles, or 2,560 acres, which is the utmost purchase.”

The present capital of the colony is estimated, in one of the papers, on accurate data, at four millions; the public debt is £250,000; the imports are calculated to amount to the value of £350,000 per annum, which is said to be under the truth.

It is lamentable to find that the aboriginal inhabitants remain intractable, and commit (especially in the district of Hunter's River) great atrocities. It is equally lamentable to see the following measures

recommended (in the *Australian* of September 9), to put a stop to this evil:—
“We shall never depart from our opinion, that the system of terror is the only one to be adopted towards them. Conciliation is of no use—at least it never yet has proved of use. Overseers and stockmen may have been to blame—they may now occasionally offend the tribes. Still there appears to be a dangerous spirit of molestation gaining ground among the native blacks; and we apprehend that vigorous and rigorous movements will prove most humane and most effective. Treat them as an open enemy, and let them have enough of red-coat-and-bullet fare. They are now spearing men, and spearing cattle, and spearing sheep, and plundering huts and houses, and farms, and we are to be amused with the crying stuff about conciliation, forbearance, humanity, and friendly alliance! Bribe them, if bribery will avail—be peaceable and friendly with them if possible; but shew them no weak side—don't let them conceive a notion that we are afraid of them, or that an officer is removed from a station because he kept them in awe. Make them atone for the murders they commit. For every man they murder hunt them down, and drop ten of them. They will soon find it their interest to be friendly. It will not be necessary then to coax them into amity and goodwill towards even the stray and lonely and distant settler, or hut keeper. This is our specific—try it. In six months we shall neither hear of murders on the one side, nor shootings on the other; and yet all will be peace—peace obtained with little bloodshed.” The government, we are happy to observe, act upon the conciliatory plan.

During the hot winds at Sydney, on Sept. 30, the thermometer was at 90° at mid-day.

COUNTY OF ST. VINCENT.

We receive the most flattering accounts of the discovery which has been made in the vicinity of Port Macquarie. The river has been explored, and much of the country through which it flows. The country, it is represented by Captain Wright and others, is of a superior description, and promises to merit the attention of cultivators. It is expected that tropical productions must succeed here, and that in a few years this portion of the colony will open new sources of wealth, and give a new direction to industry. The mouth of the river is thirty-five miles to the northward of Port Macquarie, and empties itself into the sea in Trial Bay. It has been ascertained that there are fourteen feet of water over the bar at the entrance. We shall probably be enabled shortly to add to the details which we have already made public.—*Australian*, Oct. 11.

A large

NEW RIVER.

A large tract of land has been lately christened; and to the number of countries already known by name, we have to add the county of St. Vincent. The colonial secretary is godfather of this division of the colony. St. Vincent is situate to the southward of the county of Argyle,

and probably encompasses a portion of the county supposed to form a part of Argyle. Some people speak highly of the land; and many of the new order of grantees have selected their grants within it. Assistant surveyors have for some time been busily employed in this county.—*Ibid.*

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

OWING to the long period which has elapsed since we received regular and connected accounts from the late scene of hostilities, we are obliged to detail occurrences of a somewhat antiquated date.

Every account seems to confirm the report of the satisfaction evinced, if not felt, by the Burmese Court, at the lenity and good faith of the British. The king is said to have punished some of those counsellors who persuaded him to violate the treaty. He has resumed his amusements in public, which were suspended during the war.

The second instalment appears to have been raised with difficulty, and not without great exactions upon the unfortunate subjects of his golden footed majesty. The last portions of the sum received at Rangoon (and which were rather reluctantly brought) are said to have come from the queen's treasury, the ingots bearing her stamp.

Mr. Crawford, envoy to, and resident at, the Burmese Court, left Rangoon for Amerapoora on the 1st September, as stated in our last, on board the *Diana* steam-boat. The following is said to be an accurate list of his suite:—

N. Wallich, esq., M.D., on botanical researches.—Lieut. Chester, 1st assistant to Envoy.—Lieut. J. Campbell, 2d ditto.—D. Stewart, esq., M.D., surgeon to the Envoy's establishment.—The officer commanding the escort.—Mr. J. Ellend, 1st assistant in the office of the Envoy.—Mr. P. D. Strong, 2d ditto.—Mr. Gomes, 1st assistant to Dr. Wallich.—Mr. Furie, 2d ditto.—Escort—29 Europeans, rank and file, and 19 natives, rank and file.

The party reached Henzada (about half way between Rangoon and Prome) on the 8th, where Mr. Crawford visited the Woonghee Maong Kiang, the intended governor of Rangoon and viceroy of Pegu, being invested with authority over the whole tract from Pagahm to the sea. The Woonghee returned the visit on the following day, coming in a war-boat, attended by fifteen others, and a number of small boats conveying a retinue of four or five hundred persons: he was received on board the *Diana* with military honours,

and remained on board two hours. He is described as a man of prepossessing appearance, of mild and conciliatory manners, and bearing a high public character. He is said to have evinced some anxiety to dissuade the Envoy from proceeding to Ava, upon the ground of his being possessed of powers to discuss any questions that might arise, and a reference to the court being therefore unnecessary. On finding, however, that a strict adherence to the terms of the treaty was insisted on, he withdrew his opposition, and cheerfully nominated the persons who were to accompany the mission. The steam vessel got under weigh on the 10th, and the party expected to reach Prome in four days, and Ava in twenty. The voyage is described as uniformly agreeable, and the conduct of the Burmese authorities as particularly obliging and attentive.

By the accounts from Rangoon, it appears that, as soon as the channels which communicate between the Rangoon and Martaban rivers became open, many individuals quitted the former place for the purpose of settling in the British territory. Among those who were expected to transfer their residence to Amherst Town were Mr. Turner, ship-builder, and Mindana, a Talain chief. The Syriam rajah, it was expected, would endeavour to maintain his independence: he displayed considerable gallantry against us in the late war, and carrying, it is said, 10,000 followers into the field.

The interruption which the war had occasioned to cultivation was beginning to be felt, and apprehensions of a scarcity of rice were general in August. Martaban and Tavoy were the only places from which any surplus supply was procurable, as far as to Ava. A bag of rice, or about two maunds, which formerly sold at Rangoon for about four or five rupees, was selling, at the period mentioned, for fourteen.

These gloomy prospects seem to have given birth to some alarming reports which were published in the *Hurkaru* Calcutta paper, in which it was stated that provisions were extremely scarce at Rangoon; that the population was starving; and that the Chinese, taking advantage of the distress, were selling rice at twenty rupees a bag,

bag, or about sevenpence halfpenny per pound.

The same paper contained intelligence of some commotions in Pegu, which appears to have rested on better grounds. A Martaban chief, named Udinah, had collected a large force, with which it was thought he intended to assert the independence of Pegu, as soon as the British departed. As this chieftain, who is the ex-rajah of Martaban, evinced no hostile feeling towards the British, but, on the contrary, has displayed much courtesy in his intercourse with Sir A. Campbell, the latter has not deemed it necessary to interfere in the dispute. The ex-rajah has been instrumental in preserving the lives of the crew of a coasting vessel of Coringa, wrecked on the Martaban shore; he treated them with great humanity, and conveyed them to Rangoon.

By later intelligence from Rangoon, dated 28th September, it appeared that the utmost cordiality subsisted between the British and Burmese authorities, and that it had suffered no interruption. The latter express no anxiety for the departure of our troops.—The rice crop, which is reaped in October, was expected to obviate all fears of a scarcity, though rice was then from twelve to thirteen rupees a bag. As the stipulated payment had been made by the Burmese, according to treaty, nothing need to detain the British troops later than the end of the rains at the beginning of November, and there is every reason, the letters state, to think that the parting will be friendly. Many of the people of Rangoon were preparing to remove, upon the place being evacuated by our troops.

According to the statement in the *Hurkaru* before referred to, the newly-created Burmese governor of Bassein had violated that article of the compact which expressly provided for the security of those who had been under the protection of the British during the war, and secured to them a right of quitting the place when they pleased; he issued orders to prohibit their leaving his district, and those who had evinced a friendly disposition towards our troops, naturally sought protection from the British authorities on this restraint. Conferences were held at Rangoon on this subject, and after much wordy war, and, it is said, insolence on the part of the Burmans, the people were permitted to depart unmolested; twelve boats had arrived at Rangoon from the interior crowded with those poor people, glad to escape from the oppression they were threatened with. It was further demanded, that the governor should be superseded; this was complied with also; but it is added, the last governor, who was favourable to the British, was very speedily degraded, for some alleged of-

fence, put in irons, his property confiscated, and that of all his adherents.

Some sensation has been created at Calcutta by the prospect that Amherst Town, the new British settlement in the province of Martaban, was to be abandoned on account of the insalubrity of the situation; although it was fully expected that, upon clearing away the jungle, in which operation the pioneers and troops were actively employed, the situation would prove a healthy one. Sir Archibald Campbell has surveyed the country east and west of the Sanluen, or river of Martaban, the chief object of which was to fix upon an eligible site for a military cantonment. He has fixed upon Moulmein, on the left bank of the river, nearly opposite to the town of Martaban, and twenty-five miles from Amherst. This circumstance seems to authorise the report respecting the abandonment of the latter settlement, at least, as a temporary measure. The addition to the report (which is made in the *Hurkaru* of October 18th) namely, that the site of the new cantonment is upon a river not navigable, appears to be incorrect.

Moulmein (says the *Government Gazette*) is the site of an ancient encampment, fortified in the manner of the earliest ages, in a deep morass, circumvallated by a high mound of earth, which in its contrivance formed a deep and broad ditch, masked by large forest trees, which would require the time and labour of thousands to clear away. Its position, opposite to the principal Burman town in that quarter, upon the bank of a broad and rapid stream, joined by two others, the Gain and Ataran, within sight of the station, enable it to command the course of the river-frontier; and repel with ease any attempt to trespass upon our boundary; a detachment on the N.E. end of the island of Pulygoon, which may be required for the protection of that fertile tract, will be almost within sight also of Moulmein, and will be, consequently, susceptible at any time of effective support.

The salubrity of the spot is also highly probable. The banks are high, rising by a gradual, but decided ascent, to an elevation of two hundred feet from the bed of a stream; the rapidity of whose course does not admit of any muddy alluvial deposits. It is open to the sea breeze through its whole front, whilst inland, extensive plains, free from jungle, separate it from the mountains. The soil is black mould on a stratum of gravel: the jungle now, in the immediate vicinity, is low, and may easily be cleared away, and there is an abundant supply of good water. The healthiness of this part of the country is corroborated by native testimony, and by actual experience, as of two detachments of Madras native infantry, one hundred

A failure, to some extent has taken place at Calcutta—the native house of Mercer and Co. According to a respectable London Journal (*The Times*), the outstanding debts of this firm are said to amount to fifty lacs of rupees, or more than half a million sterling, of which sum nearly the moiety is claimed by one house, which is covered by a warrant of judgment.

Accounts from St. Petersburg state that some differences of opinion have arisen between General Yermoloff and General Paskowitsch, who commands the Russian corps in Georgia. They do not agree, it appears, about the employment of the troops under their command, and the operations to be undertaken against the Persians. The mission of General Baron Von Diebitsch, who has set out from St. Petersburg for Georgia, with instructions from the Emperor, is for the purpose of reconciling these differences, and of taking measures on the spot for the vigorous prosecution of the war.

Mauritius Gazettes have been received to the 17th December. They contain an ordinance regulating the situation of the slaves, and establishing a fixed penal clause for the weight of their chains and fetters, which the inhabitants are authorized by law to cause them to wear.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 102 Bom. Rs. per
100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 98 Bom. Rs. per 100
Madras Rs.

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, March 14, 1827.

A Special General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

The minutes of the last Court having been read,

Col. *L. Stanhope* wished to be allowed to correct an error that had appeared in one of the public prints,* in a report of what he had said at the last Court. Instead of stating, as he had done, that there was "no public" in India, he was made to say, that there were "no public defences" in that country. Having gone through a great part of India, he could not be so ignorant as not to know that there was an abundance of natural and artificial defences: almost every village afforded one. What he had said was, that there was no public, no community, in fact, no rights, no liberties in India.

THANKS TO CAMPBELL MARJORIBANKS, ESQ.

Gen. *Thornton* gave notice that he would, at the Court to be held on Wednesday next, move a resolution of thanks to the late Chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq., for the ability and urbanity with which he had discharged the duties of that situation.

INDIAN SUTTEES.

Mr. *Poynder* said, as he intended, at the ensuing Court, to address the proprietors on the subject of the immolation of Hindoo widows, he was anxious that a document of great importance—namely, a statement sent in to the Court of Directors, by Mr. *Hudleston*, before he quitted the direction—on this interesting subject, should be laid before this Court. He should, therefore, make that motion.

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson).—"I consider it most essential for the despatch of the business of this Court, that we should go on regularly with our duties; and I must declare my opinion, that it is extremely irregular to entertain any motion for papers till we have concluded the business we have been assembled to consider."

Dr. *Gilchrist* was perfectly certain that the Court would, on this occasion, hear what he had to say. He wished to know by what by-law, or act of Parliament, it was provided, that the proprietors should not be allowed to ask a few previous questions of the hon. Chairman, as was customary in the House of Commons and other deliberative assemblies? If there were an act of Parliament, or a by-law, or even immemorial usage, he would bow

to it; but if it were merely the *ipse dixit* of the Chairman, originating with himself he thought it was high time to put an end to it. The annual election in April was fast approaching, and on that subject he meant to ask some questions, as well as to state all that he meant to do himself.

Mr. *Weeding* rose to order. He thought that the Chairman of that Court was the best judge of what was in and what was out of order. In his opinion, the hon. Chairman had a right to call those to order who prevented the proprietors from proceeding with the regular business of the Court.

BOMBAY MARINE.

The *Chairman*.—"I have now to acquaint the Court that it has been specially summoned in consequence of a requisition, signed by nine proprietors, which shall now be read."

The requisition was then read as follows:—

"To the Hon. the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

"Hon. Sirs:—We, the undersigned Proprietors of India Stock, being duly qualified, request you will convene a General Court of Proprietors, for the purpose of considering the following proposition: To inquire whether, in the present state of the Hon. Company's Empire in the East, the condition of the naval force called the Bombay Marine is such as the welfare of the country and the interests of the Hon. Company demand.

"We are, Hon. Sirs,

"Your most obedient humble servants,

"JOSEPH HUMR, "W. MAXFIELD,
"JAMES PATERSON, "J. B. GILCHRIST,
"JOHN ADDINELL, "W. MASON,
"LEIC. STANHOPE, "JOHN LEDGER."

"WM. THORNTON,

"Feb. 22, 1827."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"As the gallant General (Thornton) has been allowed to give notice of a motion for the next Court, I hope that I shall be equally indulged, and that you will permit me to read a motion which I intend to propose on Wednesday next."

The *Chairman*.—"The requisition stating the subject which we are convened to discuss is now read, and therefore the hon. proprietor cannot proceed. If the hon. proprietor chooses, after the business of the day is over, to give notice of a motion, he may do so."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"I speak now to save time."

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* The *New Times*.

Asiatic Journ. Vol. XXIII. No. 136.

The *Chairman*.—"I desire that the regular business of the Court may go on."

Capt. *Maxfield* wished, before he proceeded with the business which he had taken in hand, to call the attention of the Court to an anonymous letter which he had recently received. As this was the second letter of the kind with which he had been favoured, and as he had no opportunity of answering it elsewhere, he felt it necessary to take this course. As the letter was short, he would read it. It ran thus:—

"Sir;—If you persist in the course you are now pursuing at the India House, you will soon have cause to repent it; the following the example of Mr. Hume may involve you in difficulties to which he is not exposed.

"It is said you pique yourself on being a good shot; but be not too confident; it will not be sufficient to serve you; and you had better reflect in time, before it is too late, and take the warning of

"AN ANTI-MEDDLER."

"London, March 7, 1827."

On that letter he would only observe, that, in the whole course of his life, he had never met with, or known any man, of whom he could form an opinion so utterly contemptible as to believe him the author of it; and the individual who wrote it could know very little of him, if he supposed that such silly threats could deter him from performing his duty. Having said thus much, he should now proceed to the order of the day. He had asserted, some time since, in that court, that the Bombay Marine corps was neglected, degraded, and persecuted; and an hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume) then remarked, that if such were the case, it would be better to bring the subject specifically under consideration; and he offered to second a motion to that effect. He (Capt. Maxfield) pledged himself to introduce it, and that pledge he was now prepared to redeem. He wished sincerely, both from a regard for his own feelings—for the feelings of the officers of that friendly corps—as well as the credit of the Court of Directors—that this task were less easy; but were he to adduce the hundredth part of the evidence he might advert to, he should intrude too much on the time of the Court. He begged, however, to treat their attention to a few leading facts, which would be sufficient for his purpose; and he begged the Court to remember that the corps in question was the military marine of the Company, recognized by act of Parliament, and essentially requisite to the interests of the empire entrusted to their management. He would endeavour, as much as possible, to command his feelings on this occasion, and to perform the task he had undertaken as if he had never belonged to the corps in question;

he would, as far as it was possible, even forget that he had served the Company faithfully, zealously, and devotedly, in that corps, for a period of twenty-four years; during which he had obtained the recorded approbation of their government on more than ten occasions; but the liberal consideration, urbanity, and friendly sympathy of some of the members of the Court of Directors would remain fresh in his recollection while "memory retained her seat," or until virtue, ability and worth should no longer possess any attraction. Were he to say that, since the order of the Court of Directors, in 1798, they were obnoxious to the charge of neglect, with respect to this corps, he should be borne out by evidence; but, in order to save time, he should commence with a few extracts from a letter of Mr. Money, superintendent of the marine to the Bombay government, in answer to some sweeping censures passed on that unprotected corps in the letter of the Court of Directors of the 8th of April 1806. They were to be found on the records of the Court; and, unless something had been done to remedy the evils which Mr. Money complained of, and brought to the notice of the Directors in 1807, or twenty years ago, then he must contend that the charge of neglect was fully proved. In the ninth paragraph of that letter Mr. Money said, "Permit me, on a subject so materially interesting to the department committed to my trust, to state, with all respectful deference to the opinion of the hon. Court, what I conceive to be the causes of every defect and deficiency in the marine character and institution. The want of a code of laws enacted by legislative authority has been and continues to be the prominent defect of the marine establishment. Such a code would raise it from that state of degradation, to which illegitimate character is too frequently exposed, by the contemptuous opinion of mankind; it would infuse into its feeble system (sustained with much vexation and with little credit) those energies which all other military corps possess, and which lead them to distinction and renown. It is only necessary, I humbly conceive, to refer to a description of the duties expected from the marine, as given by the Hon. Court in their public letter under date of August 1st, 1798, to render it manifest, without a waste of argument, that a corps having such services to perform should be vested with legal authority, and its discipline upheld by the power of a legal tribunal. The Hon. Court, in the second paragraph of the letter referred to, have stated the following to be the objects of the establishment of their marine force: 1st. To protect the trade from port to port. 2d. To defend the Company's trade and possessions. 3d. To transport troops, &c. 4th. To make nautical discoveries, 5th. To convey

convoy packets. It must be very evident, upon the most superficial review of these duties, that their effect and creditable execution depend upon professional knowledge, public zeal, and strict discipline and subordination.

“The next principal defect in the marine establishment results, in my humble judgment (continues Mr. Money), from the low estate to which the officers' comparative rank is reduced. By the old regulations of the Hon. Company, yet unrepealed, the commanders of their regular ships from Europe take their rank between a captain and a major in the army. By the order of the Hon. Court already referred to, it was directed that, in order to preserve due respect and attention to the officers of the marine, who on important occasions are associated with the military, correspondent rank should be assigned as follows:—The commodore to rank with a colonel in the army; captains of ships of twenty-eight guns and upwards, or senior captains, with lieutenant-colonels; junior captains with majors; first-lieutenants with captains, &c. This distinction, supported by a code of martial law, would have given to the marine corps all the vigour and spirit which it could be rendered capable of possessing; but by subsequent resolutions the corresponding rank was virtually abolished, and the code of laws which the supreme government so strongly recommended, and which the Hon. Court declared, upon a conviction of its necessity, that it was their intention to procure, has never been obtained. On the 22d of May 1804, the Hon. Court were pleased to direct, that the commanders of their regular ships, whose corresponding rank with the military rested between that of a major and a captain, should precede all the captains of the marine, having the comparative rank of lieutenant-colonels of the army. I should be one of the last to impugn any resolution tending to honour a service in which I passed a great portion of my life, and to which, from connexions and friendships, I may be supposed to be naturally attached; but were I now belonging to that service, I feel persuaded that my sentiments of justice would be the same; while I am satisfied, from the principle of discipline imbibed in the course of many years' service in the navy, my sense of public expediency would concur with those sentiments of justice, and, in the situation which I hold, the expression of these opinions appears to me an act of indispensable duty. Whatever of respect and attention the orders of 1798 were calculated to produce, has been completely extinguished by the regulations of comparative rank of 1804. By them, an officer who has served the Hon. Company in a profession strictly confined to arms, and from which the advantages of trade of any

description are rigidly excluded,—who has arrived at a rank corresponding with that of a lieutenant-colonel in the army, which he has held for a period of fourteen or fifteen years—finds himself compelled to yield precedence to the commander of a regular ship, ranking below a major in the army, who perhaps has not been ten years at sea, who but a short time before may have been (and I believe it has been the case) a mate of a ship at this very port—and whose ship at present the captain of the marine may be destined to convoy. These circumstances, combined with the want of a code of laws, precludes the mind from aspiring to a respectable rank in society—they tend to depress every feeling of laudable ambition, and blight, by their natural operation on the character of men, all that *esprit du corps*, which it is so much to the public advantage to encourage and cherish, and which has led to the aggrandizement of all other military services.” Mr. Money's letter then entered into a comparative statement of the pay and pension of the marine with the Company's army, at once creditable to its amiable writer, and illustrative of the neglected and depressed state of the marine. But he (Capt. Maxfield), knowing that mere pay was not all to which an officer attached value, did not think it necessary to quote it farther. Perhaps it would be said, that the Court of Directors were anxious to obtain a code of laws for the government of the marine, but that they wanted power to effect that object. He was willing, in charity, to suppose that such was the case; but then came the question, if they were really disposed to render the marine efficient and respectable, why they had avoided doing that which was unquestionably in their power? Did they frame any regulations for its better management? Did they issue any orders to construct vessels adapted to accommodation, the unfortunate crews that were crammed into them? Did they repeal or explain their inconsistent orders of 1804? or did they adopt any measures whatever to remedy the palpable evils pointed out in the superintendent's letter? No! that manly and feeling letter had no other effect than to reduce his influence at the India House, and he soon after retired from his office in disgust.—(Hear!) The Court of Directors immediately appointed another superintendent, in no way resembling his predecessor—and from that hour their marine had met with continued degradation and persecution.—(Hear!) The retirement of Mr. Money from the office of superintendent was at once a source of regret to the marine corps, and of serious injury to the public interests. His talents were of the most useful description, and he possessed an activity of body, and an energy of mind, which afforded him no leisure.

hour of his time was devoted to the public service. He understood business of every description, and he executed it admirably. He infused a portion of his own spirit, energy, and pride, into the breasts of those employed under his authority. Whenever he found worth and ability, he confided in it. He had no illiberal prejudices to gratify—and the surest recommendations to his favour and countenance, were zeal, activity, and integrity.—(Hear!) Envy might revile, and self-interest seek to blacken his character; but his fairly-earned fame, as a public servant, would survive every effort to blast it, in spite of all the attacks of low and little minds. The undiminished attachment which the marine corps shewed to him, after his retirement, testified their just sense of his great virtue and worth—while their honest affection was honourable to their grateful feelings. Mr. Money's successor he had never seen: and, being employed under the supreme government, with him he had nothing to do; he, therefore, could not feel any personal dislike to that individual. If he had harboured such a sentiment, it must have, ere this, subsided, for the gentleman to whom he alluded had gone before that tribunal from which there was no appeal, and to which they must all be finally summoned. He should, however, be compelled to advert to him; but he would do so with the utmost tenderness, and rather "extenuate, than set down aught in malice." The pay of their marine officers did not admit of a comparison with the other branches of the Company's service. The pay and allowance of a marine captain was only 360 rupees per month, while that of a branch pilot at Calcutta was 700 rupees per month, or 850, when sent beyond the Sand-heads. But even this pittance was not secured to the captains of the Company's marine; for by the orders of the Marine Board at Calcutta, 26 March 30, 1814, the captains of the marine were rendered accountable for all advances made to any of the crew on the Company's account, and the loss sustained by desertion was deducted from the pay of the captains. A rule so illiberal was not applied to any other branch of their service—nor was it to be found in any other service whatever. Every liberal-minded man must suppose that the officers of the Bombay marine were governed by some specified rule. That however was not the case; and, therefore, he entreated the attention of the Court to a few facts which would enable gentlemen to arrive at just conclusions. Early in April 1818, a commander and all the officers of one of the cruisers were placed under arrest, on charges framed by Mr. Meriton, the then superintendent of marine. The usual forms of trial having been gone through, the proceedings were sent to go-

vernment on the 8th of that month. As they were not considered satisfactory, the court were ordered to re-assemble, and to put certain questions, which was accordingly done; and the proceedings in the second instance were also forwarded to government. From that time, until the 28th of November, the prisoners were kept in suspense; when they were again called before the court. By the court they were informed that the government had directed certain questions to be put to them, to which they were expected to give implicit answers. The commander begged to know whether he stood before the court as a prisoner. This plain question the court could not answer, but merely repeated the purpose for which they were assembled. The commander stated his readiness to answer any question which the government might think proper to put to him, after they had given their final decision on his case, but declared that he would give no answer while he appeared before the Court as a prisoner. The proceedings were then closed a third time, and sent to government, by whom a final decision was given some time after, and, notwithstanding the punishment which he had previously suffered, the commander was farther suspended until some time in 1819. Now, it was hardly possible to conceive that any public authority could have resorted to such capricious measures; which were as repugnant to every species of judicial proceeding, as they were opposed to every liberal and honourable feeling. But, the sweeping measure of placing commanders, lieutenants, and midshipmen, all under arrest together, could only be borne out and countenanced by the government's exhibiting a total disregard, not only for the substance, but the shadow of justice. Having said so much for the practice of marine courts, he would next advert to their composition. As the facts which he was about to state were to be found on the Company's records, he took it for granted that they would not be denied. Lieut. Boyce, of the *Mercury*, was, in 1812, put under arrest by his commander, Lieut. Blost. The superintendent assembled a court in order to try him, on which he placed two of the officers of Indiamen as members. Lieut. Boyce, be it remembered, held a commission—but these two gentlemen held no commission, and belonged to a merchant ship; they could not, therefore, be expected, from their habits, and the different duties they had to execute, to be proper judges. The degradation and insult offered in this instance, to the marine officers, were evident and studied, because there was no want of marine officers to form a proper Court. In such a forlorn and undefined state had the marine service been left, that if an assemblage of boatswains or gunners,

or even serjeants and corporals, had been selected by the superintendent for the purpose of forming a court, the marine officers were without a remedy. Now, although the Court of Directors continued sending out young men as officers for the marine service, and there was only one ship in the service large enough to carry the guns put on board her, or to afford ordinary accommodation for her crew, or to be held in the least respect by the privates in the Persian Gulf, yet that solitary ship the superintendent induced the government to sell, and she was sold by auction for two-thirds of her probable value. This threw an old officer out of employ, and blasted the prospects and hopes of every officer in the marine, as it caused the suspension of all promotion by the overplus of officers thus created. The superintendent, to find room for the young gentlemen which the Court continued to send out, not having vessels to put them in, placed some of them under the fostering care of an invalid gunner at Mayagon, a place notorious for nauch houses and prostitutes. At such a seminary, was it possible any person could believe the minds and manners of such young men could take a proper bent? Could the superintendent mean that they should make good officers? He was no more; and he (Capt. M.) would abstain from comment. Were he hut to paint the sad consequences which must result to those young men, he should be lacerating the feelings of their parents and friends, and inflicting pain where every pleasing hope and fond delusion had been fostered. The guardian, father, or friend, would have to lament that, after every expense had been incurred to cultivate the mind, and inspire youth with sentiments of honour and virtue, the fruits of such affection and pains were thus nipped in the bud, while patronage affected to bestow a blessing. The ship he had alluded to as sold was the *Mornington*, which was in fact only a twenty-gun ship. When she was got rid of, the largest vessel remaining was the *Teignmouth*, of 250 tons; which, in His Majesty's service, would have had only ten or twelve guns; but she was absurdly crammed with eighteen guns, and at one time twenty. It was as injudicious as cruel so to equip her, as it rendered her unsafe, and in the event of capture ensured the disgrace of whoever commanded her. The rest of the vessels were of the same stowage, except that they were much smaller; and one, the *Oriel*, a brig of 180 tons, carrying twelve guns, was so cranked that she overset and sank in a squall in the Persian Gulf, although her foresail only was set, and of her crew only three men were saved. These were facts which could not be denied, and which the records of that house fully established. In October

1814, the *Vestal* being under orders to carry despatches to Bussorah, her commander, Lieut. Phillips, was directed to receive on board (by the orders of the superintendent) a certain number of bales belonging to private merchants at Bombay on freight. That officer represented the utter incompetency of his vessel to carry any cargo, and it was with difficulty he could stow his provisions and water for the crew. His objection was overruled, and the bales sent on board; which he (sooner than deprive the crew of their wretched accommodation) stowed in his own cabin. By the orders of 1798, all freight except bullion was prohibited to be carried in the Company's cruisers; but this disregard of orders by the superintendent brought into the Bombay treasury the pitiful sum of 160 rupees. The *Vestal* was a small sharp brig, 160 tons burthen, mounting fourteen guns, and scarcely able to carry ten weeks' provisions and water; and, as the superintendent long commanded one of their large Indiamen, he could not plead ignorance of the utter inability of the *Vestal* to carry any cargo whatever, and his motives therefore could not be mistaken. What was the consequence? not mere discomfort to the unfortunate commander but death. The *Vestal's* cabin was very small, and had neither port nor scuttle. The Persian Gulf, they knew, was dreadfully unhealthy. Such stowage induced a liver complaint, and an officer of distinguished merit, who had served for nearly twenty years, fell a victim—not to the cause of his country, but to injustice and cruelty. Now it was well known, to all who heard him, that in every kind of ship or vessel, from the privateer to the collier, some difference of accommodation was allotted to the persons serving on board; but the superintendent, to give a death-blow to the service, thought to confound all ranks; he therefore ordered that the berth allotted to the midshipmen of the *Vestal* should be taken away, and the midshipmen put into the lieutenant's cabin. Now the lieutenant's cabin on board the *Vestal* was only nine feet by seven feet, and as there was no other, the surgeon was necessarily obliged to live and sleep in it also. Such was the wretched den into which the superintendent ordered the midshipmen to be crammed also, putting health and comfort out of the question. Their marine officers had no remedy; and if the pigs had been ordered to be put there also, they must have submitted or resigned the service. It happened, however, that the surgeon belonged to the army, and was protected by its rules and regulations from such abominable injustice; and he wrote to government, complaining that the accommodation allotted to him in the *Vestal* was worse than that provided by act of Parliament

Parliament for slaves during the slave trade. The superintendent took fire at the reflection, and preferred charges against him; but, as a military officer could not be punished without sufficient grounds, a court-martial saved him; and very properly remarked on the conduct and evidence of the superintendent. If he were living, he (Capt. M.) would adduce it with such comments as it merited. The directors, could, however, find it on their records; and if they really wished to appreciate the superintendent's labours, they would inquire for it. This conduct, however, obtained approbation and support, and he continued in office as long as he pleased; and if he had lived, he might probably have received a pension in reward of such services. The directors could not plead ignorance of the facts he had related, unless they were guilty of neglecting to read the papers sent to this country. But, supposing that in the multiplicity of business and the incessant application to foster private claims, no time was found to attend to their insignificant marine, still the executive body could not deny that they were almost knee-deep in marine memorials, not one of which they ever condescended to answer, or probably even to consider. He could adduce more powerful and complete evidence, but from tenderness he would refrain, for the present, and reserve it for another time and another place. He was really tired of portraying such a disgusting picture. He held the public correspondence in his hand, and abstained from reading it only to save time; it was, however, on their records, and could not be denied. It might be supposed, by some utterly ignorant of the merits or claims of the Bombay marine, that it deserved such treatment, or that it had forfeited all claim to attention; it was therefore with reluctance that he was compelled to advert to its conduct as a public body, of which he was probably one of the least worthy members. First, then, on the score of fidelity and attachment to their country, the marine were eminently conspicuous; and it could not be denied, that when the Company's army, with arms in their hands, urged their claims to equal rank with his Majesty's troops, and invited the marine to follow their example and join them, the latter declined so doing. The army obtained the most liberal consideration; while the marine was unnoticed. He had heard it said, that the marine deserved to be so treated, for not joining the army. If so, it would serve as a lesson in future to regulate the claims of military bodies, and teach the just value of demands unaided by power. Now, for patriotism. In 1799, a subscription was set on foot towards carrying on the war, as a test of public opinion. It was liberally sup-

ported in this country, and was also effectively carried on in India. Most of their servants, civil, military, and marine, subscribed towards it; but Captain Selby, of the Bombay marine, subscribed the whole of his pay during the war. He stood a solitary example of such devotion in the Company's service; and continuing to serve, he sacrificed his life in their employ. He would not tire them with a detail of the numerous instances of gallantry and devotion, which he could adduce of your marine officers, under such evident disadvantages and discouragement; suffice it to say the repeated testimonies of his Majesty's officers in favour of their good conduct, afforded some consolation to their wounded feelings; and the existence of those testimonies on the Company's records could not be denied. No corps in their service had ever evinced a stronger desire to expel from it every worthless member; and, in almost every instance that such effort was made, the Court of Directors as if with a determination to defeat them, either restored such persons to the service, or placed them on the same pension as the most meritorious officers. He would now assert, without fear of its being denied, what might be justly deemed a proud proof of devotion by any military body in the world. In no one solitary instance had the British colours ever been lowered from the peak of one of their miserably ill-manned cruisers, to any enemy of inferior, or even of equal force, while they had often proved successful when combating a powerful superiority.—(Hear, hear!) But, supposing military ardour and patriotism of no value in the estimation of the Company as regarded their marine, he would address them simply as merchants, and ask if disinterestedness, on the part of their marine officers, in preferring the Company's interests to their own, could establish any claim? When the expedition was proceeding against Java, two of their cruisers, the *Mornington* and *Malabar*, fell in with two large China junks in the straits of Gaspar from Batavia, bound to Amoy. By the orders of council, Batavia being in a state of blockade, they were good prizes, and were in fact laden with Dutch property, valued at £600,000 sterling. They were taken by the cruisers in question, and Captains Deane and Maxfield would have sent them to Prince of Wales's Island for condemnation, but were prevented by Commodore Hayes, who commanded the Company's naval forces on that expedition. His orders were short, and in justice to him, he would read them.

"Hon. Company's Ship of War *Malabar* at Sea, July 31, 1811, lat. 5° 41' S. long. 106° 46' E.

"Gentlemen: As the government of China seek every pretext to embarrass the
Hon.

Hon. Company's commercial transactions at Canton, I am induced to believe the captured junks taken possession of by your respective ships, under your immediate command, may be made a plea to interrupt the important trade in that quarter, which is now not only considered of vital interest to them, but to the state generally, I feel myself imperiously called upon to prevent any occurrence which may be productive of such destructive effects; I am therefore impelled to direct you to withdraw the prize-masters and crews from the junks in question, and to command you to permit them to proceed towards their original destination. In thus exercising my authority, perhaps exceeding its legal bounds, I am not insensible of the great sacrifice which must be made by enforcing the foregoing commands: but I trust we alike feel we have the honour to serve the most liberal masters in the world; and I congratulate myself upon the conviction that the officers to whom these commands are addressed, know how to appreciate the acquisition of wealth when placed in competition with the interests of their employers and of their country.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"your faithful servant,

"(Signed) JOHN HAYES,

"Commodore of all the Hon. Company's ships and vessels, Java Expedition."

"To Captains R. Deane and W. Maxfield, commanding the Hon. Company's ships of war Mornington and Malabar."

Now the above order afforded a good illustration of the impolicy of the orders of the Court of Directors in 1804. Suppose for one moment that Commodore Hayes had not been present, but that one of their regular ships had been in company, it was not possible to believe that the commander of any of their regular ships would have presumed to issue such an order, and still less likely any captain of their marine would have attended to it if they had. The man who made such a sacrifice to promote their interests was not then worth one shilling, nor did he believe that he was at this moment. His disinterestedness and gallantry, of which their records possessed abundant proof, would, in any other service but their marine, have obtained for him honour and distinction. The two officers to whom the order to release the junks was addressed, submitted a memorial, which he believed shared the usual fate of marine memorials. As to the commodore, he was not aware that the Court of Directors ever condescended to remark upon his conduct on that occasion, unless it induced them to take a more feeling and liberal view of the question of precedence, when Lord Amherst was guilty of handing the wife

of that old and distinguished officer before the lady of one of their Bengal civil servants. But, if the feelings of the marine officers, their character and efficiency, were of no value in the Company's estimation, it was worth while to estimate its consequences by another test; let them therefore try it by pounds, shillings and pence. From what had been stated, he hoped it would not be pretended that the Bombay marine was efficient, or even available for any good purpose under such treatment since 1812; and if the contrary were asserted, he should readily meet and confute it. Now the expense of the corps from 1812 to 1826 might be taken at no less than £1,200,000. The decadence of the marine induced the growth of piracy in the Persian Gulph, which compelled government to equip expeditions against them, entailing an expense of upwards of one million sterling; now the interest alone of that sum, properly applied, would have provided in perpetuity an efficient naval force of double the nominal strength of the Bombay marine. In 1812, the presence of a single cruiser of twenty guns, although badly manned, prevented a war with the Burmese, and obtained ample reparation for an insult offered to the Company. At that time there was as good occasion for a war as since; but Lord Minto sent the *Malabar*, of twenty guns, with was lying at Calcutta, to support the arguments of the British Envoy at Rangoon. The Burmese government were then ripe for aggression, and the Viceroy received orders from Ummera-poorra, which were published in the streets, to send the Envoy, as well as the commander of the cruiser, up to the capital in irons; and on the Envoy attempting to go off with his escort and followers to the *Malabar*, an attempt was made by two war boats (out of about twenty that were in motion round the cruiser) to seize one of the *Malabar's* cutters. The commander of the *Malabar* ordered the guns to be pointed at the latter and two war-boats, but not to fire, as the Envoy was still in the boats, and might be sacrificed. He at length reached the cruiser, and a message was instantly sent to the Viceroy complaining of the outrage, and demanding instant reparation by delivering up the commanders of the war-boats in irons, sending them on board the *Malabar*, and disavowing the act of aggression. He was allowed half an hour to consider of it, at the expiration of which, the *Malabar* would, in the event of refusal, attack the place. The consequence was, that the commanders of the war-boats were sent off hand-cuffed, and every possible atonement made for the outrage by the Viceroy. (*Hear!*) Now the want of a respectable cruiser at Bengal in 1823, previous to our rupture with the Burmese, compelled the Bengal

Bengal government to equip and send a pilot schooner into the river Naaf, as a measure of naval defence; while its feeble and unwarlike appearance encouraged rather than repressed the aggression of the Burmese, who seized the commander and carried him off; and they augmented the grounds of a dispute, which precipitated us into a war that had entailed an expense of upwards of twenty millions sterling, and the loss of thousands of our brave and valuable troops. On their present superintendent of marine, Mr. Buchanan, he should offer but one remark: he had just given the commands of the *Hastings* frigate and the *Ernaad*, the largest ships in the service, to two mates of the country service, which was no less an act of injustice to the marine officers than of disregard for the Company's interest. As they had plenty of marine officers of all grades unemployed (who must, he supposed, be paid), why should the expenses of government be thus increased by employing persons not in their service, to say nothing of the injury offered to the marine corps? Would the commander-in-chief at either of the presidencies give the command of one of their battalions, or even of a company of sepoy, to a mate of the country service, or even to a meritorious officer of the King's service? They well knew it would not be done; but their commanders-in-chief of the army were all King's officers, and were imbued with military feelings; and the credit and efficiency of the corps entrusted to their management were, in their estimation, no less objects of duty than of pride. Apologizing to the court for having so long occupied its attention, he now begged leave to move for a series of papers. The gallant officer then moved for a series of papers, sixteen in number, tending to bear out the different statements he had made. It appeared, he observed, to be a very long list; but, long as it seemed, the matter would not occupy more than two or three sheets of foolscap altogether.

Col. *L. Stanhope* rose to second the motion for the production of these papers. The hon. Chairman, at a former court, stated, in answer to some questions which were then put to him, that the Court of Directors were busily employed in considering the subject which his gallant friend had this day introduced; that they were occupied in endeavouring to redress those wrongs, and to correct that evil system, of which such just complaints had been made. He confessed that he did not at first deem this motion to be necessary, and he was rather annoyed when he saw his name affixed to the requisition; but he had since had a communication with his gallant friend, and from him he learned that this subject had been under consideration for the last three years, and that con-

stant promises had been made to ameliorate the condition of the Bombay marine, which promises had been as constantly broken. Now, for his own part, he believed it was the Chairman's intention to do that which he had pledged himself to perform; but as they were about to lose that hon. gentleman's able and active services in the chair, he thought that his gallant friend was right in bringing forward this motion, and therefore he should say one or two words in support of it. His gallant friend was no factious character—he was no disappointed individual, coming into that court for the purpose of opposing the conduct of the Court of Directors; no, he was one of their oldest and best officers, who had received the thanks of the Company nine or ten times in public orders. He here wished to mention a particular circumstance, with which his gallant friend was intimately connected. His gallant friend had mentioned the capture of two China junks, which had been given up in the most disinterested manner by Commodore Hayes. Now his gallant friend was present on that occasion, and he had, in consequence of the restoration of those vessels, lost a very considerable share of prize-money, the one-eighteenth or one-sixteenth of £600,000. With respect to the Bombay marine, they must be all aware that it was one of the oldest branches of the Company's service; it was, in fact, established at the time that the island of Bombay was given up to the Hon. Company; and, as his gallant friend had truly stated, never was there an instance of any ship belonging to the Bombay marine having lowered her flag to an enemy of equal force. Under these circumstances, he thought that their marine service ought to be a subject of interest to that court. He could not help lamenting what he conceived to be the indignity offered to this useful service. In the first place, he thought it was unfair to deprive the officers of that rank which they formerly held. By the regulation of 1798, a commodore of the Bombay marine ranked with a colonel in the army, and a senior captain with a lieutenant-colonel; while, by a subsequent regulation, that of 1804, the commander of one of the Company's regular ships, who ranked only between a major and a captain in the army, was allowed precedence before a captain in the marine force, whose rank was equivalent to that of a lieutenant-colonel. This led to a very ridiculous occurrence, to which his gallant friend had slightly alluded. It happened that Commodore Hayes and his wife dined with the Governor-General. The commodore having the rank of colonel, the Governor-General thought it proper to lead out Mrs. Hayes to dinner, conceiving that the precedence was due to her. This set the senior merchant's hearts on

on fire, and they in consequence wrote long letters home to the Court of Directors. They pondered over this weighty matter; and at last they decided—on what? Was it to punish Lord Amherst, or that charming and amiable lady? No; but they came to the resolution of uncommodoring the commodore. (*Laughter.*) Now Mr. Wynn, who had been in the habit of considering questions of precedence, and who was nightly occupied in explaining them in the House of Commons, thought this was very unfair, and therefore he reversed their proceeding. This, however, was no laughable matter, when they considered that an indignity was offered to an old and meritorious officer, whose brow was covered with wounds and honours, and who had disinterestedly given up the one-eighteenth or one-sixteenth of £600,000. It was a very fair subject of complaint that there was no martial law for the government of the Bombay Marine. Did they ever before hear of a civilized society, especially a military society, without some species of law for its government. He always understood that, in the military profession, the law ought to be more strict and rigorous than elsewhere; and indeed certain gentlemen in the House of Commons told them, that there was something so perverse in the constitution of an Englishman which rendered it necessary that he should be flogged. Such a system, it appeared, was not usual in other parts of the world; but, it was asserted, that in England, Scotland, and Ireland it could not be dispensed with; still it formed a singular contrast with the Bombay Marine, in which there appeared to be no defined code of martial law. Sometimes it was governed by the rules and regulations of his Majesty's navy, and sometimes by the Company's regulations. Every thing was left in the most vague state; and, in point of fact, that service was not under the dominion of the law, but under the direction of arbitrary power. (*Hear!*) Would any of the gentlemen—any of the grey-headed gentlemen—on the other side of the bar, approve of such a want of system? They would say "no," and declare that they were going to remedy the evil; but if it were suffered to continue for three years, could it be said that it did not amount to a denial of justice? (*Hear!*) He must ever view, as a gross act of injustice, the placing captains of the Bombay Marine under the commanders of Indiamen. He knew that the captains of the Bombay Marine were most distinguished men; perhaps they were the most scientific men ever employed in the naval service. (*Hear!*) And he conceived that it was really putting the cart before the horse, to place the captain of a ship of war under the command of the captain of

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a merchantman. (*Hear!*) It was an absolute indignity to the service. (*Hear!*) And he thought his gallant friend was right in withdrawing his labours from a service which was so much degraded. Now he would tell the court what the reason of this degradation was. The fact was plainly this: the Bombay Marine was not represented on the other side of the bar; but the other service—the merchant service—was so represented; for he believed that no less than four directors had been captains of East-Indiamen. Those captains came constantly within the influence of the Court of Directors, but the captains in the marine service were quite removed beyond that influence. One great advantage enjoyed by the former class of individuals was, that they could go into port whenever they pleased, and sell their portions of the cargoes of the ships which they commanded to good account. Nothing could be worse than the course now pursued towards the Bombay marine; and therefore he trusted and confided in the statement made by the hon. Chairman, founded on his high character, and his strict notion of honour, that he would use his utmost efforts to fulfil what he had promised, and that, too, speedily; otherwise, the best thing that could, in his opinion, be done, would be to do away with the Bombay Marine entirely. Let the officers be properly rewarded; let the men, who had gallantly fought their battles, be pensioned, and then let the amount of the expense at present incurred be appropriated to the service of his Majesty's navy.

Sir J. Doyle said he did not intend, when he entered the court, to have said any thing on this subject; but there were two points, which, on considering it, must strike any man of ordinary understanding: the one was, that if the Company must have a marine, it ought to be kept in the best possible state; the other was, that as over every department in our large empire of India the Court of Directors had control, they ought also to have within themselves the power, in every respect, to regulate this branch of the service, and not to suffer it to be made the sport of caprice. This being premised, and it being understood that at this very moment the Court of Directors were doing the best they could to improve the condition of the marine, he conceived that it would not be wise to press this motion. (*Hear!*) Giving to the gallant officer the utmost credit for his zeal for this corps, as well as for the ability with which he introduced his statement, still he must say, that if the Court of Directors were, *bona fide*, endeavouring to get the best possible advice from the naval authorities of this country, for the purpose of carrying into effect the improvement and amelioration of the Bom-

bay Marine, there was no necessity for the interference of the general court. He therefore submitted to the gallant officer whether, under all the circumstances, it would not be more eligible, with a view to the accomplishment of his own object, to leave the business in the hands in which it was placed at present. (*Hear, hear!*)

The *Chairman* said, he had paid very great attention to the statement made by the gallant officer who had introduced the question to the court; he had also listened attentively to the observations of the gallant colonel by whom the proposition had been seconded, and he confessed, in the last place, that he was much gratified by the conciliatory suggestion which had fallen from the gallant general who had just spoken. The business having arrived at the present stage, he felt it to be his duty to offer a few remarks for the consideration of the proprietors. It would be recollected that he had stated on a former, and no very distant occasion, that the Court of Directors had been sedulously engaged (for a great length of time he admitted, even for years), in endeavouring to effect the improvement of the Bombay Marine; and that many difficulties had occurred in the progress of their efforts for that purpose—difficulties occasioned by the peculiarity of the naval service of this country, which entertained a kind of jealousy of any interference on naval subjects. (*Hear!*) It was that description of jealousy, however, to which, he was free to admit, that much of the respectability and consequence connected with that most important branch of the national service was owing (*hear!*), and which, as it had that effect, ought rather to be encouraged than repressed. (*Hear!*) He had the satisfaction to state, that so far as the negotiation of the Court of Directors had proceeded with the naval department of this country, they had every reason to be gratified with the disposition which was manifested to concur in the great object which the Company had in view, with respect to the improvement of the Bombay Marine. (*Hear, hear!*) and he should be doing injustice to the noble Lord at the head of the Admiralty if he did not state, that that noble individual had evinced as strenuous a desire to affect the object to which his attention had been called by the Court of Directors, as if he were personally interested in the result. (*Hear, hear!*) This being the case, he certainly did feel that it was extremely desirable that the Court of Proprietors should adopt the advice given by the gallant general; still however he could not give way to the expression of that wish in silence; he could not suffer the different subjects which had this day been introduced for discussion to pass altogether unnoticed. The leading object of the

gallant officer who had brought forward this proposition seemed to be, to cast reflexions (and very severe reflexions too) on the name of the late superintendent of the Bombay Marine. Now he did think that there was a peculiar degree of justice due to that brave officer after what had been said concerning him, in bringing to the recollection of the court the gallant service which first recommended him to the notice of the Court of Directors, and was the occasion of his being placed in that important charge (superintendent of the Bombay Marine), to which allusion had been made. It would be recollected by many members of the court, that Captain Meriton, in company with Captain Stewart and another of the Company's gallant commanders, had fought a severe action with a French force, in the course of which he was severely wounded. When the office of superintendent of the Bombay Marine became vacant, Captain Meriton became a candidate for that situation; and he (the *Chairman*) now declared, with great satisfaction, that he took the utmost pains at the time to bring Captain Meriton to the notice of the court; and he believed that he had been very instrumental in obtaining the appointment for that gentleman. (*Hear, hear!*) If his subsequent conduct in that situation rendered him justly liable to the observations made by the gallant officer, then certainly it might be alleged that he (the *Chairman*) had made a bad selection. He however entertained a different opinion; and he had no reason whatever to say but that his conduct as superintendent of the Bombay Marine was perfectly correct, and that it did not deserve the strong and pointed observations which had been made on it. (*Hear!*) At any rate, that individual (as the gallant officer had said) had gone to render an account of his conduct before a higher tribunal, and he had no doubt but that it would be a just one. (*Hear!*) It was however extremely hard on his memory that his conduct should now be impugned in that court, where neither he nor his friends could have an opportunity to vindicate it. (*Hear, hear!*) Certain observations had been made by the gallant officer on the conduct of the present superintendent. On the point of accusation he could only say, that if, having it in his power to give the command of the Company's ships of war to their own naval officers, the present superintendent had in any instance, instead of doing so, given the command to men not belonging to the marine, but to the commercial service, then he had unquestionably done wrong (*Hear, hear!*); and he had no hesitation in stating that, if such conduct were proved, he would be perfectly ready to call on the Court of Directors to express a strong and decided opinion on the

the subject. (*Hear!*) It was, however, impossible that they could, without injustice, judge of the reason, or the motive, which might have induced such a proceeding, and therefore he wished to look into that point before the Court of Directors were called upon to pronounce the superintendent guilty of misconduct, as he would certainly be, if he were not justified by peculiar circumstances, in acting as had been represented. (*Hear, hear!*) Now, he was free to admit (and he had never contended otherwise), that the Bombay Marine, which was a most gallant and meritorious service, had laboured under considerable disadvantages. The gallant officer had, however, gone further; he had stated that that service was neglected and degraded. (*Hear!*) To that assertion he begged leave to give the most decided and complete denial. (*Hear!*) On the contrary, so far as it had been competent to the proper authority to better the situation of that service, it had been done. It had not been, nor was it in their power to do all that they wished, but this he must say, that the Court of Directors had not been negligent in making applications in that quarter, with the concurrence of which only they could effect those ameliorations to which they looked anxiously forward. (*Hear!*) With regard to the allowances of the Bombay Marine, the Court of Directors had not been backward. He believed that those who were attached to that body were not actuated by interested motives, but directed their views to higher objects; still, however, it must be recollected, that only in the way to which he had alluded had the Court of Directors the power to afford encouragement to this gallant corps; and that power they had exercised to a considerable extent. He believed that at the time when the gallant officer first entered the service, he entered it with the understanding that, so long as he continued attached to it, there were certain portions of pay and allowances which he was to receive. Now, he begged leave to ask, what had been since done gratuitously on the part of the Company, independently of any obligation under which they were placed, with regard to the original terms upon which the gallant officer and others had entered the service. (*Hear, hear!*) When he used the word "gratuitously," he meant also to say, that the rewards conferred on the marine service were well deserved and earned; but still he must be allowed to notice the fact, to shew that this was not a service so neglected and degraded (so far as the Court of Directors had opportunity and ability to support and sustain it) as the gallant officer had thought proper to assert. (*Hear!*) In 1798, when new regulations with regard to the army were promulgated, a grant

was made to the Bombay Marine, by which the officers of that corps were allowed the privilege of retiring on a certain rate of pay, and he begged leave to say, that the grant in each instance was made quite independent of the conditions on which gentlemen had entered the service. At that time the retirement of a Commodore was £228; for a senior Captain £110; for a junior Captain £105, and for a first Lieutenant £80. In 1823, an increase of these retiring allowances took place, viz. the Commodore was allowed £450; the senior Captain £360; the junior Captain £270, and the first Lieutenant £180. By-the-by, he should here take leave to observe, that if these allowances were compared with those granted to officers in H.M.'s naval service, a material advantage in favour of the officers of the Company's marine would be apparent. He rejoiced at the circumstance; but gentlemen, in arguing this question, ought to compare the situation of the Company's marine officers with the corresponding service to which this country was so mainly indebted for all its honour and glory, and they would then, he was convinced, find that the Bombay Marine was not that neglected service which the gallant officer had described it to be. (*Hear!*) In August 1826, he believed, another increase of the retiring allowance was granted. The junior Captain was allowed £293, and the first Lieutenant £191. 12s. 6d.; therefore it was evident that, so far as it was possible for the Court of Directors to hold out encouragement to that service, it had been any thing but neglected by them. (*Hear, hear!*) Degraded, he was sure, they had never been: that point was, of course, in their own power—they could only be degraded by their own conduct; and he must say, that it was impossible for any class of men to have more distinguished themselves, or to have separated themselves more from the idea of degradation, than the officers of the Bombay Marine had done. (*Hear, hear!*) At the same time that the gallant officer had strongly censured one of the superintendents, he had bestowed a great deal of praise on another. It was not his intention, in touching on this part of the subject, to detract in any degree, or in any shape whatever, from the praise which had been given to that superintendent, Mr. Money. The gallant officer, towards the conclusion of his statement relative to Mr. Money's services, had said, that that gentleman had resigned his office in disgust; now he, of course, had no means of arriving at the exact motives which induced Mr. Money to give up the situation; but this he knew, that when he left the service he entered into a very profitable mercantile partnership. He believed that Mr. Money had left the Company's service

vice (as was no doubt very right and proper) for the promotion of his own interest; and he further believed, that a disgust for the service had nothing whatever to do with his resignation. (*Hear, hear!*) Something had been said by the gallant Colonel (Stanhope) about un-commodoring the Commodore. (*Laughter.*) Now, if he understood any thing of the nature of the naval service (and, God knew, his information was very slight), he felt no hesitation in saying that the conduct of Lord Amherst, on the occasion alluded to, had better have been spared. (*Hear, hear!*) Because, he repeated, if he knew any thing of the naval service, the station of Commodore was entirely temporary—no one heard of it except when the individual was on board ship and at sea.

Capt. Maxfield.—“Not known at Bombay?”

The Chairman continued—That was a situation quite peculiar to itself, but with respect to the naval rank of Commodore (and he spoke in the knowledge and hearing of gentlemen who could contradict him if he were wrong), he contended that it did not exist on shore, that it was only known on board ship. (*Hear!*) Then, if this were so, he would assert, that, according to the established usage and practice of society in India, and throughout their service in general, it was stepping a great deal beyond the line of prudence and propriety to give to the wife of Commodore Hayes that rank and precedence which Lord Amherst had done; and, therefore, he was ready to take his share of the blame, as one of those who thought it necessary to prevent such an occurrence, in future, by un-commodoring the Commodore, unless when he was at sea. (*Hear, hear!*) He would now say a word or two on the subject of the Chinese junks. He was pretty confident, after what had been stated on this point by the gallant officer, that the court would hardly agree with him, that it would have been consistent with justice (certainly it would not have been consistent with the interest of the East-India Company), if, acting on the principles of national law, recognized by their country and by Europe, they had strictly imposed the same obligations on individuals, the subjects of China, who were ignorant of the existence of any such law, as they would thus have been required to obey, and who were employed in the ordinary, and otherwise legal traffic to which they had been accustomed. (*Hear!*) If, in consequence of the breaking out of war between this country and an European state, they had, on this occasion, rigidly enforced the international practice of Europe, he should like to know what, at the present moment, would have become of the China trade? (*Hear!*) And if there were an interruption of that

trade, what, he asked, at this time, would have become of the East-India Company itself? (*Hear, hear!*) He did not wish to detract from the disinterestedness of Commodore Hayes; but he certainly should have said, if he had suffered those vessels to be carried as prizes into an Indian port, that he had proved himself to be extremely regardless of the interest of those whose servant he was—namely, of the East-India Company. (*Hear!*) It had been said, that expectations were held out from that chair of the correction of the present inconvenience under which the Bombay Marine existed; and it seemed to be imputed as an intentional offence, that these expectations had not been realized. Now he begged leave to assure the court, that those promises were not only not broken, but that they had not been at all neglected. The fact was, there had been difficulties which stood in the way of an arrangement, with a view to the correction of the inconvenience complained of; but he had again the satisfaction to repeat to the court, that since he made the declaration which he had done from that chair, farther progress, and very material progress, had been made towards the attainment of that object. (*Hear!*) And he was perfectly convinced, that nothing was so likely to retard the object of those measures, to which the Court of Directors had resorted, as the introduction of premature discussion on the subject. (*Hear!*) He certainly had expected that somewhat more of attention and of credit would have been given to a statement coming from that chair (*Hear!*); and he could not but say, in that point of view, that he felt something like a manifestation of disrespect towards himself, personally, in the requisition by which the court had been convened, on the part of those by whom it had been signed. (*Hear!*) He felt himself, therefore, inclined to ask of that court for a declaration of their opinion that he was entitled to their confidence in making to them the statement which he had formerly submitted to them in his official capacity. (*Hear, hear!*) He begged leave, therefore (notwithstanding an observation which had fallen from an hon. proprietor on a late occasion, who could not coincide in the propriety of any motion relating to the conduct of the Court of Directors, coming from behind the bar), to move an amendment to the motion of the gallant officer. He did this, not for the purpose of procuring praise, but as a measure justly due to himself, in confirmation of that confidence to which he considered that he was fairly entitled when he publicly made an official statement. (*Cheers.*) The hon. Chairman concluded by moving, that all the words after the word “that,” be omitted, for the purpose of introducing the following:—

“It

"It having been declared from the Chair, that measures are in progress for improving the condition of the Bombay Marine, and for placing it on a footing more consonant to the merits and services of that distinguished corps, this Court is disposed to give confidence to the correctness of the statement thus given from the Chair, and considers it, therefore, both injudicious and inexpedient to force a premature discussion of the subject on this Court, until the details of the proposed plan come regularly before it."

The *Deputy Chairman* (the Hon. H. Lindsay).—"In rising to second the amendment which has been proposed by my hon. colleague, I cannot avoid noticing the singularity of the proceeding on the part of the gallant officer, in having delayed to submit his motion to the court until after it had been distinctly signified from the chair, that the improvement of the Bombay Marine was not merely in contemplation, but that active measures had been taken to promote that object. (*Hear!*) This being the fact, I certainly think that the gallant officer might have left the business in the hands of the executive body until he learned what had been done, or what amelioration had been made. (*Hear!*) I can assure the gallant officer, that I am not behind him in giving all due credit to the merits of the Bombay Marine. Under all the circumstances in which they have been placed, they have constantly performed their duty in a most able and effective manner. (*Hear!*) I also concur entirely with the gallant officer, as to the zeal, attention, and ability that were manifested by Mr. Money, during the time when he filled the situation of superintendent of the Bombay Marine; but I must take the liberty of stating, from my own knowledge, that Mr. Money did not retire from the Bombay Marine on account of disgust. (*Hear!*) I had the honour of Mr. Money's confidence up to the time of his resignation, and I know that the cause of that proceeding has not been correctly stated by the gallant officer. The hon. Baronet (Sir Charles Forbes) who now bears me, will, I am confident, answer for the correctness of that fact. (*Hear!*) I must also observe, while acknowledging the zeal, talent and ability of Mr. Money, that the desire of the Court of Directors to obtain, for the Bombay Marine, those advantages which they required, must have been evident to, and must have been assisted by, him, as he had been behind the bar for six or seven years. He must have seen the efforts that were making by the Court of Directors; he must have known that we were advancing slowly, but, as I hope, surely, towards that object which we have been most desirous to attain. (*Hear!*) The gallant officer

observes, that the mercantile service is represented in this court, but that our marine service is not. Now I say that the court is as open to a gentleman connected with the marine service, if he chooses to purchase stock, as to any other person. Under all the circumstances, I heartily concur in the amendment, which, I hope, will be carried by a large majority." (*Hear!*)

Sir C. Forbes requested that the gallant officer would withdraw his motion, (*Hear!*) than which, he conceived, nothing could be more ill-timed. (*Hear!*) Every one who knew the gallant officer, must be aware of the honourable and disinterested motives which induced him to bring this question before the court; but yet he could not but regret that the gallant officer had introduced it, after the declaration that had been made by the hon. Chairman. (*Hear!*) In answer to a question which he (Sir C. Forbes) had put on a former occasion, pending the progress of a bill which was then passing through the House of Commons; after the declaration which the hon. Chairman then made, that the subject of the Bombay Marine had been long under the anxious consideration of the Court of Directors, with a view to the amelioration of the service, and that proceedings were, at that moment, in progress to place the marine service in a better situation, he confessed that he regretted exceedingly the bringing forward of this motion on the part of his gallant friend (*Hear!*); and he should hope that he would be induced to withdraw it. (*Hear!*) In that case, he should also trust that the hon. Chairman would not feel it necessary to press the amendment which he had proposed; and then, as a matter of course, the proceedings would end. He certainly concurred in the propriety of the amendment that had been submitted to them, but still he thought it would be better not to press it. In justice to his gallant friend he must say, that, so far as he had heard his statements (for he had entered the court some time after his gallant friend had commenced his speech), almost every thing which he had advanced, so far as his (Sir C. Forbes') information extended, was perfectly correct. (*Hear!*) He had no doubt that the gallant officer had stated facts, and, however much they were to be regretted, he was disposed to give credit to them; but then, the truth was, that all those proceedings to which the gallant officer had adverted, were at an end; and that they never would occur again he firmly believed. With respect to the assertion, that Mr. Money had quitted the service in disgust, he could assure his gallant friend that he was entirely misinformed. No man could speak more decidedly to this point than he could do; and he

he would say distinctly, that his friend, Mr. Money, retired from the Bombay Marine with regret. He had not the least hesitation in positively declaring that fact; because the proposition for leaving the Bombay Marine was made by himself (*Hear !*); and it was made in order that Mr. Money should join the mercantile establishment at Bombay of which he (Sir Charles) was a partner. The proposition was made for Mr. Money's advantage, as well as for the advantage of others. (*Hear !*) So far from immediately availing himself of the opportunity of retiring from a situation with which it was said he was disgusted, he, on the contrary, wished to remain; he was several months before he could make up his mind on the subject. Indeed, he (Sir Charles) recommended him, again and again, not to act precipitately, and nearly twelve months elapsed before he came to a final determination; during the whole of which time he was occupied in making all the necessary arrangements which the marine service required, before he quitted the situation. Mr. Money was highly worthy of his post; he exerted himself to the utmost for the benefit of the marine service; and would, he was convinced, feel an attachment towards it to the last moment of his life. He concurred in all that was said, on each side of the bar, as to the merits of the Bombay Marine. He believed that a more deserving set of men, as public servants, did not exist. (*Hear !*) And he was only sorry that circumstances did not allow them to have done as much as, he was sure, they could have done. (*Hear !*) He greatly regretted, that some mark of distinction had not been granted to officers who had so greatly signalized themselves. With respect to Commodore Hayes, every person who knew him would admit, that he was one of the most disinterested men in the world; and he believed that the order which he issued in reference to the China junks, was one that very few men besides himself would have sent forth. He conceived that such conduct must have recommended him strongly to the Company. He thought that the giving up of those junks was extremely proper, and he only wished that the same sort of liberality had been displayed on other occasions.

Mr. S. Dixon said, his opinion was exactly the same with that of the hon. bart. who had just addressed the Court. As the subject alluded to by the gallant officer was admitted to be under consideration or deliberation at the present moment, it became a question whether more need be said this day than had already been said. The hon. Chairman had explicitly stated, in his official capacity, that the subject was under the most serious consideration of the Court of Directors. This was a confirmation of what had been stated on

a former occasion. The hon. Chairman declared, that the meritorious conduct of the Bombay Marine had been kept in view, up to the present moment; that in fact, it had never been lost sight of. He trusted, therefore, that the gallant officer would feel that he had, by eliciting such a statement, effected the object which he had in view, and that he would not refuse to withdraw his motion. If he did so, he conceived that the amendment would drop altogether. (*Hear !*) He believed that, in saying this, he was uttering not merely his own opinion, but the opinion of the great body of proprietors. (*Hear, hear !*)

Dr. Gilchrist felt called upon to speak. He was one of those who had signed the requisition, and was therefore branded with want of respect to the hon. Chairman. This was an accusation, however, that did not apply to him; at least, he meant not to shew disrespect to any person when he put his name to the requisition. But certainly, when he was asked to assist in calling a general Court, he would never consult either the Chairman or Deputy Chairman. It appeared that the gallant officer who had brought forward this motion, had been honoured for his conduct with public approbation. Now he was convinced that such a man, unless he had a right to complain of the service, would not have introduced a motion of this nature. When the gallant officer arrived in this country, he had a long account (he dared to say a perfectly just one) against the Company. Not the smallest item of that account was disputed; and it was settled with a rapidity which actually astonished him (Dr. G.). The gallant officer could not therefore be looked upon as a grumbler, as a discontented man, whose disappointments, at home or abroad, induced him to make frivolous complaints. It had been asserted, that the Bombay marine had no right to complain, because the officers entered into the service under certain stipulations as to pay and allowances. But did not military men enter the service under certain stipulations? and did they not all know that something had occurred, by which the pay of the army had been increased? Did not many military officers now get more than was stipulated for when they entered the army? But, it appeared that the Bombay marine were to stand still; and, on this point, he conceived that the arguments of the hon. Chairman were particularly unreasonable, and rather unreasonable.

The Chairman.—“I stated no such thing as has been imputed to me. I only pointed out what had been hitherto done, to shew that the Bombay Marine had not been neglected by the Court of Directors.”

Dr. Gilchrist

Dr. *Gilchrist* contended, that the Bombay Marine had as good a right to an increase of comforts of every description as the army. But there appeared to be something unfortunate in the situation of persons connected with the sea. They were considered as sea-beasts, sea-monsters, who were not capable of the management of their own affairs. The Bombay Marine had been subjected to insults and degradations, to which no other branch of the Company's service was exposed. Had the Bombay Marine been represented, as it ought to be, in that Court, by one or more members of the body behind the bar, he was pretty well convinced they would not have had such grounds for complaint. Mr. Money was, he knew, a Director for some years. He supposed that that hon. gent. found difficulties in the way of improving the condition of the marine service. Now he thought that, on occasions of such importance, it would be well if the Court of Directors requested and received the countenance of the General Court; such a proceeding would be calculated to give weight to their proceedings, and might be the means of effecting much good. For, let it be remembered, the Proprietors, in general, were as much interested in the welfare of the Company, as the gentlemen behind the bar could possibly be, and should not, therefore, be kept in a state of darkness. He might truly say, that the Bombay establishment had been generally neglected. It had not any person, civil, military, or marine, to represent it in the Court of Directors, and might therefore be viewed as the *fig end* of their system. He should be very glad to see it, as soon as possible, represented in that Court; and, as a beginning of that representation, he believed he saw a gallant officer behind the bar (Major Carnac) who had been connected with that much-neglected presidency. When the election for a Director took place the other day, he (Dr. G.) came to vote, and he expected to see a General Court. He, however, looked for a Chairman in vain—there was none. He only saw ladies dancing to and fro. There might be a *Chairwoman*, but *Chairman* there was none.—(A laugh.) Now if, as the advertisement stated, it was a general court, why were not the usual forms observed?

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"I can answer the hon. proprietor by stating, that at every Court held for the election of Directors, if there are two rooms open, there is a Chairman in each room; and where the business is of a very pressing nature, there are two gentlemen presiding in each room."

Col. *Stanhope* declared, that both the hon. Deputy and the learned Doctor were out of order. They were speaking of matter not at all before the Court.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he wished for information; because, on a future day, he meant to ask some questions on the subject of election.

Mr. *Wigram*.—"I apprehend we are not here to discuss the business of a ballot—but are assembled to discuss a specific question."

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he had touched upon this point, because he was anxious not to err through ignorance. He agreed with the gallant colonel, that the shipping interest was fully represented in that Court; and that it had, therefore, an advantage over the Bombay Marine; and indeed, as he had just now stated, it was a melancholy fact, that the Bombay establishment was not properly represented. When he saw how the Court of Directors was filled up, it appeared that every part of their establishments was represented except Bombay, and he might add China. Next to the Bombay Marine, he might observe, that the Company's medical establishment was more neglected than any other body in that Court.—(A laugh.)—What particular dislike was entertained against that body he could not conceive. The army, the engineers, and the artillery, were represented; and the more the various establishments were represented, the greater was their chance of procuring justice from the Executive body. The hon. bart. had stated, that all the matters brought forward by the gallant officer were founded in fact.

Sir C. *Forbes*.—"To the best of my belief."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"If this were the case, the subject was one that ought not to be passed over hastily. A remedy ought immediately to be provided. When the army brought forward complaints, a remedy was immediately found; and why should not a remedy be devised for the marine service? The hon. Chairman had stated that the former superintendent was no more, and that, therefore, it was improper to make any observations on his conduct. If such a principle as this were acted on, how would it fare with history? A tyrant and a villain would have nothing to do but to die (a laugh), and thus to escape all animadversion. The gallant officer had stated, that the late superintendent had been guilty of certain censurable acts; and the declaration that he was a good man or a great man, in days of yore, had nothing to do with the charge. In fact, it was their very good men in the world, who, relying on the strength of their character, did more mischief than those whose conduct, being questionable, caused inquiry and suspicion."

Mr. *Twining* thought it was an act of justice, both to the Chairman and to the Court, to give his most strenuous support to the amendment which had been brought forward.

forward.—(*Hear !*) He was not surprised that, without imputing any unfair or illiberal feelings to other gentlemen, the hon. Chairman should have been a little hurt at the introduction of this subject, after the plain declaration he had made, that the utmost exertions had been, and were in active operation for the attainment of that object which they all appeared to have in view.—(*Hear !*) One sentiment at least appeared to be unanimous on all sides of the Court, that of doing justice and giving merited distinction to the Bombay Marine. All parties strove to confer upon that corps the honour which was due to it. The disadvantages under which that service laboured had been felt and known for a considerable length of time; and when it was ascertained that every exertion was making to procure for the marine corps all that was necessary for their comfort and honour, he conceived that the business should have been allowed to rest where it was. When it was considered that the point at which the Bombay Marine aimed, could not be effected independently of the Government (for the Company could award pecuniary compensation alone), he was not surprised that some time had elapsed in making the necessary arrangement. But when it was clearly stated that the Executive Body were doing every thing in their power to attain the desired object, he conceived it to be an act of justice, imperatively due to the Executive, to support the amendment now brought forward, which, he hoped, would be put from the Chair, and carried by a large majority.—(*Hear !*)

Mr. *Weeding* observed, that on three different occasions the hon. Chairman had stated to the Court, that this subject was under the serious consideration of the Executive Body; and therefore he conceived, that to bring the present motion forward was not only frivolous, but in some degree vexatious. He thought that the amendment was a very fair rebuke (indeed the introduction of this question, under all the circumstances, would have warranted a much stronger), and he hoped the hon. Chairman would not be induced to recal it.

Capt. *Maxfield* replied. He observed, that the unequivocal acknowledgments made by the hon. Chairman, relative to the merits and claims of the Bombay Marine, and his declaration that the Court of Directors were using their best efforts to render that corps efficient in every respect, were exceedingly satisfactory to him, and would operate to induce him to follow the suggestion of the hon. bart. (Sir C. Forbes) to withdraw his motion for papers, because he had nearly accomplished the object which he had in view. The great respect which he entertained for the hon. bart., would at all times induced him to attend to any suggestion of his; but, on the present occasion,

there was a difficulty in the way, which it was proper he should explain, before he could adopt the course pointed out. In the observations he had made, which, so far as the knowledge of the hon. bart. went, (and the hon. bart. had resided at Bombay), were most handsomely corroborated by him; he had referred to documents and orders, which were to be found on the records of the house, in support of his statements. The hon. Chairman, in his answer, had contented himself with a mere contradiction of those statements; but he had neither attempted, nor was it in his power, to confute a single position that he (Captain Maxfield) had laid down. He had, notwithstanding, moved an amendment, which he was certain of carrying. Thus it was that the hon. Chairman met the most stubborn facts; facts which were supported by the undeniable evidence of the Company's records. If, under such circumstances, he were to consent to withdraw his motion for papers, it would appear on his part to be a shrinking from proofs, and it was essentially necessary that he should avoid even the possibility of such an imputation. He therefore wished to say, that if the papers were produced, they would furnish incontestable proof as to the party in error, whether himself or the hon. Chairman; and he hesitated not to assert, that if they did not fully establish all that he (Captain Maxfield) had advanced, as to the neglect, degradation, and persecution of the marine service, then he would pledge himself never to raise his voice in that court again; the option, of course, remained with the hon. Chairman. He (Captain Maxfield) moved for evidence. He did not shrink from it; he desired it—he solicited it—and the public would judge between himself and the parties to whom he applied. The hon. Chairman had endeavoured to avoid any notice of the powerful evidence which he (Captain Maxfield) had adduced, and which, in fact, could not be shaken, by adverting to what he was pleased to designate reflections on the late superintendent of the marine. Now, if he were not much mistaken, he had in the outset declared distinctly, that he did not mean to offer any comments on the conduct of that officer; but he certainly did not intend, nor could he be weak enough to refrain from producing facts, to shew what that conduct was. The hon. Chairman must be aware that those facts could not be denied; they were to be found noted on the Company's records. He was not answerable for the orders or for the conduct of the superintendent. He had, however, an undoubted right to notice them; and he thought that he behaved with sufficient forbearance, in not making them the subject of severe comment. The hon. bart. (Sir C. Forbes) had stated, that, from his intimate acquaintance with Mr.

Money,

Money, he could decidedly affirm, that that gentleman did not resign his office in disgust, but that he had recourse to that step for the purpose of promoting his own private advantage. The hon. bart. had undoubtedly a better opportunity of being acquainted with Mr. Money's motives than he (Captain Maxfield) could pretend to, and therefore he was thankful for being set right on that point. He, however, had been led to suppose that Mr. Money had resigned in disgust, because he was aware that the Court of Directors had sent out some orders about the time of his resignation, that were very unsatisfactory to him. The hon. Chairman had observed that Commodore Hayes, in ordering the liberation of the Chinese junks, had only performed a duty which he owed to the Company; and he acknowledged that the commodore, by his conduct on that occasion, had probably saved the Company from ruin, by preventing the destruction of the China trade. Now, he would ask, whether the treatment which he had described the marine as having suffered, was likely to encourage such feelings of disinterestedness and devotion? and he would further ask, whether the Court of Directors had ever acknowledged the important service rendered to the Company by Commodore Hayes?—(Hear!) The commodore, he must say, in issuing such orders, had greatly exceeded his authority. He was not warranted in compelling those officers to release the junks. They complied out of courtesy and esteem to the individual, and not from any conviction that they were legally bound to do so. The orders in council (which were superior to the orders of Commodore Hayes, or to the commercial interests of the East-India Company) were most imperative; and if those junks had been sent into any of the Admiralty courts, their condemnation must have followed. Strange, however, it was, that in the same breath in which the hon. Chairman praised the disinterestedness of Commodore Hayes in making so great a sacrifice, he informed the proprietors that he had acceded to a vote which deprived the Commodore of his rank, and reduced him to the grade of *Captain* only. The hon. Chairman and the Court of Directors had taken this step to prevent Lord Amherst from again handing the wife of this old and most meritorious officer before any of the ladies of the civil service; and as an apology for doing so, the hon. Chairman said, he could not conceive how the commodore could be properly so designated when on shore; because, according to his ideas, no person could be considered as a commodore except when he was afloat. It appeared to him that, in making this observation, the hon. Chairman proved that he knew very little of the marine service; because, by

the orders and regulations of the Court, the marine commodore at Bombay was seldom or ever afloat. He had, notwithstanding, a commission given him as commodore, with certain rank and pay; and he believed that neither Commodore Brally, Commodore Mainwaring, or Commodore Holles, ever served afloat since they were promoted to that rank; while, on the other hand, of all the officers of the Bombay marine, no one young or old ever served so much afloat, in every rank of the service, as Commodore Hayes. The hon. Chairman had forgotten, or perhaps the fact had not come to his knowledge, that when the Court of Directors conferred upon Commodore Hayes the appointment he at present held, it was as a reward for his gallantry. It would be found recorded in that house, that this honour, was conferred on him without prejudice to his rank or standing in the marine service. The hon. Chairman had declared that the bringing the present subject under discussion was *premature*. This point must be judged of by comparison; and if it were premature to bring forward the defects of a corps, which defects had been in existence for twenty-five years, why then he was entirely at a loss to know what might be deemed a mature period for introducing the subject.—(Hear!)—The hon. Chairman had regretted that confidence had not been placed in the sincerity of his declaration, that strenuous efforts were making to improve the situation of the marine, which efforts he was then actively engaged in making. In answer to this he begged, in the most unequivocal manner, to state, that he placed entire confidence in the hon. Chairman's efforts.—(Hear!)—as well as in those of his honourable deputy.—(Hear!) But he could not forget that the chairs went out by rotation, and that the hon. gent. would shortly quit the situation he now filled. He had also heard, for the last twenty-five years, that the marine was to be improved; and for the last four years he had been closely watching the progress of that promised work. The result, he confessed, was by no means satisfactory. In the years 1823 and 1824, when there was one of their most able and distinguished members in the chair, a strenuous effort was made, with every chance of success, to improve the marine. The object was nearly effected, but that able chairman was removed by the rotatory system; and the marine, by the same rotatory effects which had operated against it for the last 28 years, still remained unimproved. In the march of human events a favourable period might arrive for carrying into effect a system of improvement, and he believed that it was not far distant; but, however near it might be, he feared that but few of their old and faithful officers, who had devoted their lives, in that service,

to the Company, would exist to hail that so much desired hour. But their friends might have the consolation of inscribing on their tombs: "Here lies an old officer, who served the East-India Company faithfully, zealously, and devotedly, for probably nearly fifty years, in a profession purely military, during which time he was denied the means of performing his duty with credit to himself or benefit to his country. Had he contrived to live fifty years longer, a better opportunity would have been afforded him, as the Court of Directors intended to render the corps he belonged to effective."—(Laughter.)—Before he concluded he could not omit to mention the kindness and consideration of many of his Majesty's naval officers with whom the Bombay Marine had been especially associated on service. In most instances (and he spoke from experience), the British navy had exhibited a degree of sympathy, feeling, and liberality, towards the officers of the marine, which the orders and treatment of the Court of Directors were but little calculated to produce. The gratuitous consideration and liberality of that gallant corps formed a striking contrast with the conduct of those whose duty it was to uphold and cherish the Bombay Marine, rather than to neglect and degrade it. That marine was employed upon the most arduous services, and yet the Court of Directors took no measures whatever to man or equip them efficiently. It remained solely dependent on the efforts of a commander to obtain a crew, as if the vessel belonged to him and not to the state. The individual in command received no aid from the Court of Directors or the government abroad; he was left to his own resources, and frequently had been obliged to rob their merchantships of part of their crews, that he might man the cruizers which he commanded. He thus always procured a crew, and he would rather run the risk of being dismissed the service for distressing the Indiamen, than he would take the chance of being without the means of defending the ships he commanded, and of upholding the honour of the colours which they carried.—(Hear !)—He was with reluctance compelled to advert to these facts; but he was borne out by evidence, and the papers, if granted, would prove that he was correct. The hon. Chairman and himself were at issue as to those facts; and the records of the Court of Directors could decide easily between them. He was indifferent as to the amendment moved by the hon. Chairman, who was always sure to command a majority. But the public would justly appreciate the value of such a decision. For his own part, he shrank not from inquiry—he challenged it. He now left the question in the hands of the Court. It remained with the hon. Chairman to

say whether he would or would not withdraw his amendment.

The Chairman.—"I will not."

Capt. Maxfield.—"If it be the hon. Chairman's object to withhold the documents by pressing the amendment, the hon. gentleman will only seem to shrink from the inquiry which he (Capt. Maxfield) courted and solicited."

The Chairman said the resolutions were sixteen in number, and if they were laid before the Court of Directors, three years more would elapse before any relief would be provided for the Bombay Marine.

The original motion was then put, and negatived by a large majority, only six hands being raised in its favour.

The Chairman was then about to put the question on his amendment, when

Col. Stanhope said, he wished to move an amendment upon the amendment, by omitting the latter part.

The Chairman expressed his doubts as to whether the gallant proprietor could do so.

Mr. Wigram said it was competent to the Court to alter the amendment before it was adopted.

Mr. S. Dixon said, the Chairman had always displayed a willingness to yield to the suggestions made in that Court, and he hoped he would, on the present occasion, allow the word "injudicious" to be struck out of the amendment.

Col. Stanhope then moved that all the words after "give confidence to the statement made from the chair" be omitted.

Sir C. Forbes trusted that the hon. Chairman would, upon consideration, consent not to press the amendment, or, at all events, to adopt the suggestion of the gallant proprietor, and omit the latter part of it.

The Chairman said, he felt obliged to his hon. friend (Sir C. Forbes), if he would allow him to call him so, for the conciliatory proposition which he had made; but he must declare that, under all the circumstances of the case, and when he considered that the requisition for calling the present court had been signed by a set of gentlemen, whose names, varying only in the order in which they were placed, were to be found attached to many other requisitions for exciting discussion in that court, which he thought equally inexpedient with that which had been brought forward on the present occasion, he felt bound to adhere to his original intention, and to press the amendment to a vote. (Hear, hear !) The time was arrived when he was about to quit the direction in rotation; it could not be his wish or interest to act in contradiction to the declared opinion of the body of proprietors; but he was disposed, he might say determined, to place his future prospects on the result of the amendment: he

he would, therefore, abide by the terms of the amendment, in which, he must confess, he had intended to express something like censure on the requisitionists. (*Hear, hear!*) By thus acting, he gave them a fair opportunity of exerting all their influence to keep him out of the direction. He would not give up, for conciliation, that which he thought due to his own character and credit, and to the character of those gentlemen with whom he was associated in the direction. (*Cheers.*) He thought it highly necessary that something (conveying the sense of the court) should be adopted, to prevent the interminable discussions which were continually taking place, and which tended in no way to the advantage of the Company, but merely to the gratification of gentlemen who were fond of speaking. (*Cheers.*)

The Deputy Chairman said, that after what had fallen from their worthy chairman, in explanation of the honourable motives which induced him to persevere in his amendment, he trusted that the court would not permit it to be withdrawn, but would carry it by a large majority. (*Hear!*)

Mr. Pattison entirely concurred in the view which the hon. Chairman had taken of the subject: the words of censure in the amendment were of the most mitigated character which the English language would admit of; the hon. Chairman intended to express, by his amendment, that it was desirable to check the practice of making motions of the nature of the present, in opposition to an express declaration made by the organ of the court; for, on the occasion to which he alluded, the Chairman spoke, not as an individual, but as the organ of the Court of Directors. He did not wish to say any thing unkind, but he could not help stating, that in the manner in which the motion had been brought forward, he saw something like a perverse determination to do that which the Court of Directors considered to be inexpedient. The executive body had, he thought, a right to expect that degree of confidence from their constituents which the hon. Chairman claimed for them, and he hoped that, chosen as they were by themselves to represent the general body of proprietors, it would not be withdrawn. (*Hear, hear!*) The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman had used their utmost endeavours to effect the object to which the original motion referred; their efforts had been most promisingly successful, and surely it was rather hard at the close of their direction, when business pressed upon them, to be called upon to summon a special court, upon a matter which did not require such interference. The Chairman had obtained the approbation of his colleagues for his conduct in the distinguished station which he filled, and he was sure that he would also obtain that of

the general body. (*Cheers.*) He (Mr. Pattison) felt it his duty, humbly, but firmly, to stand up in support of himself and his colleagues at the present critical conjuncture. If the practice of bringing forward motions so unnecessary, on matters declared from the higher authority to be under the special care and attention of the Court of Directors, were persevered in, that body might as well be dissolved, and allowed to pursue their private avocations, which, at present, they willingly sacrificed, in order to promote the interests of the Company. If the Court of Proprietors should persist in such interference, there was an end of the confidence which, in his humble opinion, ought to be reposed in the executive body. Under these circumstances, he trusted that the amendment of the Chairman, which was couched in very moderate terms, merely declaring that there was *something* injudicious—*something* inexpedient—in thus bringing this subject before the court, would be agreed to. (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Sir C. Forbes said, it appeared to him that they were now entering on a more important question than that which had hitherto occupied their attention (*Hear!*); and that was neither more nor less than whether the privileges enjoyed by the Court of Proprietors were to be curtailed; whether nine gentlemen were to be permitted to bring before the court any question which they thought proper, however erroneous and inexpedient. This was a very serious question. He certainly regretted that the motion made that day had been brought forward, and if he had known of it before-hand, he would have taken on himself to advise the gallant Captain not to do so. He, however, gave the gallant Captain all due credit for his good intentions, and he earnestly entreated of the Court, generally, not to carry the angry feeling which had been excited any farther. The conduct of the Directors had, in his opinion, been most completely justified and approved; they had deservedly received the praise which was due to them, and if they would consent to abandon the amendment, or, at least, to omit the words objected to, he was sure it would have more effect in accomplishing the object they had in view, than pushing matters to an extremity. With respect to the present mode of calling special courts, he must say he had not the least objection that the present number of proprietors necessary for that purpose, should be doubled, or that, in future, a court should not be summoned unless upon the requisition of twenty or twenty-five proprietors. (*Hear!*)

Col. Stanhope said that the last three speakers had not spoken one word upon the question before the court. He called them all to order. (*Laughter.*)

The *Chairman*.—"It was proposed to leave out the very gist of the motion; and objecting to that course was certainly speaking to the question."

Capt. *Murfield* hoped, that he would be allowed to make a few observations on what had fallen from the chair. He was extremely sorry that the time of the court had been occupied in endeavouring to qualify the terms of the amendment. He was perfectly indifferent as to those terms, and cared not at all whether the amendment were made ten times stronger or ten times weaker; such amendments, unsupported by evidence, or even by the shadow of argument, told against those who introduced them rather than for them. He would leave the merits of the case to the public; and he thought that, if the hon. Chairman was anxious to do the same, he would produce, instead of withholding, the papers. The hon. Chairman had, in his opinion, indiscreetly disclosed more than he intended. He thanked him for his communicativeness; since he had clearly evinced, that the words "injurious and inexpedient," in his amendment, were meant to mark his aversion to general courts, and to those who frequently called them. Whether such an expression of his dissatisfaction was likely to render them less frequent, remained to be seen; but certainly the hon. Chairman's hinting such a dislike to his constituents, implied a disregard to the law as it at present stood. If the Court of Directors conceived, that meeting their constituents, occasionally, in general court, were irksome and unnecessary, had they not better apply to Parliament to deprive the proprietors of the right of calling such courts, and thus secure their own authority in perpetuity? But, until the act which gave the proprietors the right to call general courts were repealed, he should continue to exercise it (*Hear!*); and he hoped that others would be found equally determined to resist all attempts to frustrate it. (*Hear!*) Had the hon. Chairman made such an observation when a court had been called, and the mover of a question had failed in making out any case, then the policy or expediency (to use his own words) of such a remark would be very questionable; but, in the present instance, where as strong a case as ever was brought before the court had been substantiated, and remained unanswered (because it was unanswerable), then he conceived such an observation to be as impotent as it was injudicious and inexpedient.

Mr. *S. Dixon* said, it was evident, from what had fallen from the Chairman, that he felt offended by the conduct of the gentlemen amongst whom he (Mr. Dixon) was sitting. He would be sorry, at his late period of life, to be obliged

to change sides; but it was evident he had got into a bad neighbourhood. (*Hear! and a laugh.*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose amidst cries of "question." He hoped he did not come in "a questionable shape." The Chairman had called him and his friends a "set" of people—he might as well have called them "a crew." The stigma was so infectious, that a gentleman had already declared he found himself in "a bad neighbourhood." Did the hon. Chairman mean to brand them?—to put a black ball into their ballot box? (*A laugh.*) The motion, as proposed to be amended by Col. Stanhope, went quite far enough: to carry it further betrayed a vindictive spirit. He would be happy to meet the directors in a conciliatory manner; but the more he was opposed, the more he would fight. (*Laughter.*)

The *Chairman* put the question upon Col. Stanhope's amendment, which was negatived.

Sir *C. Forbes* said that he would now vote for the Chairman's amendment. (*Hear!*)

The amendment, as originally proposed by the Chairman, was then put and carried.

MR. BOSANQUET.

Mr. *Twining* observed, that as this was the first court which had been held since a change had taken place in the direction, in consequence of Mr. Bosanquet's retirement, his object in rising was, to give notice of his intention to submit, at the next quarterly court, a resolution, expressing the high regard entertained by the court for that hon. gentleman; and he requested that any letters which had passed, or any resolution which had been entered into by the Court of Directors on the subject, might be produced on that occasion, as it was probable he might request them to be read.

INDIA PATRONAGE.

Col. *Stanhope* gave notice that, at the next general court, he would move for a return of all writerships, cadetships, surgeons' appointments, nautical appointments, and all other patronage in the gift of the Court of Directors during the years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, and 1826.

INDIAN BUTTEES.

Mr. *Poynder* moved for a copy of a statement presented by Mr. *Hudleston*, a late director, to the Court of Directors, on the subject of the burning of widows in India.

The *Chairman* said the hon. proprietor could not then move, but only give notice for the next general court.

Mr. *Poynder* said that would be of no use, as he wanted to refer to the document previously to bringing forward a motion, of which he had given notice, at the next court.

Mr.

Mr. Wigram said, that the hon. proprietor might move that the document be read before bringing on his motion. It might be brought into court for that purpose.

Col. Stanhope hoped that a similar indulgence would be extended to him, and that his returns might be ready in court to be referred to.

Mr. Wigram said, the gallant Colonel must be aware that there was a great distinction between the two motions: one was for the production of a document already in existence, whilst the other called for a return of all the patronage of the directors, which might comprise most extensive details.

Col. Stanhope said he was sorry to hear that the directors' patronage was so extensive.

Dr. Gilchrist gave notice that he would move, at the next general court, for a return, setting forth the number of attendances of each director at Courts of Directors during the last year, and also their respective ages and abilities, on account of bodily health and mental capacity, to perform the duties of their responsible situations. (*A laugh.*)

The Chairman thought the learned Doctor had better seek for information from the gentlemen themselves, or their medical attendants, as to the condition of their minds and bodies. (*Laughter.*)

The court then adjourned at 4 o'clock.

East-India House, March 21.

A quarterly General Court of Proprietors of the East-India Stock was this day held, pursuant to the charter.

ASSISTANT SURGEON AT CHATHAM.

The minutes of the last court having been read:—

The Chairman stated, that the present court was made special for the purpose of submitting for confirmation the resolution of the general court of the 7th ult. approving of the resolution of the Court of Directors of the 10th of January last, appointing an assistant in the medical department at the Company's depot at Chatham, with a salary of £300 per annum, and an allowance of £40 per annum for house rent.

The resolution was confirmed without observation.

BOARDS IN INDIA.

The Chairman.—“There are a variety of notices of motions standing for to-day, and such as will necessarily occupy a great deal of the time and attention of the court. Chiefly with a view to general convenience, I would take the liberty to request of gentlemen, in bringing forward those motions, that they will confine themselves to the respective subjects of such motions (*Hear!*), and give us a prospect of getting through the business to-day. The first

notice given by an hon. proprietor (Capt. Maxfield) was, that at the next general court, meaning the present, he would move for papers relative to the existing usage, as to the mode pursued by some of the boards in India in doing business, and the manner in which their accounts were audited.

Capt. Maxfield said, he was perfectly prepared to proceed with his motion; but it had unfortunately happened that his servant, in putting the papers into his carriage, had forgotten some official documents which were essential to the object he had in view, and which he wished to have in his hand when he addressed the court: he must, therefore, postpone his motion to the next quarterly general court, or to any other convenient opportunity. It was a matter of very great importance to ascertain how the accounts of the Company's servants in India were audited.

THE PRESS IN INDIA.

The Chairman said, the next notice of motion had been given by Col. Stanhope, and should now be read.

The following motion was then read by the proper officer:—

“That as the King of England's most upright and learned chief justice, Sir Edward West, and his Majesty's judges, Sir Ralph Rice and Sir Charles Chambers, have declared in open court at Bombay, that the licensing of the press in that settlement is unlawful and inexpedient, and have therefore refused to register the Calcutta regulations; and as no censor existed during the rule of W. Hastings, Lord Cornwallis, or Sir John Shore; and as the Marquis of Hastings, after having beat down the Mahratta confederacy, did, on his triumphal entry into the metropolis, sacrifice the upstart monster, and set the public mind at liberty; and as Mr. Canning, when president of the Board of Control, prevented shackles from being again fastened on the press, and was thanked by this Court for his wise administration; and as no legal restraints on writing, under either native or European Governments, were ever, till of late, enacted, except under the frightfulquisition at Goa; this Court doth implore the Court of Directors not to extend this base monopoly over the mind—this curse—to Bombay. By enthroning the licenser in that presidency, they would make Great Britain guilty of the inconsistency of depriving 100,000,000 of her own subjects of a blessing which she has promoted in Portugal and in South America.”

Col. L. Stanhope said, he rose once more to advocate the cause of a free press, and of the natives of British India; and he called upon the court not to dishonour the country of Milton by placing 100,000,000 of his fellow-subjects (exceeding, in number, the population of France, Austria,

Austria, and Russia) under the most hateful interdicts that ever cramped the human mind. In the year 1813, Parliament declared its determination "to promote the intellectual, moral, and religious improvement of the natives of Hindoostan;" and he besought the Court of Directors not to abridge the wise decrees of the Legislature, by the establishment of a censorship. With respect to the history of the press in British India, he could sum it up in a few words. They were aware that the Hindoos and Chinese contended for the invention of a press; but it was first brought into use in India by the Portuguese, who established some presses at Goa. They there also introduced that scourge of humanity, the inquisition. That horrible engine was brought into frightful activity at Goa. Tavernier, speaking of its proceedings, said, "silence was imposed on the press by the inquisition; and men who disobeyed its decrees were flogged, or burned to the marrow, or tortured to death: nay, worse than that, they were deprived of human food, and some of them actually lived on their own excrement." And was it, then, from this school that the politicians and governors-general of British India were to take their decrees? Was it for them to select the very worst decree of the inquisition, that which established a censorship over the press? Under the native governments, generally speaking, no restrictions were placed on writing. Every thing, however, depended on the character of the government of the reigning prince. If the prince were a bad and tyrannical man, there was an absolute restriction on writing; but if, on the other hand, he were what we would call a good despot, the freedom of writing was enjoyed, even to licentiousness. So notorious was this fact, as to cause the historian of Hindoostan to make this observation, "however surprising it may appear (says he), it is certain, that the philosophers of the East wrote with greater freedom concerning persons and things, than authors dared to do in the West." No restriction was placed on writing until 1798. Up to that time the press in India was on the same footing with the press in England; with this exception, that the governor-general might take away the license of any individual, and prevent him from remaining in India; not the press license, but the license under which his residence was allowed. In all other respects the press was the same there as here. Mr. Hickey was, in the time of Warren Hastings, tried and condemned for a libel; but he was afterwards forgiven by his prosecutor. Col. Duane, a gentleman who had since signalized himself in America, was banished by the Marquis Cornwallis; and Dr. Maclean, another distin-

guished individual was sent away by the Marquis Wellesley. This led to a censorship, which was never registered in the Supreme Court. But, as the Governor-general possessed the power to remove any individual, he exercised that power to fix restraints on the press; and thus the censorship was established. In 1818, the Marquis of Hastings abolished that censorship. The restrictions or regulations which the Marquis of Hastings imposed in lieu of the censorship were never registered. They only operated through the Governor-general (without the concurrence of his council), in whose hands were placed the power of banishing any European he might think fit; but it remained a dead letter during the whole of Lord Hastings' administration; the consequence was, that while the noble Marquis governed, the press was perfectly free. In that time seven newspapers were established; and Mr. Buckingham was brought into court, by the ordinary legal process, to answer for a libel on the six secretaries. Those individuals were perfectly right in bringing their action, if they thought that they had been slandered. A different course was pursued under Mr. Adam's administration, which followed. Mr. Buckingham was banished; and the licensing system was established, and the decree for that purpose registered in the Supreme Court. Thus then the matter stood:—at Madras, the Marquis Wellesley's censorship still prevailed; at Bombay, the press remained in the same state as that in which it existed during the administration of the Marquis of Hastings; that was to say, that, properly speaking, there were no precise restraints on the press; while, at Calcutta, the licensing system was adopted. The supreme court of justice at Bombay, complained of *The Bombay Gazette*, for having miscoloured, garbled, and misrepresented the proceedings of the court. It appeared that Mr. Warden, the chief secretary to the Government, was the proprietor of *The Bombay Gazette*, though the nominal owner and editor was a Mr. Fair. The Bombay Government was irritated at this, and they felt themselves obliged to send home Mr. Fair, on account of those miscoloured statements. Mr. Warden, himself a member of the Government, garbled the proceedings of the Supreme Court—and the Government selected Mr. Fair, a man of straw, as the scapegoat, and sent him home. Subsequently, Sir E. West compelled the editors to register their names. This proceeding was much objected to by the Government of Bombay—but was at last legally enforced; and he must do the Court of Directors the justice to say, that they acquiesced in that measure. They went one step further, in taking which he questioned whether they were right. They prevented any servant of the government from

from writing in any newspaper, or from embarking any property in such a speculation. Here he thought the wisdom of their conduct was doubtful. On the 10th of July 1826, the supreme court of justice at Bombay were called on to register the Bengal regulations. This they refused to do; and all the three judges pronounced it to be unlawful and inexpedient. He would here read to the court one or two extracts from the opinions of the judges on this subject. [Here the gallant colonel quoted several passages from the speeches of Sir E. West, Sir R. Rice, and Sir C. Chambers, in giving their judgment with respect to the registration of the Bengal regulations,—for which see the *Asiatic Journal* for February last, p. 293.] It was (continued the gallant colonel) impossible to speak in terms stronger than those used by the chief justice of Bombay. He (Col. Stanhope) begged the lawyers, who might now happen to be present to state their opinions—and he pledged himself to reply to any observations they might make. Here he had lawyers to oppose lawyers. He should now proceed to consider another subject. He begged to call their attention to the restraints that were imposed upon the press, previously to the establishment of the censorship or of the licensing system in India; and he would ask of them all, as honourable men and Englishmen, to say, whether those restraints were not amply sufficient for every wise and good purpose? Under a free press, such as formerly existed in Bengal, it was necessary in the first place to obtain a license, to enable an individual to reside in India; it was exceedingly difficult to procure this, because the spirit of the Company's government was opposed to colonization. Every one who attempted to proceed to India, must well know how hard it was to procure a license for that purpose. In the second place, if the individual intended to set up a newspaper, he must possess very considerable capital; for that purpose, six, eight, or ten thousand pounds were requisite. In the third place, they must be aware, that the editor of an opposition journal was frowned on by the Government; and therefore where every thing was rewarded by patronage, he could not expect to obtain any situation of emolument. Fourthly, the editor was subject to all the laws, with respect to the press, that were in force in this country; and he might, after a second conviction, be banished, under the provisions of the six acts. And fifthly, his license might, at any time, be withdrawn, by a sort of Star-chamber proceeding; which, however, did not possess the advantages that were allowed in the Star-chamber, where a man was put on his defence. In India no trial was granted; and several persons had been banished in that summary way. Such were the shackles

imposed on what was called the free press; and he asked if these were not amply sufficient, without any precise restrictions, such as were now in force? If any man could place his hand on his heart, and declare that he believed mischief might accrue to India under the free press system (such as he had described it), then he must say, that he could feel very little respect for the understanding of such an individual. He should now proceed to state, as broadly and as powerfully as their lawyers could do, the arguments against a free press. The first argument was, that India must be governed by a despotism—and that a free press and a despotic government could not exist together. Now, he would ask, whether those who used this argument meant to say that India, having been deprived of all the advantages of the native governments, was to be favoured with none of the benefits of British rule. He was certain that this could not be their position. But, let the court examine more narrowly how the case really stood. And, in the first place, he would read a very short, but a very powerful passage from a petition which he had the honour to convey to Mr. Wynn, and which was signed by the celebrated name of Rammohun Roy, and by other natives. In this passage the petitioners spoke, in the most feeling terms, of the loss of the native governments, which, however, they had hoped would have been compensated by the establishment of the press, the diffusion of education, and the formation of many beneficial institutions, and they prayed that those expectations might be fulfilled. [The gallant colonel here read the extract, in which the petitioners stated (in substance) that, under the Mahometan Government the Hindoos were treated in the same manner as the Mussulmans. They filled high offices in the state, and were entrusted with the command of armies. They suffered no disqualifying degradations on account of their religion or place of birth. Some of them received grants of rents and other favours—while natives of learning and talent were placed in situations of honour and emolument. Although, under the British rule, the natives had entirely lost their political consequence, and were prevented from holding honourable situations, either civil or military; yet they felt that they were more than recompensed, by being freed from the tyranny to which they were subjected under the Mussulman government; but, if the rights which they had acquired under the British sway were suffered to be unceremoniously invaded—if the growth of education were checked—if every thing that tended to inspire an honest ambition were discouraged—then the hopes they had cherished of deriving extensive benefits under the British Constitution were destroyed.] But beyond the disadvantages
here

here complained of, he begged leave to point out others under which the natives of India suffered. The British government had beaten down the Indian aristocracy. There was now no aristocracy in the country. Their's was a levelling system—a jacobin system. They had removed the aristocracy—and they had heavily taxed the land. What was the feeling of political economists with respect to the produce of the soil? They said that one-third should go to the landlord, one-third to the expense of cultivation, and one-third to the cultivators; but he knew, from the best authority, that the system of the Company was that of taking, whenever they could take it, one-half of the produce of the soil. Next he must complain of the state of religious idolatry that prevailed under the British Government, and which could only be broken in on by the efforts of the press; by no other means could it be corrected. As it had beaten down European superstition, why should it not overturn Indian idolatry? an idolatry so gross, that the people believed in 30,000,000 of gods—whose worship was accompanied by all sorts of sacrifices—the sacrifice of children—of sick men at the Ganges—and the burning of widows. Two women, on an average calculation, were said to be destroyed in that manner every day in the year. These scenes were kept up, almost, as it would appear, to cause the Company's government to be despised all over the world. He should next call their attention to the state of the laws: and on this subject he could not do better than to read to them the opinion of Sir T. Munro, the governor of Bombay, who complained of "the dilatoriness and expense" attending legal proceedings in India. Sir Thos. observed, that "the great body of *ryots*, who were most exposed to wrong, must suffer in silence, because, in consequence of the expense, they could not obtain redress; though formerly that object was easily effected, under the ancient law. It is only under a code, framed expressly for their benefit, that they are excluded from justice." This was the statement of Sir T. Munro. Mill could not have written any thing more biting or more powerful, when censuring the misrule of the government. He farther stated, "that the arrear of causes on the 1st of July 1807, amounted to the enormous number of 1,042,406." Was any thing ever heard of half so horrible? Such was the attention paid to the "moral improvement" of the natives, that it was scarcely possible to believe a word they said. If a trial took place, twenty witnesses would be arrayed on one side, and twenty on the other, all equally disregarding of the obligation of an oath. Surely the press might be effectively used in correcting so deplorable a state, of

things. Sir H. Sturacey spoke in the most decided terms of the degraded state of morals observable amongst the natives—which in his (Col. Stanhope's) opinion, was a disgrace to their governors. He must also complain, with M. Sismondi, of the native children being totally uneducated, except so far as they were instructed in the absurd fables of their gods. Again, the natives were deprived of the power of petitioning; a right which, he would shew, had been exercised to the greatest extent under all good native governments. If a petition were given to the Governor-general, he handed it to his *aide-de-camp*; and by him it was thrown amongst a mass of papers, and never examined; or if it were examined, it was sent to the party accused; and, of course, though he might be the most guilty man in the world, he made himself out as one of the most innocent of God's creatures. He contended that learning was not patronized—and that no means of education were afforded. He wished to know whether Mr. Stuart (a director) was present; he hoped he was—because he was about to read a passage from a report made by that gentleman, in support of his argument.

The *Chairman*.—"Mr. Stuart has had the misfortune to suffer a domestic calamity—and is, therefore, absent."

Col. L. Stanhope said, he was very sorry for it, because he was a good man, and he respected him the more on account of the unmanner in which he stated his opinion in the report. At the time he made it, he was judge of the court of Sudder Adawlut. He observed, that the system was calculated "to exclude the natives from every thing that could excite an honest ambition, or that stimulated men to cultivate their faculties. They might accumulate wealth—they might heap up riches—but they were debarred from aspiring to honourable distinction. Such a system has no root in the native soil of the community." Mill could not have spoken more truly or more strongly. What did Sir J. Malcolm say? Why, he told them that the people were at all times ready to rise up and cut the throats of their white tyrants. Now, if such a system as this were not calculated to bring the English Government into contempt amongst the natives of India, there must be something quite peculiar in the composition of their understandings; and certainly very unlike the composition of our own. It was said, that a free press was incompatible with despotism. If they asserted that it was incompatible with a bad despotism, he would agree in that proposition. But he must contend that it was not incompatible with that good system of despotism, which alone his opponents would dare to advocate; and they should have proofs of this fact. Many things were said to be inconsistent with despotism;

despotism; but the incorrectness of the opinion was discovered on examination. Under some despotic governments, there was, in fact, in particular instances, a greater degree of equality than was to be found under governments of a more liberal character. Thus, the law of primogeniture, which created so great a distinction amongst individuals, did not prevail over Asia; and no such thing as hereditary nobility was allowed in Turkey, though it was acknowledged in one of the freest countries in the world—England. Then the power of petitioning (one of the dearest rights of Englishmen) was carried, under a good government in Hindoostan, to a far greater extent than it existed in this country. They would find that the emperor Akbar was in the habit of sitting twice every day in his court, for the purpose of receiving the petitions of the people. The lowest native, the lowest pariah, was allowed to present his petition to the Emperor. But the matter did not end there: he examined those petitions, and decided on them. Now, the right of petition in this country was only valuable from the publicity which attended it through the instrumentality of the press. There would be no use in sending those cartloads of petitions to the House of Commons (where they could not be examined), but for the publicity given to them. It was that which rendered them formidable. Then, with respect to education, was it always neglected under a despotic government? It was one of the great principles of liberty, that the people should be educated; and they had, in this country, their systems of Bell and Lancaster. But those systems had come from Madras, as he could prove to them, only he did not wish to take up their time. And he could inform them of another fact, which was notorious in history, namely, that the whole population of China could read and write. But it was argued that free discussion was inconsistent with despotism. Why, did not freedom of writing prevail under the Roman despotism? Did not Tacitus, taking advantage of that mild despotism, write freely; at a time, too, when one-half of the Roman people were said to be slaves? Then, had they not heard a great deal about one Frederick the Great of Prussia? Were not Voltaire, and all the great wits of that day, publishing, under the nose of despotism at Berlin, works which they dared not publish at Paris? They did not, like Montesquieu and others, bring out their works in Holland or Geneva; no, they published at Berlin under a pure despotism. It might be proper to state, that free principles were to be found in the journals of Berlin at that day; and he could mention many anecdotes to shew that Frederick was friendly to free discussion. Was there,

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he would ask, any restrictions on the press, in their slave islands? Nothing of the sort. Even in Hindoostan it was notorious that, under good governments, no restraints of this kind were imposed on writing. So free were those who wrote in their strictures, that the monarchs of Asia were said to have feared the pen of Abul Hasim more than the sword of the mighty Akbar. Hume, that distinguished philosopher, observed, that "the liberty of the press was accompanied with so many advantages and so few disadvantages, that it might be allowed in every country except ecclesiastical countries." This exception, however, did not hold; for it did prevail in this, which was an ecclesiastical country. Now, whom did they suppose he would next quote? He was determined to set his opponents down, and he would quote *John Bull*.—(*A laugh*).—*The (London) John Bull*, of the 13th of January, 1822, contained the following apparant paradox:—"We have no hesitation in affirming, that an unshackled press is more consistent with a despotic government than with one founded on the most popular principles. In the former, the means of quelling discontent and silencing the murmurs of the people are ready prepared and always at hand, and power is strong to withstand the operation of popular opinion." In the latter, there are laws alone to keep it down; and public opinion, paramount to all laws, is not only influenced by, but receives its tone and direction from, the public press."—(*Hear!*) Again, in Italy, under the Inquisition the liberty of the press, nay, even its licentiousness, had prevailed. Were not Pagiani and Machiavelli, and Boccaccio, and Padre Sarpi, in the habit of publishing strong observations on law, government, religion, and indeed every thing that was connected with the interests of the community? He should now address himself to the dangers which, it was apprehended, would be generated by a free press. One of the strong holds of those who opposed a free press consisted in this speculative danger. Why, the very same idea formerly prevailed in England, as Mr. Hume informed them; and Lord Stanhope, in his "*Rights of Juries Defended*," stated, that at one period it was determined "that all political works should be examined by the secretary of state, and that other books, such as books on philosophy, mathematics, novels, romances, and love books," (he hoped they would preserve their gravity, for he was now coming to an awful sound) "should be examined by the Archbishop of Canterbury."—(*A laugh*.) Examining love books was indeed a strange employment for an archbishop. Even so late as the reign of Geo. II., such were the evils expected to flow from the press, that the idea of establishing a general

ral censorship was entertained. The attempt was, however, foiled by Thomson the poet, who published his *Areopagitica*; and Lord Chesterfield, who strenuously opposed the bill introduced for the purpose of placing the theatre under the surveillance of government. Lord Chesterfield, after pointing out the ill effect which such a bill must have on the interests of the stage, "the only place where courtiers could be attacked and satirized," observed, "that the measure would, in his opinion, interfere with the liberty of the press, which would be a long stride towards the destruction of liberty itself." And here he would observe, that Lord Chesterfield did not excel the dandies of the present day in good breeding, more than he surpassed the statesmen of the present time in patriotism. In North America the press had been considered so dangerous, that a considerable time elapsed after the people had gained their independence before they established the liberty of the press. Ever since the Revolution the press had been at liberty, keeping within the bounds of law, to publish what it pleased. Still the government of England had not been brought into hatred and contempt. There had been no risings, no mutinies, no horrible regicides in this country. No—the press remained free, and the constitution of the country was invigorated; whilst surrounding nations, which did not enjoy that blessing, were agitated by political commotions. "Aye," replied gentlemen, "but distant colonies, you know, may demand another system." In answer to that, let them look to the dangers that surrounded the administration of Mr. W. Hastings. He was encompassed by enemies. He was at one time obliged to seek his personal safety in the fortress of Chunar; there were four months' pay due to his soldiers; he was attacked, out-voted, and accused of bribery by his council—nay, he was absolutely deposed by his council; he had, to use a familiar phrase, an ink-stand *shaved* at his head; he was called out and shot at by one of his colleagues;—while in England, Burke, Fox and Sheridan were blazing forth the wrongs of India, and describing his injustice, his extortion, and his openness to bribery. These accusations were published here, and they were re-published in the papers of the presidencies. Thus, by the means of the English and Indian newspapers, they were spread all over the country. He could prove this by the statement of Mr. Dowdeswell, one of their most distinguished servants; a gentleman who had sat in council with Mr. Edmonstone and Mr. Hastings. He stated, that the licentiousness of the press in the time of Warren Hastings was excessive; and he alluded to the prosecution of Mr. Hickey. Now, if ever there were danger,

rous times in India, those were the times of Warren Hastings. But the press was free, and no evil whatsoever arose from that freedom, though the government and the country were greatly agitated. He would next shew that all the evils which afflicted India had occurred under the censorship. He begged of them to look to the reign of Sir G. Barlow, a gentleman famous for his clerkship, and for his attention to paltry economy in the army. What had his conduct effected? why it drove the army into a state of rebellion. Mutiny was the consequence of this censorship—mutiny arising entirely from ignorance of the cause of irritation. Lord Minto was a man of too elevated a mind to put the censorship in force; but Mr. Adam, who had been educated in Sir G. Barlow's principles, who had not been in the country, and who did not understand the feelings or habits of the people (for it was a matter of boast with these bashaws that they never saw a native),—he put the censorship in force, and banished Mr. Buckingham; the only act he believed by which that baselaw was distinguished. He should next advert to Lord Amherst, whose reign had been most disastrous. Let the Court recollect the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the war in the swamps of Arracan, which, as he could prove, had added 20,000,000 sterling to the national debt of England. Let them recollect the delays in the capture of Bhurtpore, and the gross inconsistency of affecting to promote education, whilst he was doing all he could to put down the press. Why, if they wished to put down the press, did they not know that it must be effected by ignorance, not by intelligence? Those who wanted an unmitigated despotism, never could desire the extension of education. He feared, however, that though the natives might learn sufficient to enable them to worship their multifarious and multiform gods, they would never be allowed that for which he was contending, liberal education. All the dangers that were anticipated under the free press system, had actually prevailed under the operation of the censorship, and the government under that censorship was brought into hatred and contempt; whereas the operation of a free press was to remove all that hatred and contempt. The next argument was founded on the licentiousness of a free press. This was a most hacknied objection. In fact, the object of a free press was to put down licentiousness, not to support it. What were the ministerial and opposition journals constantly doing? Why they were occupied in defending themselves, and accusing their opponents of licentiousness; and the result was, that this continual inquiry and animadversion prevented the government from being brought into hatred and contempt, while it enlightened the minds of the

the people. Let them look at the Madras press, under the censorship: nothing could be more licentious. When he was there, one of their servants allowed a paragraph to appear in his paper accusing the Marquis of Hastings of two murders. The paragraph asserted, that the noble Marquis had sent two of his relations out to the West-Indies for the purpose of getting rid of them. This atrocious charge was made under the censorship. Again, let them turn their eyes to Calcutta: the utmost licentiousness prevailed under the censorship system there; and he believed that Dr. Bryce, the Presbyterian clergyman, had been convicted of a libel on Mr. Buckingham. Next, let them look to Bombay. There the government wished to control the press as they did in the other presidencies, but they had failed. In consequence of false colourings of the proceedings in the supreme court having appeared, of which the judges made heavy complaints, the government exerted the power which was vested in their hands, and sent home the nominal editor. Possessing such a power, where was the necessity for a censorship? If they looked to those countries where the press was under a censorship, they would find that every one of them had been revolutionized; while, on the other hand, not one of those in which the press was free had been so convulsed. Let them turn to France, South America, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Java, and even Goa, and they would find that every one of them had been revolutionized; while England, America, and Switzerland were the only countries that had withstood these political shocks. The hurricane had indeed assailed them on all sides, but they had weathered it. Then, if they turned to Persia, Turkey, or Hindoostan, they would see those countries exposed to constant danger. Every page of history shewed that this was the case, and especially the case of Persia. What was the reason of this? It simply was, that under a bad despotism, where freedom of opinion was proscribed, revolt was the only constitutional means of redress. He should now conclude by reading a short extract from a work, written by one of the greatest historians and greatest philanthropists of the day, M. Siamondi. He observed, that England had been promoting the liberty of every part of the world, excepting only her own colonies and dominions; and he went on to say, that "he knew of none of the acts of the British Ministers that gained them so much just popularity as those treaties which they had concluded with the South American States; but the advantages which they had secured for British subjects in Peru and Mexico, they refused to them in Hindoostan. The Englishman, who could not be sent away

from Mexico, or the Rio de la Plata, unless by due course of law, might be banished from Madras or Calcutta without any legal process." There were many other admirable passages in this work, but he would not take up the time of the court by reading them, as he had made so long a speech; at the same time he must say, that it would have been very difficult for him to compress his arguments into a smaller compass. (*Hear, hear!*)

The motion was then read.

Capt. Mayfield said he rose to second the motion. Not having his papers in court, he was not prepared to go so fully into the question as he would otherwise have done; but still he thought the question was of too much importance to be passed over in silence. His plan always had been to require the production of evidence when a point was disputed; because he would at any time rather have plain facts than ingenious arguments; and if his papers were here, he certainly would have advanced evidence to support his view of the case. He had heard the arguments which had taken place with respect to this question, on both sides of the court; and he was not of course unaware of the objections started by the directors, as well as of those advanced by gentlemen before the bar. Great inconvenience, he believed, had accrued to the government from the state of the press in India, when he left it; but it was an inconvenience of its own manufacturing. The government created that inconvenience by identifying itself with the press. Instead of standing aloof, and taking no share in the quarrels of the press, as was the case in this country, it became a party. Some of their officers were connected with newspapers, and wrote in them. In the course of this party conflict, individuals on both sides were personally attacked. The system let loose the worst passions of the human heart, and he believed had been the means of ruining the fortune and blighting the prospect of several gentlemen. Innocent individuals had been suspected of writing some of these obnoxious articles; and, when once suspected, they were deemed ineligible to hold situations. For his own part, he took in the *Calcutta Journal* during the whole time he was in India, and that he believed was an offence. Many persons did not dare to read that publication openly, much less to subscribe to it. Now, when a great government condescended to make itself a party against an individual, whether Mr. Buckingham or any one else, it tended to produce a very different result from that which the stronger party might have contemplated. Though, perhaps, he might not approve of every thing that had appeared in *The Calcutta Journal*, still he thought that from the time when the Mar-

quis of Hastings removed the restrictions; until government became a party against the paper, much benefit accrued to the public from the manner in which the pages of that journal were conducted. He believed that every literary man who heard him would say, that it contained not only valuable information, but the ablest original articles that were to be found in any daily journal in India. It had been said, that so far as the imparting useful information to government was concerned, newspapers were not necessary in India, the government, it was asserted, wanted no such assistance on any occasion. To that position he should give a decided denial. He thought that government might, from time to time, procure a great deal of useful information, if a less restricted system of publication were allowed. Of this truth he could himself adduce more than one instance. During the administration of the Marquis of Hastings, when the expedition was fitting out for the Red Sea, directions were given to the marine force to seize on an island at the entrance of that sea, for the purpose of preventing the pirates from coming out, if they were within it, or of re-entering it should they happen to be absent. Now, if government had possessed that information which he, even when a midshipman, could have given, it never would have issued such orders. It was, indeed, extraordinary that government should have been ignorant of the situation of this island. The passage on one side of it was fifteen miles wide, that on the other only two miles and a half. In consequence of these orders this island was taken possession of, and a road cut through it; but, when all this was done, it was found that it did not command the passage. It was a barren rock, without any sort of accommodation for troops—not even water. The government was put to the expense of having that necessary article conveyed from the Arab shore; and it was kept in a tank cut out of the solid rock. Now, had there been an open press, through which information might have been promulgated, a large sum of money would have been saved on this occasion; troops certainly would not have been sent to this place at an enormous expense. This circumstance he adduced to shew the ignorance in which the government was placed in consequence of the absence of that means, namely, an open press, from which much information might be derived. In the year 1819, he himself received orders from the marine board at Calcutta, signed by all the commissioners in council, directing him to proceed to the Straits of Sunda, to look out for a rock supposed to be there. Now the rock in question happened to be an island of considerable extent and elevation, and was to be found in every old Dutch

chart. A copy of his instructions was forwarded to the Netherlands governor-general at Batavia, to inform him of the object which he (Capt. Maxfield) had in view, lest he should imagine that he had entered those seas for the purpose of fanning the embers of sedition in the Dutch settlements. The Governor-general, however, could not believe that he had been sent out on a wild-goose chase, in search of a rock that did not exist, and supposed that he really was employed to act as a spy. The very orders which he had received confirmed this suspicion, and the salute he fired was not answered by the Dutch. He afterwards understood, from English gentlemen, that he was considered neither more nor less than a spy. Now he contended, that if the government had known whether this was an island or a sunken rock, they would have avoided so unpleasant an occurrence. The Indian government, so far from placing itself in opposition to an individual, should rather have encouraged him, if they found his labours useful. It might be that Mr. Buckingham had made himself obnoxious to those who were in authority: but even so, it was worse than weakness to enter into a contest with him. It was giving him consequence, and, at the same time, lowering themselves in the public estimation; to set themselves in array against an individual, and to endeavour to ruin his paper, was the most impolitic, as well as the most degrading conduct that could be imagined. To shew to what an extent this feeling was carried, he begged leave to state a single fact. Captain Ross, the Company's surveyor-general, who arrived in India just before he (Captain Maxfield) came away, learned on his arrival that a ship had been nearly lost on a rock in the Red Sea. That gentleman expressed to him his surprise that any ignorance should exist with respect to this rock, since it had been officially noticed by him, and he supposed publicity had been given to his description of its situation. He (Captain Maxfield) said, it was very possible that Captain Ross might have sent his communication to the official quarter, but that that was insufficient for his purpose; and he added, that it would be better to give publicity to it through the Calcutta papers, by which means it was likely to fall into the hands of navigators, who would avoid the danger in future. This appeared to him, and he spoke most sincerely, to be the best mode that could be adopted. In consequence, Capt. Ross sent to Mr. Buckingham, requesting that he would give publicity to his communication in *The Calcutta Journal*, which request was complied with. And why did he select Mr. Buckingham's paper? Because it had ten times the circulation of any other journal in India. Shortly after the

the communication appeared in *The Calcutta Journal*, Captain Ross received a message from the chief secretary to government, who expressed to him the extreme displeasure of the government at his having inserted the article in Mr. Buckingham's journal. Good God! were communications of this nature to be confined to papers that had no circulation, and to be kept out of those through which publicity was sure to be effected? Capt. Ross, in consequence of this transaction, found it necessary to apologize to the government. Now he left the court to judge whether this was dignified conduct? Was it likely that an officer, who had laboured hard in the Company's service for years, could have dreamt of giving offence by so trifling a proceeding? He could have had no feelings of the kind; and, in his opinion, the proceeding on this occasion was unjust, undignified, and uncalled-for. Capt. Ross apologized for what he had done; but still he felt that he had placed himself in considerable jeopardy by inserting the notice in that particular paper. This was a good anecdote to shew the mood and temper in which the government were acting towards the press in Calcutta. The gallant Capt. here referred to the existence of a fortification, mounting 100 pieces of artillery (in the possession of a foreign power), which was within sound of the Company's own guns, and of which he believed the government knew very little. [We could not catch the name of the place alluded to, nor what part of the Company's territories it adjoined.] The government might, however, have had the means of acquiring information on this point, if permission had been given to make communications on such subjects in the public papers. Many explanations, and perhaps exposures, would, he felt assured, be made by individuals, if there were less restraint on the Indian press. In his opinion the best of men, possessing power, were apt to exercise it too often, and to abuse it. Now the best possible check to that evil was, to let the individual know, that the manner in which he exercised the power with which he was invested was likely to be made public, and that the improper exercise of it, when known, would certainly be corrected; that alone was a sufficient reason for restraining the press as little as possible. This would appear the more necessary, when they considered what very young men were appointed judges, and raised to other high and important situations. In saying this, he meant not to cast a reflection on those individuals; they were, he believed, very honourable men, and no person could respect them more than he did—no person thought more highly of their abilities. But, when he recollected the distance they were removed from the seat of govern-

ment, when he considered that they were surrounded by crafty native officers, and that they had to administer justice to little short of 100,000,000 of persons, too much publicity could not, in his opinion, be given to the proceedings of the courts over which they presided.—(Hear, hear!) He thought it was a misplaced delicacy, in either the Court of Directors or Proprietors, or in the Company at large, to feel any concern for individuals, be their rank what it might, when any impropriety of conduct in their official situations deserved public notice. Abuses ought to be exposed wherever they were, and this would be most effectually done by the vigilance of the press. It would, perhaps, be argued, that there might be secrets in the revenue department which it would not be desirable to let out. He, however, was of opinion, that there were circumstances in that department which should be laid open; and, though the press was muzzled, he would bring them into that court. He meant to do so from the purest motive—that of remedying the evil; and he believed that he should have the aid of the Chairman, and that of many honourable proprietors, when he introduced the subject. He could not, however, for want of documents, take up that question at present; and the same objection would apply to his giving an unfinished lecture on the state of the police. This was a subject of great magnitude, and there were great difficulties attending it. To remove all the evils connected with it would be a work of very considerable labour; but, at the same time, a work of such moment, that he thought no time ought to be lost in effecting it. Gentlemen might say, that if the press in India were unfettered, it might perhaps debate on the utility of the Company itself. But this would be done by the press in this country; and those strictures would go out to India. If then they prevented observations of this kind from being made in that country, it was only destroying a small portion of those powerful engines, whilst they left 1,000 of them, over which they could not have any control, unmuzzled. Under the present system, he must say, that the abominable system of idolatry at Juggernaut was not repressed but encouraged; he could prove that it was nurtured and fostered by the Company; through their means the idol was clothed in brocade and broadcloth.—(Hear!) He wished, in his heart, that if they could not put down, they at least had no hand in propagating such a system of idolatry; and he was sure that it would die a natural death but for the fostering care of the Company. An hon. proprietor inquired whether the Company derived any revenue from it. He believed that they derived from it about £10,000 *per annum*; but, at the same

same time, they lost in human life about £50,000 *per annum*. It might be said that the Mahometan government allowed the same thing; but even if this were admitted, it must also be admitted that they sent out no pilgrim-hunters; whilst the Company had several hundred of persons, who spread themselves over the country to bring the pilgrims to the shrine of the idol. On a future day he meant to notice this subject more particularly, and to bring the temple forth in all its deformity. Another argument of the opponents of the press was, that it would excite discontent, and, in fact, carry rebellion from one end of the country to the other. Now assuming that the diffusion of intelligence would have a baneful effect, this assertion rested on the supposition that all their native subjects read the newspapers; now the fact was, that a very few, not a ten-thousandth part of them did so: besides, most of them owed every thing they had to government, and their wish was to stand well in the estimation of their rulers. In his opinion, the diffusion of knowledge amongst the natives would be productive of much advantage. He recollected a case which directly proved this point. It occurred in conversing with an intelligent native, on the occasion of an European having been, from want of evidence, or some technical flaw in the indictment, acquitted of a capital offence; there was, however, no moral doubt of his guilt. He (Capt. Maxfield) wished to impress on the mind of the native, that justice, strictly speaking, had been done; and that if the European had been convicted of killing a native he would have been hanged. To this he replied, "Surely no; they never will hang a European for killing a native." Now, he thought that if there had been a more general access to newspapers, the native could not have entertained so erroneous an opinion. He conceived that the disturbances which had occurred at Benares and at Barrackpore might have been avoided if the press had been a little less restricted. The commotion at Benares was very near placing their government in a most awkward situation. The gallantry of a corps of about 200 men saved their empire from a great convulsion, at least, if not from utter ruin. But how much better would it be if government, through the medium of the press, were made acquainted with the existence of dislike and ill-feeling, and the circumstances out of which it arose. When individuals misconducted themselves in their situations, was it not a principle of sound policy that their conduct should be known; and yet how could government, in many instances, ascertain the fact except by means of the public papers? He thought that the Marquis of Hastings him-

self was much benefited by those publications. In one instance, the *Calcutta Journal* exposed the pluralities held by a gentleman, who had undertaken to perform duties the labours of which were more than any human being could undergo. This was a service which the press alone could execute. He would ask, was not a matter like this a fair subject for comment? No remark had been made on the government; but a just intimation was given of the existence of the fact. He would now adduce another reason why the freedom of the press (to a certain extent) would be useful. They must be aware that an immense number of English gentlemen went out to India as free-mariners—they went into the interior of the country, and some of them he believed did a good deal of mischief. He certainly was not about to advocate the system of colonization; because, in his opinion, their first duty was to protect the natives of India, and he feared that colonization would lead to oppression. It was however a fact, that in India a number of Europeans who were not armed with legal authority, assumed a great deal of power. Now the natives could not discriminate between those who were, and those who were not clothed with legal power; but through the newspapers they would soon ascertain the difference. He once knew a man who presided in what he called a court, and absolutely decided cases, who was not in the Company's service at all. If the press were not so much restricted, this could not have happened. He also recollected an instance where an European settled himself as a sort of sutler near one of their ports, and soon determined to monopolize to himself the right of supplying vessels with provisions. It might be asked, how could he manage this? did not the natives say, you have no right to this monopoly? The fact was, they did not know but that his pretended authority was a just one; and they knew not the mode of ascertaining the fact. The consequence was, that they supplied him with bullocks, &c. at fifty per cent. less than he charged; and he most magnanimously pocketed the affront. —(Alaugh.) In was unnecessary to say that the government did not countenance such proceedings: the fact was, they knew nothing about them; and they would always continue until the easy means of detecting them were afforded. The administration of the law was, he must observe, extremely unsatisfactory. Was it not most tantalizing, when the expenses attending it were so great, to tell a poor man, without a rupee in his pocket, that the courts were open to him? He recollected persons petitioning some of their courts for a piece of stamped paper on which they wanted to state their particular grievances. They could not proceed unless their statement was

was on a stamp, and they had not the money to pay for it. Was not this a denial of justice? Now, if the press were not muzzled, such an abuse as this could not remain unknown. A writer of his own had come to him, and begged for a piece of stamped paper, on which he wanted to write a petition for another person. The request was so extraordinary, that he at first supposed the man meant to satirize the government, and he questioned him sharply. The man said, "No, Sir, I mean nothing of the kind. The person who has applied to me cannot proceed without the stamp, and he has no money to purchase it." This point, he thought, would be conceded to him by all—namely, that the three presidencies should be subjected to the same restrictions and regulations. Let it be observed, that he did not wish for the unrestrained freedom of the press; but he was certainly anxious for that degree of freedom which would enable individuals to point out abuses, for the purpose of their correction. One thing he would most strenuously ask for, which was, that they would at least permit the decisions in the zillah courts to be published in the newspapers of the different presidencies. This permission would go farther towards representing injustice than any other mode which could be devised.

Dr. Gilchrist said, his gallant friend had introduced this subject so eloquently, so distinctly, and at such a length, as to render a long speech, on his part, quite unnecessary. The motion had also been seconded, in, he must say, the most noble manner, by his hon. friend, Capt. Maxfield, who told them his story (certainly not a short one) in a very clear manner. He wished also to add his testimony to that which had already been given in favour of a free press. Not many days ago, he had had an opportunity of reading a *Gazette* published at the free port or island of Singapore. There was, in that *Gazette*, a paragraph, which appeared to him to be most extraordinary, considering the place it came from, and the reasoning which it contained. The paragraph was to this effect:—"It is said that the Dutch government, in consequence of insurrections and disturbances in their settlements, have absolutely come to the resolution of establishing a free press, and thus putting it in their power to know what is going on in the distant provinces, to learn the sentiments of the natives, and to take measures to prevent mischief, instead of punishing the perpetrators of it, after it has occurred." He would now advert to an old story, connected with Calcutta, which related both to himself and to the Marquis Wellesley. He must first, however, observe, that he owed every thing he possessed to that great man. Had it not been for that noble-minded individual, he

might have died in prison. He was most grateful for his kindness; but his gratitude was that of a man, not of a spaniel. He would not, because he received benefits, throw a veil over actions of which he disapproved. He would not do so for any mortal alive. Much had been said, with respect to the liberty of the press in this country. Now, he would contend, that there was no such thing as a free press in existence. All who wrote for the press were shackled, they were amenable to the laws of the country; and why, he would ask, should not the people of India be placed precisely in the same situation? Mr. Hickey was condemned for publishing a libel against Warren Hastings. The law officers did their duty; and no rebellion occurred either in consequence of the libel, or of the proceedings of government. At a later period, when he was in the service of the Company, he had himself a paper, which existed at the present time. He meant the *Hurkaru*, of which he was the editor. A very extraordinary incident occurred at that time in England; and, of course, it went out to India in all the British papers. He thought that this was a fine opportunity to shew to their native subjects, that no distance of time, no exaltation of place, could screen a man from the penalty which his injustice had incurred. They must all, he believed, recollect the story of Governor Wall, which had just reached India at the time of which he was speaking. About twenty years before, that individual had been commander of some place on the coast of Africa. He appeared to have been a dirty jobber in the stores intended for the men under his command. They naturally felt sore at seeing the money which belonged to them put into the pocket of the governor, and the consequence was, that a mutiny took place. A court-martial (he believed a drum-head court-martial) was held, and a number of the men were ordered to be flogged. If he recollected rightly, some of them were either flogged to death, or were within an inch of perishing under the lash; and one man died of the injuries he had received. Twenty years after this transaction, a person went into a barber's shop, in London, to be shaved. The barber, who, like most people of his profession, was rather loquacious, said to his customer, pointing to a child, "Do you see that little boy? he is the son of the man who was flogged to death by Colonel Wall." From this apparently trivial incident, the circumstance was bruited abroad, and he need scarcely add, that trial, sentence, and execution, followed. Yes, twenty years after the commission of the foul deed, a British governor was ignominiously hanged. He (Dr. Gilchrist) said at the time, "Here is an excellent moral lesson to read to any government

vernment or to any people;" and he put the whole story into his paper, making one or two comments on it. He observed, how gratifying it was to reflect on the advantages which men enjoyed in living under the British constitution. He pointed out the case of Governor Wall as an instance where justice was done on an individual, notwithstanding the rank he held; and he went on to state, that if a governor in India behaved in a despotic manner, either to Natives or Europeans, he would be brought to justice in England before he went to his long home. He did not conceive that this paragraph alluded to the Marquis Wellesley; certainly he had no intention of making any such allusion. It was, however, sent to the government house, as the censorship was then in being; and, when the sheet was returned the next morning, he found that the whole was a blank—an *hiatus*—a pen had been scratched over the entire article. What did he do when he found this immense gap in his paper? He was one of those who took time by the forelock; and, as he anticipated that such an accident might happen, he was prepared for it. He had something ready to fill up the vacant space. Whether it was a novel or a romance, or an article in praise of all former governors, he could not tell; but in it went, and all went on as if nothing had happened.—(*A laugh.*)—Now was this a situation in which British subjects, natives or otherwise, were to be placed? Were they not to be allowed to state the fact that offenders, however lofty their situation, were liable to punishment for their atrocious acts? He was not the advocate for an unfettered press in India; but he thought it ought to be allowed there as here, where they had the provisions of the six acts hanging over their heads.

The *Chairman*.—"The motion before the Court has for its professed object 'to implore the Court of Directors not to extend this base monopoly' (meaning certain regulations of the press) 'over the mind—this curse—to Bombay.' Now, if this were the sole object of the gallant colonel, I think he ought to have laid some proof before the Court, to shew that the Directors had such a measure in contemplation. But I confess that I have no knowledge myself, nor even a suspicion that the Court of Directors harbour any such intention; and this being the case, I think it quite useless to 'implore the Court' not to do that which they have no intention whatever of doing.—(*Hear!*) I shall therefore, as one reason for combatting this motion with a negative, declare that it is perfectly unnecessary. It has certainly given to the gallant mover and secondor, and also to the learned Doctor, an opportunity of dilating very much on a variety of cases which they consider as abuses in

our system, and which, in their opinion, a free press would have afforded the adequate means of preventing. Now I am not disposed to question the great utility and benefit of the press, when conducted with decency and discretion: but the hon. proprietors themselves have admitted that an entirely unrestrained press is not a desirable thing in India.—[*Col. Stanhope.* "No, no !"] What are the modes by which the press has been kept within certain bounds? The censorship was the first check; and I beg leave to state that the censorship was imposed on the press of India not from any political feeling, but at a period of great and material hazard to the security of our empire.—(*Hear!*) At that time the horrid massacre of Mr. Cherry at Benares had recently occurred; and there were various articles and observations introduced into the newspapers, with the view of shewing how easy it would be for the natives, if they became dissatisfied with the British government to massacre all the Europeans in India.—(*Hear!*) It was the publication of such opinions as these which were likely to promote such enormities, and to shake the stability of our power in India at that particular period, that induced the Marquis Wellesley to impose the censorship on the press. That censorship remained in force for a considerable number of years; and I do not mean to say that, in the exercise of the power with which the secretary of government was invested as censor, he might not have sometimes used it in a way that was not perfectly judicious. The censorship was abolished by the Marquis of Hastings; and in lieu of that, after the signal disappointment of the expectation of a voluntary observance of the rules promulgated by Lord Hastings for the government of editors of newspapers) the licensing system had been established; and I should be glad to know how we can put the press on a restricted footing but by one or other of these means."

Col. L. Stanhope.—"No person contends for that. Such a thing as an unrestrained press never prevailed in any country."

The *Chairman*.—"I am not arguing against the opinions of the gallant officer: I am arguing against the opinions of those who seconded and supported this motion, and who notwithstanding admit that an unrestrained press is not desirable in India. It would indeed be most dangerous if no restraint of any kind were imposed by government on the press. I am decidedly of opinion that a government like that of India is incompatible with a free and unrestrained press, (*hear!*) and that before we can trust entirely to the safeguard of the law, as administered and applied in this country, we must assimilate the whole frame of the Indian and English governments to each

each other. If it were proposed to establish a free press in Turkey, I think all men who heard of such a proposition would say with one accord that the experiment was absurd, because a free press and a despotic government could not exist together. The argument will apply as well in the one case as in the other; though I am far from meaning to say that the Indian government is of the same despotic character as the Turkish government, yet is it full as remote from a representative government like England. It is upon these grounds, and because I see no necessity for 'impugning' the court not to do that which it has no intention of doing, and which it has not now in its contemplation; that I consider it a fair and proper proceeding to meet this motion with a direct negative. With respect to the licensing of the press at Bombay, that power which alone is competent to give effect to the rule and regulation proposed, has declared that it is not expedient to sanction it. That question is therefore completely disposed of; I however do not confess I view the subject in the same light as to its inexpediency, for I am of opinion with some other gentlemen, that it is much to be regretted that the same system is not suffered to remain in force in all our settlements, as has been established in Bengal.—(Hear!) The rules and regulations passed there were proposed by the Government and sanctioned by the Supreme Court. They have been appealed against in this country, and after the most solemn argument, the high Court of Appeal, viz. the King in Council, had declared for their legality. This being the case—the subject having been so calmly and maturely considered—it certainly appears to me that this is no good reason for not establishing the same regulation at all the presidencies; and I regret that it is not so. Such however is the state of the case, and as such we must be content to deal with it. The press at Bombay must remain as it is—inasmuch as the competent authorities will not give effect to those regulations. There the matter rests; and therefore, as I am quite satisfied that there is not and cannot be any necessity for impugning the Court of Directors not to do that which they did not intend to do, I shall meet this motion with a negative."—(Hear!)

Col. L. Stanhope meant to reply very briefly to the observations of the hon. Chairman; but in the first place he begged pardon for having interrupted him. The hon. Chairman's argument proceeded on a false foundation. He seemed to think that a call was made for the entire and unrestricted liberty of the press. Now what was meant by an unrestricted press, or by unrestricted liberty? There could in civilized society be no such thing. All liberty was restricted by law, and neither

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he nor any one else ever argued in favour of the establishment of such a free press as the hon. Chairman contemplated, in this country, much less in Hindoostan. The hon. Chairman stated that the censorship was established in consequence of the horrid murder of Mr. Cherry. It was a most extraordinary thing to say, that because an individual was murdered it was deemed proper to establish a censorship.

The Chairman.—"I did not state any such thing. I said that the censorship was established, not in consequence of that murder, but in consequence of mischievous observations and statements which appeared in the newspapers afterwards." (Hear, hear!)

Col. L. Stanhope.—"What was the nature of those statements? The hon. Chairman had not proved that there was any treason in them. Suppose when Mr. Perceval was murdered, that any person, in addition to a statement of the fact, had said, the people are ready to rise and put down their oppressors, would that be a fair reason for placing restrictions on the press? If it were, then a free press could never exist in any part of the world; because there was no country in which, from time to time, some of these horrid monstrosities would not occur. He believed the fact was, that the censorship was imposed in consequence of the remarks made by Dr. Maclean; but he would not insist on that point, because the hon. Chairman had probably more information on the subject than he possessed. The hon. Chairman contended that a free press could not be suffered in India. And why? because it was a despotic government. Now, he contended, that though a free press could not exist under what he called a bad despotism, it was not incompatible with a mild and good one. This he had proved from history. Such was the fact with respect to Hindoostan, to Prussia under Frederick the Great, and to Italy under the inquisition; and, therefore, it appeared to him, that the argument of the hon. Chairman fell entirely to the ground."

The question was then put, and the motion was negatived by a very great majority.

WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

The Chairman.—"When the gallant Colonel (Stanhope), gave notice of his intention to submit a motion to the court, connected with the dispute between Russia and Persia; I took the liberty of appealing to him as to the expediency of entertaining a question of so very delicate a nature, at a time when this country was employed in negotiations on the subject. The gallant colonel received my suggestion with courtesy, and said, that he would take time to consider whether he would persevere in his motion. I have now to

request that he will signify his determination."

Colonel *L. Stanhope*.—"Let the motion be read, and I will then state my intention."

The motion was then read as follows :

"1. That England, by the treaty of Gulistan, and by abandoning the wise measures of Sir J. Malcolm, in training a portion of Persia's troops to discipline, and placing her fortresses and passes in a state of defence, has laid that country open to the all-powerful legions of Russia.

"2. That Constantinople, on the Asiatic and defenceless side, is thereby endangered; and British India, unsupported by the talents, the loyalty, and the valour of colonists, and having no public, could with difficulty oppose with her valiant sepoy the simultaneous, persevering, and widespread attack of a swarm of Cossacks, Persians, Sicks, Mahrattas, and Burmese, backed by a small corps of infantry and artillery, which would find magazines, fortresses, cannon, and gold on the field of their exploits.

"3. That though the conquests of Russia, from the germ of improvement contained in her institutions, might be advantageous to the Asiatic world in its present backward and stationary condition; yet, to civilized Europe it would prove fatal, because her governments and society would sink to a level with the preponderating power, and insure to her a dark futurity.

"4. That under these circumstances this Court of Proprietors earnestly recommends the Court of Directors to consult his Majesty's enlightened Ministers as to the military and diplomatic course which, in concert with France and Austria, they should pursue to check the march into Persia of the hardy soldiers of the good and active autocrat Nicholas."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I have every disposition to listen with courtesy to any suggestion that falls from the chair; but I cannot, unless good reasons are adduced, consent to withdraw a motion on the mere plea of courtesy. Still, however, considering the high character of Mr. Canning, and his perfect knowledge of foreign diplomacy; and considering also the great talents of my friend Mr. M. Kinneir, the British envoy at the Persian court; I shall, believing the interests of the country and of the Company to be in the best hands, withdraw my motion with great pleasure." (*Hear!*)

The *Chairman*.—"I return thanks to the gallant Col. for the courtesy which he has shown on this occasion, and I beg leave to assure him, that I would not have made this suggestion if I did not feel the same degree of confidence as the gallant Col. has expressed in that very able minister, Mr. Canning. Whatever it may be neces-

sary to do will be effected much better by his Majesty's government than by a public discussion in this court."—(*Hear!*)

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

Mr. *Poynder* rose, and commenced a speech upon this subject, which was interrupted by the adjournment of the question till Wednesday, March 28; the lateness of which period prevents our giving a full report of the debates on this question; we therefore subjoin merely an outline of this debate, deferring a complete and connected report (as the fairest course) till next month.

The hon. proprietor concluded by moving—"That this court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the Honourable Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives."

The motion was seconded by Sir C. Forbes.

The Hon. Col. *Stanhope* moved an amendment as follows:—"That in the opinion of this court, though little has been done to reform the Hindoo superstition, or to convert the natives to Christianity, the government of British India has at all times acted upon the philosophical principles of unlimited toleration, and has thereby secured the good-will of its subjects;

"That the inhuman custom of burning Hindoo widows cannot be prevented by prohibitory edicts, *id est*, by force, without exciting the discontent of millions, and soon or late, provoking religious wars, and ultimately increasing these frightful sacrifices; and

"That the only safe means of promoting among the Hindoos the pure worship of God, and of preventing the burning of widows, the crushing of victims at Jugger-naut, and the drowning of sick persons in the Ganges, &c. &c., is to be found in virtuous education and free discussion, as practised under the administration of the Marquess of Hastings."

The amendment was seconded by General Thornton.

The *Chairman*, conceiving the motion unnecessary, as it only called upon the Court of Directors to do that which they were in the habit of doing, moved the following amendment:—"That whilst this Court deeply deplores the existence of Suttees and other rites, involving the sacrifice of human life in India, it reposes the fullest

fullest confidence in the anxious disposition of the local governments to give effect to the instructions of the Court of Directors, by adopting, from time to time, such measures as may be deemed necessary for effectually and safely accomplishing the abolition of those practices.

"That this Court firmly relies on the earnest solicitude of the Court of Directors to follow up so desirable an object,

with a due regard to the feelings and prejudices of the natives of India."

The *Chairman*, however, subsequently withdrew his amendment, under an understanding that the original motion did not imply that force should be employed to abolish the *Suttee* custom; and the original motion was carried with only four or five dissentient voices, amongst which was that of Mr. Campbell, the Director.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, *March 27.*

Cape of Good Hope.—Lord Kenyon presented a petition from Mr. Wm. Parker, one of the heads of settlers at the Cape of Good Hope, complaining of the conduct of Col. Bird, the late secretary to the colony; and stating that he (the petitioner) had gone out in 1820, at the head of 280 men, and had been obliged to return home a ruined man, with the loss of £3,000.

Earl Bathurst said, that Mr. Parker had already made several representations against the government of the Cape of Good Hope, and manifold allegations against Col. Bird. It appeared, however, that from the moment of his (Mr. P.'s) arrival at the colony, he had commenced commenting upon the government, and had succeeded in making himself disagreeable to the different colonial officers. The representations of the petitioner had been forwarded to the Commission of Inquiry; the commissioners had made their report, and they had reported that the allegations brought against Col. Bird were without foundation. There was another complaint against the government, which had also been the subject of inquiry with the commissioners, and appeared in their report, under the head "State of Agriculture at the Cape." The fact was, as appeared in the report, that all that could be made of this complaint was, that it had always been the policy of that government, since 1772, to discourage the intercourse between the Caffres and the town, and that, in carrying this policy into execution, it had been found necessary to issue military orders.

The Earl of Caledon defended Col. Bird; his Lordship thought the petition ought to be rejected.

The Earl of Rosslyn and the Marquess of Lansdowne were of the same opinion. Petition rejected.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Feb. 26.*

Mr. J. Wilson presented a petition from the city of York, praying that the House

would take measures to put a stop to the custom of burning widows in India.

March 21.

Sir G. H. Smyth presented a petition from Colchester against the burning of widows in India.

Mr. Hart Davis presented a petition from the merchants of Bristol, praying that the trade to the East-Indies might be thrown open.—Ordered to be printed.

March 22.

Mutiny at Barrackpore.—Mr. Hume began his motion on this subject with detailing the circumstances of the transaction, which have been too often before our readers to require repetition. After a relation of the particulars of the affair, the hon. member proceeded to say, that he admitted that when a mutiny broke out in a regiment, it was necessary to put it down forthwith; he did not, therefore, complain of the putting down this mutiny, but of the particular manner in which it was put down. He contended that if the commander-in-chief had informed the mutineers of the immense force which he had brought with him from Calcutta, no persons would have lost their lives, except such mutineers as he might have ordered for execution, in order to intimidate those who survived them. As a proof that he was correct in this notion, he referred to the notorious fact that these troops had never either loaded or fired a musket, or exhibited the slightest disposition to resist. He had heard that 400 or 500 valuable soldiers had lost their lives in that melancholy carnage, and he believed that he might say without the slightest exaggeration, that full 300 men had perished in it. A great degree of uncertainty prevailed as to the number of men killed, owing to the strict manner in which the Indian press had been prohibited from taking any notice of the transaction. The hon. member here read a circular letter, which was sent by the government to the editors of the different papers in India, forbidding them to mention any fact, or to make any comment upon any fact, connected with the mutiny

mutiny at Barrackpore; until an official account of it had been published by government. In consequence of that circular, all mention of it in the Indian journals was suppressed; and therefore it was the more necessary that the country should receive some official information respecting it from those who were competent to afford it. The hon. member then adverted to the courts-martial subsequently held on the mutineers and to the dismissal of the native officers by the general order of the 4th November. He believed that that order would have had an effect upon the native army, of which it would have been impossible to foresee the consequences, had not events taken a favourable turn for British interests, both in the west of India and elsewhere. He contended that the loss of life which had taken place at Barrackpore in the first instance, and the indiscriminate punishment of the innocent and guilty which had followed in the next, rendered an inquiry into the whole transaction absolutely necessary. He was happy to find that the mode in which the native troops had been treated, had not met the approbation of either the Court of Directors or the Board of Control. Report said, that in consequence of orders which had been sent from this country, the Brahmins, who had been sentenced to hard labour on the roads, had been all pardoned. This showed that the government at home was of opinion that blame attached to some one or other of the authorities abroad. In the course of his speech, the hon. member said he would state why he believed the commander-in-chief to be the party responsible for this lamentable massacre. He formerly thought that Lord Amherst, the governor-general, was the responsible party; but he now held in his hands a letter from Captain Amherst to a Mr. Trower, which induced him to change that opinion. In that letter Captain Amherst stated that his father (Lord Amherst) had not sent home the report of the military inquiry on the mutiny at Barrackpore out of motives of delicacy to Sir E. Paget, who, if the matter had come before the council, must have been made to join in a censure upon himself. It did not appear to him that the fault was with the Governor-general, but with the commander-in-chief, Sir E. Paget, who with the best feeling possible might have been misled by those from whom he received his information. He concluded by moving for "a copy of a report from Sir E. Paget to the Governor-general respecting the mutiny at Barrackpore, and the measures taken to suppress it; as also a copy of the general orders of the 4th of November, regarding the mutiny; as also an account of the number of mutineers tried, sentenced, and executed, and of the number whose sentence had been commuted to

labour on the roads: as also a copy of the report made by a Court of Inquiry, which sat in November, 1824, respecting this mutiny, together with a copy of any despatch concerning the orders of the Court of Directors to Bengal, respecting the mutineers placed on the roads to labour, and respecting the native non-commissioned officers dismissed by the order of 4th November."

Mr. C. W. W. Wynne observed, that the hon. member was not quite correct in his opinion as to the cause of the mutiny. It arose, in a great measure, from the dislike which the troops had to march against the Burmese, whom they believed to be more than mortal. There was no ground of complaint as to any want of proper accommodation, since every possible exertion had been made to furnish them with the usual conveniences, and, in fact, 100 bullocks were actually in the lines of the regiment (47th); that was allowing ten bullocks to each company. The hon. member had said, that if the officers had gone amongst them and asked what were their grievances, and informed them that they should have an inquiry, there would have been no mutiny—that very thing was done, and the very day before the mutiny broke out, a court of inquiry was ordered, and they were invited to send delegates to appear before it; and when they expressed a suspicion as to the safety of such delegates if they should be sent, Colonel Cartwright offered to remain with them as hostage. The hon. member had represented this mutiny as one of the mildest nature, and that the troops had merely refused to march: but the mutiny was much more alarming; the troops not only violently carried away their colours, but forcibly drove their officers from the parade. No means were left untried to make the insurgents fully sensible of their danger; indeed, delegates from them were actually conducted through the lines, and shown the extent of the force which was prepared to act against them. Could any one say how far such a mutiny, if it had been allowed to go on, might have spread? The hon. member had not made sufficient allowance for the difficult situation of the commander-in-chief. Indeed, had that gallant officer acted otherwise, he might have had to answer for endangering the peace of the country; and as to the employment of artillery, it was much the most proper and judicious course of suppressing the mutiny; nor was the conduct of the mutineers so patient as it had been represented. When the Royals were advancing, the mutineers fired upon them. The hon. member had been much misinformed as to the extent of the time taken up in suppressing the mutiny. The fact was, that after half an hour not a shot was fired. The loss also had been greatly exaggerated;

aggregated; it did not in reality exceed 160 or 180. The report of the Court of Inquiry related to various other matters besides the mutiny, which were not yet in a sufficiently forward state to make public, and the publishing them at present might only have the effect of exciting expectations which could not be gratified. From that report, however, it appeared that the mutineers had been tried, not by an European court-martial, but by one composed of native officers; that 140 of them had been capitally convicted; it was, therefore, the opinion of the natives that the troops had not been driven by necessity to mutiny. Of the 140 convicted, only 12 had been executed; the remainder had been sentenced to work in irons on the roads, which punishment was by no means an unusual punishment, and had been undergone by many persons of high caste; and indeed the very first proper opportunity had been seized to remit the punishment of these last-mentioned persons, not merely in compliance with the orders which had been sent out from the government here, for such remission had been directed before those orders had arrived. As to the dismissal of the officers, it was somewhat difficult to imagine that this mutiny could have proceeded so far, and spread through three regiments, without the officers having heard something of it; but if it had done so, it at any rate evinced that the officers must have been most culpably negligent and inattentive to what was going on amongst the troops under their command, and that confidence could not safely be reposed in them. As to the circular which had been sent to the newspaper editors in India, he considered it a highly proper one—for every one must be aware of the degree in which reports are sometimes exaggerated, and it might have happened that some one concerned in exciting the mutiny might have furnished a highly-coloured report of the manner in which it had originated, and been suppressed, and which might have done incalculable mischief in that country. He could not see what good consequence would result from reviving discussion upon this subject.—*(Cheers.)* The stain which the transaction in question had cast upon the character of the native troops, had already been removed by their subsequent good conduct. They were now perfectly contented; as a proof of which he might state, that a great number of regiments had voluntarily altered the terms of their engagement, in order to have an opportunity of extending their services beyond the Bengal territories. This was a case in which the executive government had a right to expect that a certain degree of confidence should be reposed in it.—*(Hear!)* From the reasons which he had before stated, he considered it inexpedient to produce the

report of the Committee of Inquiry. All the other documents, consisting of the orders of government, had been published in the newspapers, and were matters of public notoriety. On these grounds he felt it his duty to oppose the motion.—*(Hear, hear!)*

Sir C. Forbes supported the motion, and declared that as long as he held a seat in the house he would not cease to urge inquiry into this subject.

Mr. Hart Davis apprehended great mischief from this attempt to rip up the subject of the mutiny. He defended the conduct of Sir E. Paget, and asked how the hon. member (Mr. Hume) would like the same sort of scrutiny which he employed upon the political conduct of others, to be applied to his own? How would he like an inquiry into the management of the Greek war? *(Loud cheers.)* How would his financial policy bear the test? *(Laughter, and cries of "Hear, hear!")*

Col. Davis bore testimony to the talents and character of Sir E. Paget, but thought an inquiry necessary to his justification.

Sir H. Vivian contended that the course pursued by Sir E. Paget was perfectly correct and judicious; and though he was quite sure that officer desired to have his conduct inquired into, he (Sir H. V.) thought that it was highly inexpedient to revive such a topic after it had lain dormant for two years.

Colonel Lushington observed that the fact of a most serious and dangerous mutiny having existed in the native regiments at Barrackpore justified Sir Edward Paget in what he did; and so far from thinking him to blame, he considered him entitled to great praise, for the promptitude with which he adopted, and the firmness with which he carried into execution the necessary measures for effectually subduing the mutiny. He (Col. L.) lamented as much as any man the number of lives that were lost, but no one was to blame but the Sepoys themselves, by their pertinacity. He regretted that such severe and unwarrantable epithets, as "massacre" and "murder" should have been applied to these transactions, and he was fully persuaded if those that thought them so, could look at them with a military eye, they would greatly change their opinion, without in the least compromising their humanity. With regard to the dismissal of the native officers, when it was recollected they all rose from the ranks, and except the military rank their commission gave them, they had no superior station in society above the Sepoys with whom they were frequently connected, it was impossible that, if they did their duty, mutinous proceedings could ever reach beyond a momentary ebullition. He said this from a long and intimate acquaintance with the native army. He could also say commu-

tation

tation of punishment was by no means unusual. Surely it would be unjust and impolitic to have different degrees and modes of punishment for the same offence depending upon the caste of the Sepoy; but the fact was, no such principle was acknowledged, and the articles of war for the native army made no distinction of that nature. If the hon. member who brought forward this motion, could have satisfied the house that since the mutiny the spirit of discontent had increased, and that the character of the government had grown into disrepute with the native population, then there would have existed grounds for the motion. But the very reverse was the case. The Bengal army was never in a higher state of discipline than at present.—(Hear, hear!) The very regiments that were concerned in the mutiny had effectually redeemed their character by their good conduct during the Burmese war. Colours had been given, by orders of the supreme government, to the regiment that had lost them during the mutiny, for their gallant conduct in Arracan. Where, therefore, could the necessity of renewing this painful enquiry? The errors and abuses that may have existed, will be rectified by the executive government, and in their hands these papers ought to remain, the publication of which from the nature of the enquiry, would create heart-burnings and jealousies amongst the officers, and do incalculable mischief.

Sir Joseph Yorke said, he had not heard any attack upon Sir E. Paget, who had only acted as every gallant officer would have acted under similar circumstances. The question was, whether certain papers should be laid upon the table: this was refused, because it was said that they would implicate other persons. He would ask what sort of hold they could have in India, when they were told that they must not look at this question? If the government of India exercised more power than was necessary for good government and consistent with freedom, he hoped that the empire would be taken out of the hands in which it was placed in Leadenhall-street, and vested where it ought to be.

Mr. Forbes spoke in favour of the motion, and Sir J. Beresford against it.

On a division the numbers were, ayes 44; noes 176;—majority against the motion 132.

March 26.

Mr. T. F. Buxton gave notice that after Easter he would bring forward a motion to prevent the immolation of Hindoo widows.

LAW.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Feb. 27.

Fairlie v. Parker.—This was an action brought by the plaintiffs, merchants at Calcutta, to recover the value of a large

quantity of cottons, shipped from India to England by the order of the defendants. The facts were these:—The defendants, who were ship-owners in London, had, in the years 1818 and 1819, when trade generally was in a state of great depression, a number of ships unemployed, and being at a loss how to dispose of them, among other speculations, sent a ship called the *Mary Ann* to Calcutta, having previously written to the plaintiffs, informing them that they had a vessel which they expected would soon arrive in India, and desiring them either to obtain freight for her to return with, at a stipulated rate per ton, or to freight her with Indian produce on their own account. Among other goods which they wished to be returned was the article of cotton, provided it could be purchased at a limited price. Soon after this the *Mary Ann* arrived laden with bars of silver, to pay for the goods that might be purchased. At this time, however, the rate of freight had fallen far below that which the defendants had directed the ship should be returned with, and cottons had risen in value. Under these circumstances, the plaintiffs were at a loss how to act. They could not purchase the cotton within the prescribed limits, nor could they obtain freight at the rate required by the defendants. Thinking, however, that they would not like to have the vessel returned home in ballast, they determined to reduce the silver which had been sent out into rupees, and to purchase cotton and other produce on the most advantageous terms that could be obtained. The defendants had stipulated that the goods should be free on board, except the cotton, with regard to which they had said nothing. The plaintiffs purchased a quantity at the price named, but the expenses of putting it on board made the price something more. The vessel arrived in England in May 1819, at which time the value of cotton was much deteriorated. The defendants kept the cotton for about six weeks; they then threw it on the hands of the plaintiffs, on the ground that it had not been purchased within the limits prescribed.

The Lord Chief Justice left it to the jury to say whether the plaintiffs had exceeded the limits, and whether the defendants had acquiesced by not throwing up the cottons as soon as they arrived.

The jury were of opinion that the plaintiffs had exceeded the limits given them, and that the defendants had not acquiesced. They therefore returned their verdict for the defendants.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EAST-INDIA DIRECTORSHIP.

On the 7th of March a ballot was taken at the East-India House, for the election of a Director in the room of Jacob Bonanquet,

quett, Esq., who had disqualified. At six o'clock the glasses were closed and delivered to the scrutineers, who reported the election to have fallen on James Rivett Carnac, Esq.

MISSION TO MADAGASCAR.

Dr. Lyall is appointed to proceed to the Court of Radama, King of Madagascar, in the double capacity of successor to the late agent of government, and physician. The Doctor's chief duty will be to see that the treaty respecting the abolition of the slave trade, between England and his sable Majesty, shall be duly maintained; but he means to devote his leisure to the natural history of the island, in which there is ample scope for activity and talent.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L.Dr. R. Fawkes to be corn. by purch., v. Gumbleton prom. (1 Mar. 27); D. Gordon to be corn. by purch., v. Elton prom. (8 do.)

13th L.Dr. M. Jones to be corn. by purch., v. Mahon prom. (1 Mar.)

16th L.Dr. Hosp. assist. M. J. M. Ross to be assist. surg., v. Mouat prom. in 14th F. (15 Feb.); V. B. Simpson to be corn., v. Bere prom. (1 Mar.)

1st Foot. Capt. J. Wetherall to be maj. by purch., v. Hopkins, whose prom. has not taken place (13 June 26); Lieut. J. Bland to be capt. by purch., v. Harvey dec. (12 Feb. 26); Lieut. G. Y. Holebrooke, ditto (23 March 26); Lieut. G. Bell, from 45th F., to be lieut., v. J. McGregor, who exch. (2 Apr. 26); Ens. F. Hoskins to be lieut. by purch., v. Butler prom. (1 Feb. 27); Ens. R. Going to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson prom. (23 do.); Ens. A. B. Montgomery to be lieut., v. Carter dec. (18 do.); Ens. C. Curtis to be lieut., v. McGregor dec. (19 do.); Ens. R. J. Hill to be lieut., v. D. Campbell dec. (30 do.); Ens. J. Ritchie to be lieut., v. Gray dec. (31 do.); Ens. W. W. Hornsby, from 33d F., to be lieut. (22d do.); J. M. Ross to be ens., v. Montgomery (20 Jan. 26); J. Brown to be ens., v. Church dec. (12 Feb. 26); H. M. Dalrymple to be ens. by purch., v. Hoskins (1 Feb. 27); F. W. H. Vallance to be ens., v. Curtis (19 do.); W. Webster to be ens., v. Hill (20 do.); T. J. Furnell to be ens., v. (Ritchie (21 do.); Ens. W. D. Bedford to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson prom. (31 Jan. 27); H. A. Dalton to be ens. by purch., v. Going prom. (1 Mar.); G. R. Cathrow to be ens. by purch., v. Bedford (8 do.)

3d Foot. Maj. A. Cameron, from h.p. 83d F., to be maj., v. H. Marlay, who exch.; Hosp. assist. E. Overton to be assist. surg. (both 8 Mar.)

6th Foot. Acting Qu. Mast. Serj. W. Hornby to be qu. mast., v. Smart, who rets. (1 Feb.); Assist. surg. R. Goodrich to be surg., v. Trigge dec.; Hosp. assist. T. Spence to be assist. surg., v. Goodrich (both 8 do.); Ens. W. Curtels to be lieut. by purch., v. Eyre prom.; B. W. Shaw to be ens. by purch., v. Curtels (both 20 Mar.)

13th Foot. Lieut. K. Barrett to be capt., v. Read dec. (25 May 26); Ens. R. W. Croker to be lieut., v. Pyne dec. (1 Jan. 26); Lieut. G. Keir, from 67th F., to be lieut., v. Barrett (25 May 26); G. J. D. McKenzie to be ens., v. Croker; — Wade to be ens., v. Grierson (both 22 Feb. 27).

14th Foot. Assist. surg. J. Mouat, from 16th L.Dr., to be surg., v. T. Jackson ret. on h.p. (15 Feb.)

16th Foot. W. Whitaker to be ens., v. Lane prom. (8 Feb.); F. Fairhough to be ens. v. Douglas prom. (23d Feb.)

20th Foot. Assist. surg. M. Griffith to be surg., v. A. Arnot, who rets. on h.p.; Hosp. assist. J. W. Moffat to be assist. surg., v. Griffith prom. (both 26 Feb.)

30th Foot. Ens. N. Armstrong to be lieut., v.

M'Leod res. (10th Apr. 26); — Wadron to be ens., v. Armstrong (22 Feb. 27).

31st Foot. Qu. Mast. Serj. S. Palmer to be qu. mast., v. Waters dec. (8 May 26).

38th Foot. Qu. Mast. Serj. D. Gould to be qu. mast., v. Southall dec. (19 May 26).

41st Foot. Capt. C. L. Bell, from 87th F., to be maj., v. Chambers prom. in 87th F. (12 Apr. 26); J. Bayley to be ens., v. Price prom. in 47th F.; Qu. Mast. Serj. W. Randle to be qu. mast., v. Smith dec. (both 22 Feb. 27).

44th Foot. Lieut. W. B. Scott to be adj., v. Gladstones dec. (1 Dec. 25).

45th Foot. Lieut. J. M'Gregor, from 1st F., to be lieut., v. Bell, who exch. (2 Apr. 26); Lieut. J. S. Brooke from h.p., to be lieut., v. R. S. Knox, who exch. (22 Feb. 27); Lieut. K. D. Lloyd, from R. Staff Corps, to be lieut., v. Grant prom. (1 Mar.)

46th Foot. Ens. C. W. Zuhlicke to be lieut., v. Read dec. (4 May 26); 2d-Lieut. J. Edwards, from Ceyl. Regt., to be lieut. by purch., v. Muttibury prom. (15 Feb. 27); J. Campbell to ens., v. Zuhlicke (22 do.)

47th Foot. Ens. J. Lardner to be lieut., v. Kyffin app. to 22d F. (12 July 26); Ens. A. M. Robinson to be lieut., v. M'Carthy dec. (12 Dec. 26); Ens. W. D. Hewson to be lieut., v. Douglas dec. (3 Jan. 26); Ens. H. F. Clarke to be lieut., v. Frome dec. (1 May 26); Ens. H. M'Nally to be lieut., v. Miller dec. (20 do.); Ens. R. Price, from 41st F., to be lieut., v. Murray dec. (23d do.); F. C. Fyers to be ens., v. Lardner (19 Feb. 27); W. Hope to be ens., v. Robinson (20 do.); W. Wise to be ens. by purch., v. Clarke (21 do.); H. Hutchinson to be ens., v. Hewson (22 do.); Lieut. W. D. Deverell to be adj., v. M'Carthy dec. (12 Dec. 25); W. F. White to be ens. by purch., v. M'Nally (20 Mar. 27).

48th Foot. Ens. J. A. Erskine to be lieut. by purch., v. Weston prom. (1 Feb. 27); H. D. Roebuck to be ens. by purch., v. Erskine (22 do.); Lieut. J. White, from h.p. York Chasseurs, to be lieut., v. Hughes prom. (13 Mar.)

54th Foot. Lieut. C. Hill to be capt., v. Burnett dec.; Ens. J. B. Dodd to be lieut., v. Fraser dec. (both 5 Jan. 26); Lieut. T. Kennedy, from 67th F., to be lieut., v. Hill (1 Apr. 26); F. J. Chinery to be ens. by purch., v. Burton prom. (15 Feb. 27).

59th Foot. Ens. W. S. Marley to be lieut., v. Coventry dec. (30 Jan. 26); J. Meckler to be ens., v. Harley (22 Feb. 27).

87th Foot. Maj. P. L. Chambers, from 41st F., to be lieut. col., v. Shaw dec. (12 Apr. 26); Ens. D. Herbert to be lieut., v. Doyle dec. (5 May 26); Ens. A. Grierson from 13th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Doyle, whose prom., by purch., has been cancelled (15 Feb. 27); Hosp. assist. W. Wallace to be assist. surg., v. Brown prom. in 45th F. (8 Mar.)

89th Foot. Lieut. J. L. Kingston, from h.p., to be lieut., v. Sutton app. to 69th F. (20 Mar.); Capt. C. Dowson, from h.p. 55th F., to be paym., v. Anderson app. to 35th F. (1 Mar.)

97th Foot. Lieut. T. M'Donough, from h.p. 35th F., to be lieut., v. R. E. Butler, who exch. (1 Feb. 27); Ens. H. Handcock to be lieut. by purch., v. Cheney prom.; S. Mansergh to be ens. by purch., v. Handcock (both 20 Mar.)

Ceylon Regt. 2d-Lieut. H. F. Powell to be 1st-lieut. by purch., v. Reyne prom. (8 Feb.); C. H. Roddy to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Powell (15 Feb.); Capt. G. Ingham, from h.p. 3d Ceyl. Regt., to be capt., v. Churchill prom. (8 Mar.); F. R. Nash to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Powell prom. (1 Mar.)

Brevet. Br. Maj. E. Kelly, h.p. 23d L.Dr., dep. adj. gen. to forces serving in Ava, to be lieut. col. in army (20 May 26).

The undermentioned cadets of the Hon. E.I. Company's service to have temporary rank as ensigns during period of their being placed at Chatham, for field instruction in art of sapping and mining: W. E. Baker; C. S. Guthrie; and H. Beethon (all 15 Feb.)

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Feb. 27. York, Moncrieff, from Singapore; and Fairfield, Work, from N.S. Wales; both at Deal, —also

—also *Diadem* transport, Edmunds, from the Mauritius and Cape; at Portsmouth.—28. *Friendship*, Osborne, from Batavia; off Dover.—also *Woodman*, Leary, from N. S. Wales; at Deal.—March 1. *Alexander*, Richardson, from Ceylon and the Mauritius; at Deal.—2. *Celia*, Sherwood, from Batavia; at Millford (bound to London).—4. *Thomas Coutts*, Christie, from China 23d Nov.; *Georgiana*, Haylett, from Bengal 30th Sept., and Madras 15th Oct.; *Coventry*, Purdie, from the Mauritius and the Cape; and *Doncaster*, Church, from V.D. Land 8th Oct.; all at Gravesend.—also *Matilda*, Bulley, from Manila; off Dartmouth.—also *Duke of Lancaster*, Hanney, from Bengal 18th Nov.; at Liverpool.—6. *Diadem*, Cotgrave, from Bombay and Cork; at Deal.—7. *Joseph*, Christopherson, from Bengal and Gibraltar; at Gravesend.—also *Henry*, Bunney, from V.D. Land 15th Nov.; in Margate Roads.—8. *Abercrombie Robinson*, Innes, from China 17th Nov.; off Portsmouth.—11. H.M.S. *Larne*, Dobson, from Madras and Ceylon; at Portsmouth.—12. *Circassian*, Douthwaite, from Bengal and Madras 17th Oct.; at Deal.—13. *Duchess of Athol*, Daniell, from China 29th Nov.; *Berwickshire*, Shepherd, from China 19th Nov.; *Atalanta*, Johnson, from Bombay; *Eliza*, Mahon, from Bengal 24th Sept., and Madras 20th Oct.; *Clyde*, Munro, from Bengal and Madras; *Prince Regent*, Richards, from the Mauritius; and *Calista*, Robertson, from ditto; all at Deal.—also *Royal Charlotte*, Dudman, from Singapore, Malacca, and Penang; off Hastings.—also *Lady Amherst*, Lisle, from the South Seas and the Mauritius; off Dover.—14. *Cleveland*, Havilock, from the Mauritius; *Jara*, Driver, from China; and *Sarah*, Milne, from Bombay 1st Oct.; all at Deal.—19. *Lord Lowther*, Stewart, from China 29th Nov.; at Deal.—22. *Porcupine*, Laling, from Singapore 5th Dec.; off Dover.—23. *Edinburgh*, Bax, from China, 29th Nov.; off Portland.—27. *Macqueen*, Walker, from China 14th Dec.; off Portsmouth.—also *Bolivar*, Smith, from Singapore 30th Nov.; at Liverpool.—28. *Lady Holland*, Snell, from Madras 16th Oct.; off Hastings.

Departures.

March 8. *Bombay*, Charitie, for Madras and China; from Deal.—9. *Farquharson*, Cruickshank, for St. Helena, Penang, Singapore, and China; *General Kpt*, Nalme, for Madras and China; *Waterloo*, Manning, for ditto; and *Albion*, Chambers, for the Mauritius; all from Deal.—15. *St. David*, Richardson, for Bombay; and *Mary and Jane*, Matches, for Batavia and Singapore; both from Deal.—16. *Cyren*, Gulliver, for Otaheite and South Seas; and *Protector*, Waugh, for Madras and Bombay; both from Deal.—24. *Belmont*, Talbert, for Bengal; from Deal.—25. *Minnerva*, Morris, for Bengal; *Orynthia*, Rixon, for Batavia and Singapore; *Guildford*, Johnson, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); *Medway*, Wight, and *Lang*, Lusk, for N. S. Wales and V. D. Land; and *Earl of Egremont*, Johnson, for the Cape; all from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Alexander, from Ceylon: Major Somersfield, his lady, and 3 children; Mr. Noland, civilian; Mr. Moncur, merchant; Mrs. Bertram and two children.

Per Fairfield, from N. S. Wales: Dr. Rae, R.N.; Mr. Mills; Mr. De Swinton.

Per Clyde, from Bengal and Madras: Lieut. Col. Hawkins, 2d Madras Europ. Regt.; Mrs. and Miss Hawkins; Capt. Marr, 3d Madras N.I.; Maj. Bruce, H.M.'s 97th regt.; Maj. Wallis, H.M.'s 46th do.; Capt. Brooke, H.M.'s 48th do.; Capt. Chadwick, H.M.'s 45th do.; Lieuts. Scott and Robertson, 2d Extra Bengal N.I.; Lieut. Hope, 57th Bengal N.I.; Lieut. Carr, 11th Madras N.I.; Capt. Tucker, 11th do.; Mr. F. Healey; Dr. Beattie; Master Macqueen.—(Ena. A. C. Hayes, H.M.'s 13th regt., died at the Cape on 8th Dec.)

Per Diadem transport, from the Mauritius, &c.: Lieut. Drury, R.M., and the Rev. Mr. Allen, late of the *Owen-Clendower*; Dr. McDonald and family, and Capt. Nicholson and family from the Cape; Lieut. Galway from the Mauritius; Lieut. Wells of the Bombay Marine; Capt. W. Boucher, R.N.; Dr. Furner; Mr. Watson, shipowner; and Lieut. I. B. Emery, late civil governor at the island of Mombasa.

Per Woodman, from N. S. Wales: Mr. Ebsworth; Lieut. Robertson, H.M.'s 98d regt.; Dr. J. Rutherford, R.N.; Dr. G. Rutherford, ditto; Master Gillman.

Per Thomas Coutts, from China: R. Campbell Esq., Bengal C.S.; Capt. Agnew, H.M.'s 4th L. Dr.

Per Georgiana, from Bengal: Rev. S. H. Kendall and lady; Capt. R. A. Thomas, H.M.'s 48th Regt.; Lieut. S. A. Grant, H.M.'s service; Lieut. S. H. Middleton, artillery; Lieuts. Savory, Moir, Ramsay, and Cook, Bengal N.I.; Mr. J. Rose, 4th officer of the *Sir David Scott*; Mr. H. Daniells, Bengal med. estab.; Mrs. Isabella Wilkinson, and two sons; Mr. Harrington, civil service; Mrs. Harrington and two sons; Mr. M'Leod, civil service; Capt. M'Kenzie, King's Royals; J. M'Donald, Esq., M.D.; Lieut. M. Hislop; Lieut. M'Braire, 9th Madras N.I.; Capt. Moore; Mr. Campbell, civil service; Mr. Clarke, Bengal artillery; Mr. R. Lovett; Capt. S. Smith, H.M.'s 3d regt.

Per Abercrombie Robinson, from China: Mrs. Pregrave, lady of E. Pregrave, Esq., acting resident at Singapore; Capt. Jas. Webster, late commander of the ship *Mary Anne*; P. Amminton, Esq., merchant, Canton; two Masters Pregrave; two Misses Pregrave.

Per Duke of Lancaster, from Bengal: Capt. Aplin, Bengal N.I.; Mrs. Aplin and children; Capt. Goldhawk; Lieuts. Jackson and Gilmore; Mr. Phillips; Mrs. Col. Edwards and children; two Masters Ronald; Mr. Lucas.

Per Bunney, from V. D. Land: G. W. Evans, Esq.; Mrs. Evans; two Masters Evans; Miss Jane Evans; Messrs. J. Blood, G. Hunt, and C. Seal.

Per Berwickshire, from China: F. H. Toome, Esq.; Lieut. Layard; J. W. Wheeler, Esq.; Mr. John Mead.

Per Atalanta, from Bombay: Mr. Agar, H.C.'s service; Lieut. Dick; Master Cunningham.

Per Eliza, Mahon, from Bengal: Capt. Long and Lieut. Murray, 59th regt.; Mrs. Murray and family; Lieut. Scott, Bengal artillery; Mrs. Field and Child; Capt. Lovelass, 16th Lancers.

Per Prince Regent, from the Mauritius: Mr. Dickinson; Capt. Dobson; Mr. Webb.

Per Royal Charlotte, from Penang; Master Crawford, nephew of the Resident of Singapore.—(Lieut. Maxwell, H.M.'s 11th L. Dr., for the Cape, died at sea in Nov.)

Per Lord Lowther, from China: M. J. Jas. Elder, 1st Bombay regt.; Lieut. Westby, Queen's Royals; Ens. Scriven, 5th Bombay regt.; Mr. J. M. Johnston, free mariner.

Per Circassian, from Bengal: Capt. Barwell, H.M.'s 6th regt.; Lieut. Kingdom, H.M.'s 51st do.; Mr. Kingdom; Master Bowman.—From Ceylon: Dr. Farrell, Inspector; Mr. Farrell, civil service; Lieut. MacVicar, Ceylon Regt.; Dr. Fren and Lieut. Stannes, H.M.'s 97th regt.; Mrs. Walbechoff and four children; Masters G. Fellows and Thos. Mauley.—(Lieut. Mitchell, H.C.'s 19th regt., from Madras, died at sea on 11th Jan.)

Per Edinburgh, from China: Sir Jas. B. Urnston, Knt., president of the factory, Canton; Rev. H. Harding, chaplain, ditto; Capt. G. W. Bonham, 25th regt. N.I.

Per Macqueen, from China: Jas. Bathgate, Esq., merchant, Calcutta; Lieut. H. M. Lawrence, Bengal artillery; Mrs. Bathgate.

Per Lady Holland, from Madras and the Cape: Maj. O'Reilly; Capt. Beddingfield; Capt. H. Stone; Mrs. Stone; Capt. Hele; Capt. Woodgate and eight children; Capt. W. B. Rowley; Capt. Wilson; Mr. Ely; Mr. Harris; Capt. Pennyfeather, late of the *Eliza*; Mrs. Pennyfeather and two children; Capt. and Mrs. Sewell; Colonel Bailey; Dr. Mayne.—(Col. P. V. Agnew, his lady, and 3 children, were left at the Cape.)

Per Padang, from Padang: the Rev. Chas. Evans; Mrs. Evans; two Masters and two Misses Evans.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Vanillart, for Bengal: Maj. J. Dunn, Company's service; Messrs. R. E. Cusliffe, H. W. Deane, and R. H. Mytton, writers; Messrs. D. Woodburn

Woodburn and J. Nesbitt, assist. surgs.; Messrs. T. Young, G. Herbert, and P. Manwaring, cadets; Miss E. Shortland; Rev. R. Mytton, chaplain; Mrs. Mytton and daughter; Mr. J. Kerr, veterinary surg.; Miss H. Cunliffe; Mr. M. Daniell, free-mariner; R. R. Burrington and J. Chambers, free mariners; Capt. Jones in charge of recruits; 50 H.C.'s recruits; 3 women and 2 children belonging to ditto; native servants, &c.

Per Charles Grant, for Bombay: Colonel Frederick and lady; Lieut. Eggleston; Mr. Dewar, barrister; Mrs. Dewar and child; Mr. Sprague, barrister; Messrs. R. J. M. Muspratt, P. Scott, and E. Stacey, writers; Messrs. T. Tarvilton, W. J. Hay, F. L. Frederick, W. J. Tudor, J. Burnell, R. Holmes, H. W. Brett, and C. R. Hogg, cadets; Messrs. F. Whitelock and F. Jones, Bombay marine; 90 marine boys for Bombay; Maj. Hunt, Lieut. Robinson, and Ensigns Walton and Somers, H.M.'s 9d Regt. or Royals; Capt. Parbury, Lieut. Ansell, and Cornet Ellis, H.M.'s 4th L. Dr.; 313 soldiers, H.M.'s 3d Royals and 4th L. Dr.; 24 soldiers' wives; 17 children; native servants.

Per Bombay, for Madras: Rev. Mr. Blenkinsop, chaplain, and lady; Mr. and Mrs. Gahagan and two daughters, returning to India; Messrs. J. Dod, F. H. Sampson, P. E. L. Rickards, N. Wroughton, S. G. C. Renard, and J. E. Mawdsley, cadets; Capt. Cross, and Ensigns Kerr, Main, Goring, and Palmer, H.M.'s Royals; 260 men H.M.'s Royals; 30 soldiers' wives; 16 children.

Per Farquharson, for St. Helena, Penang, &c.: Mr. R. T. Wingrove, writer, and lady, for Penang; Mr. C. Mackenzie, merchant, for Singapore; Miss F. Mackenzie; Mr. J. Till, writer, for St. Helena; Mr. P. Valle to assist in culture of silk at St. Helena; Mrs. Musie, his housekeeper; Mr. Jas. Cameron, Company's gardener; several servants; 20 privates H.C.'s service; 6 soldiers' wives; 4 children.

Per General Kyd, for Madras: Lieut. Col. D. Foulles and Capt. P. Farquharson, H.C.'s service; Mr. L. Lucas, his wife, and son, for Madras; Miss S. A. Bridgeman; Mr. J. Home; Mr. G. C. Chester, H.C.'s service; Mr. W. Dowdeswell, writer; Messrs. J. Mernett, D. Pearson, J. Henderson, W. Wyndham, C. Babington, J. Whitelock, J. Hogarth, R. Jenkins, R. Cameron, G. Patrickson, and C. T. Willis, cadets; Capt. May, Lieut. M'Leod, and Ens. Wilson, H.M.'s 1st Foot; Lieuts. Vaughan and Hamilton, H.M.'s 41st Foot; Cornet Miller, H.M.'s 13th L. Dr.; 245 men of H.M.'s 1st, 41st, and 80th Regts.; 29 soldiers' wives, 13 children; servants, &c.

Per Waterloo, for Madras: Mr. J. A. Oakes, C.S., and lady; Mrs. Dawson; Col. W. Clapham and lady; Mrs. Daniell; Miss Watson; Messrs. W. A. Inglis, R. Grote, J. L. Strange, and G. M. Bird, writers; Messrs. G. Haines, W. H. Rickets, W. Taylor, W. R. Annesley, F. C. Cotton, J. C. M'Pherson, J. K. Hannah, A. Douglas, S. Cuff, E. Lawford, P. T. Birdmore, T. G. L. Lascelles, and C. H. Freeman, cadets; Lieut. Col. M'Caskey, Capt. Daniel, Lieut. Twigg, Ens. Glover, Ens. Wilson, Ens. Lee, Ens. Dewes, Assist. surg. Carline, and Paymaster. Dowson, H.M.'s 89th Foot; 300 men H.M.'s 89th do.; 56 soldiers' wives; 30 children; native servants, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

The *Marmion*, Petrie, from Liverpool to Bengal, was totally lost on 15th Feb. in the Bay of Biscay (lat. 49 N., long. 11 W.), having started a butt on the larboard bow, and could not be stopped. The master, crew, and passengers were all saved. The value of the *Marmion* and her cargo is estimated at between £60,000 and £70,000.

The *Sarah*, Tucker, from London to Bombay, put into Rio Janeiro 28th Nov., in consequence of the crew having mutined. Four of them were wounded and one afterwards died. She proceeded on her voyage 6th Dec., with a guard of marines furnished by the Admiral's ship.

The *Aurora*, from Singapore to Penang, is lost in the Straits of Malacca.

The *Caledonian*, Bell, from London to New Holland, put into the Cape of Good Hope 26th Dec. in consequence of want of water, and insubordination of part of the crew.

The *Edmond Street*, from Rangoon, was lost on Pulau Gones, near Acheen, in November.

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The *Jessie Packet*, from Batavia to Antwerp, was totally lost off Flushing on the night of the 2d March; the whole of her crew and passengers drowned. She had 8,000 bags of coffee on board. She was insured at Lloyd's.

The *London* (an American), has been lost off the Sandwich Islands, on her passage from South America to China. The treasure was saved, and safely conveyed to Owyhee.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 12. At Norton Cottage, Tenby, the lady of Lieut. Colonel Voyle, of a daughter.

Feb. 24. At Clapton, the lady of Capt. T. Havilside, Hon. Company's service, of a son.

March 7. At the Rectory House, Bliton, the lady of Lieut. Col. Commandant Sealy, Bombay establishment, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 27. At Hastings, Maj. J. L. Gale, Bengal army, to Isabella, daughter of the late Arch. Douglas, Esq., of Edderstone, Roxburghshire.

March 12. At Menlo Castle, Horatio Nelson Ramsay, Esq., Bombay N.I., to Catherine, third daughter of Thomas Turner, Cheadle, Staffordshire, Esq., and grand-daughter to Sir John Blake, Menlo Castle, county Galway, Ireland.

13. At St. James's, Westminster, J. W. E. Biscoe, Esq., of the Bengal cavalry, to Mary, only daughter of the late J. Harris, Esq., M.D., of Kingston, Jamaica.

15. At Streatham Church, A. M. Baxter, Esq., attorney-general, New South Wales, to Maria del Rosario Gordon, only daughter of the late R. Gordon, Esq., of Xeres de la Frontera.

19. At St. James's, Westminster, Capt. W. R. Best, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Frances, second daughter of T. Sibley, Esq., of Luton, Bedfordshire.

20. At Edinburgh, R. D. Boyd, Esq., of Paris, nephew of W. Boyd, Esq., M.P., to Eliza, sister to R. Boyd, Esq., commissioner of revenue at Ceylon.

DEATHS.

Jan. 2. At sea, on the passage from China, Mr. W. Harrod, 3d officer of the H.C.'s ship *Duchess of Athol*.

Feb. 6. At Wells, Somersetshire, Arch. Christie, Esq., late brevet major, 6th Foot.

9. At Hounslow, John Burrows, son of H. C. Sanneman, Esq., 11th R. yal Hussars.

15. At Yair, in Selkirkshire, Alex. Pringle, Esq., formerly of the Madras civil service.

25. At Aberdeen, Capt. J. W. Reid, half-pay 48th Foot, in his 58th year.

27. At Norton Cottage, Tenby, Margaret Emily, sixth daughter of Lieut. Colonel and Mrs. Voyle, aged four years and four months.

March 2. At East Cottage, Bexley Heath, the lady of Lieut. Col. J. Hickey, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

8. At Dover, Capt. Elsdon, of the ship *Hoba*.

10. At Dalkeith, Capt. Jas. Fraser, aged 81. Capt. F. was one of the few officers who survived the memorable siege of Mangalore, in the East-Indies, in 1783.

— At Bath, Mrs. Hunn, mother of the Right Hon. George Canning, in her 81st year.

13. At Edinburgh, Mrs. Swinton, relict of the late Arch. Swinton, Esq., formerly of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

14. The Rev. R. Johnson, rector of the parishes of St. Antholin's and St. John Baptist, and formerly chaplain of the colony of New South Wales, aged 73.

— At Plymouth Anchorage, Mr. G. T. Calvely, 2d officer of the H.C.'s ship *Waterloo*.

25. At Enfield, in his 79th year, Sir Nathaniel Dance, Knt., formerly a commander in the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

Lately, At Staten Island, New York, Dr. C. K. Bruce, late of Calcutta.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 9 April—Prompt 6 July.
Company's and Licensed—Indigo.

Company's Warehouses.—The charge for manage-
ment will continue as before, viz. £2. per cent.

The Court of Directors have given Notice, that the Warehouse Rent on *Soy*, in lieu of 2d. per Chest per Week till the Prompt Day, and afterwards 1d. per lot per week if divided, will be charged as follows:—In Chests containing *Soy* in small jars or bottles, 2d. per chest per week.—In Jars, Tubs, or small Casks, if not exceeding 8 galls, 1d. each Jar, &c. per week; above 2 and not exceeding 15 galls, 1d. each ditto per week; above 15 galls, 2d. each ditto per week.—In Half-hogs-heads, 3d. each per week.—In Hogsheads, 6d. each per week.—In Pipes or Leaguers, 1s. each per week. The above Rates will apply to all *Soy* now in the

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COM-
PANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *Thomas Coutta*, *Abercrombie Robinson*, *Berwickshire*, *Duchess of Athol*, *Java*, *Lord Louthier*, *Edinburgh*, and *Macqueen*, from *China*, and the *Circassian* and *Etica*, from *Bengal*.

Company's.—Tea—Sugar.

Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—China Raw Silk—China Silks—Piece Goods—Nankeens—Elephant's Teeth—Coral Beads—Glass Bubbles—Bamboo Canes—Floor Mats—Wine—Madeira—Sherry.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ships' Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras	1837.						
	April 10	<i>Security</i>	300	Johnston and Menburn	Andrew Ross	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read, Ritchie's-court, Lime-st.
	15	<i>Star</i>	234	James Bishop	William Fisher	Lon. Docks	F. Bayert, Broad-street Mews. (bile
	5	<i>George</i>	438	Johnston and Menburn	William Fulcher	W. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, & Co., & W. Abercrom-
	25	<i>Kingston</i>	54	William A. Bowen	W. A. Bowen	E. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, & Co., & J. S. Brinley.
Madras & Bengal	15	<i>Grecian</i>	340	James Allen and Co.	James Allen	W. I. Docks	Henderson and Graham, Mark-lane.
	2	<i>Roxburgh Castle</i>	599	Wigrams and Green	George Denny	Blackwall	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's st., Cornhill.
	30	<i>Ly. MacNaghen</i>	600	William Faith	William Faith	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-st.
	22	<i>Neptune</i>	710	John Cumberlege, jun.	J. A. Cumberlege	E. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun. Birchlin-lane.
	24	<i>Eliza</i>	682	David Sutton	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
Bengal	May	<i>Childe Harold</i>	463	Robert Granger	Wm. W. West	E. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	April 30	<i>Henry Porcher</i>	487	George Lyall	Robert Jeffery	W. I. Docks	John Groves and Robert Thornhill.
	May 7	<i>Edith</i>	290	T. and A. Dixon	Adam Dixon	City Canal	Thos. Dennis and Robt. Thornhill.
	April 8	<i>Lady of the Lake</i>	243	James L. Heathorn	Wm. Nicholles	W. I. Docks	J. L. Heathorn, Change-alley.
	3	<i>Charles Kerr</i>	550	John Pirie and Co.	John Brodie	City Canal	John Pirie and Co.
Bombay	April 20	<i>Lady Nugent</i>	690	John Campbell	Row. B. Cotgrave	City Canal	Webb and Stewart, or Barber, Neate
	May 1	<i>Kath. Steu. Forbes</i>	457	Aaron Chapman	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	J. Chapman, and Co., Leadenhall-st.
	4	<i>Bolton</i>	640	Michael Andrew	John Clarkson	W. I. Docks	Hazett and Co.,
	April 7	<i>Lady Rotunda</i>	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	6	<i>Morning Star</i>	300	William Tindell	Thos. Gibbs	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
Pointe de Galles, Co- lombo & Trincom.	20	<i>Prince Regent</i>	400	Buckles and Co.	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 25	<i>Alexander</i>	500	Geo. Load	Wm. Richardson	W. I. Docks	John Lyney, jun.
	April 20	<i>Maria</i>	400	Thornton and West	John Rutlands	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read.
	3	<i>Princess Victoria</i>	160	Andrew Henderson	Henry B. Matthews	City Canal	Edmund Read.
	1	<i>Vittoria</i>	280	James H. Southam	Jas. H. Southam	City Canal	John S. Brinley.
Donaus Convict Ships.	10	<i>Nimrod</i>	300	Thomas Harvie	Thomas Harvie	City Canal	Buckles and Co.
	15	<i>Resolution</i>	395	Nath. Domest	George Parker	Shields	L. Swainson, Nag's Head-court.
	3	<i>Mary of Hastings</i>	453	George Lyall	Jos. J. Drake	Portsmouth	Joseph Lachlan.
	5	<i>Perian</i>	399	James Gale and Son	Robert P. Blunkett	Woolwich	Joseph Lachlan.
	2	<i>Princess Charlotte</i>	400	Hewden and Gardner	Edward P. Godby	Woolwich	Joseph Lachlan.
New South Wales	4	<i>Alacrity</i>	293	Robert Granger	John Findlay	Lon. Docks	Brook, Old Broad-street.
	3	<i>Leon</i>	375	John Lumsden	Alexander Kenn	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	6	<i>Orelia</i>	385	William Hudson	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Ansdree and Stubbs, Great St. Helen's.
	20	<i>George Home</i>	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill.

31st March 1837.

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS, of the Season 1826-27, with their Managing Owners, Commanders, &c.

Ships.	Tons.	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Third Officers.	Fourth Officers.	Surgeons.	Purser.	Consignments.	To be Afloat.	To be Discharged.	When Sailed.
8 <i>Bridgewater</i>	1276	James Sims	J. R. Manderson	W. H. Walker	C. Pennington	David Home, John Hayward	John Hayward	W. Spry	Joseph Cragg	Bombay & China	1826.	1827.	1827.
9 <i>Lauchter Castle</i>	1427	Matthew Iacke	Thomas Baker	G. K. Bathie	J. Wilkinson	G. J. Thompson C. Hawkins	C. Hawkins	{ J. H. Blen- nerhasset }	{ Benj. B. Lord Robt. Murray }	{ St. Helena, Bom- bay, & China. }	14 Nov.	29 Nov.	4 Jan.
8 <i>Atlas</i>	1287	Charles O. Mayne	John Hline	Hen. Bristow	T. G. Adams	John Vaux	John Donett	Robt. Murray	Jos. W. Cragg	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
8 <i>Regulus</i>	1324	John F. Timins	C. B. Gribble	Edw. Ford	A. C. Watling	F. Wainwright Goffe, S. Hirst	Dudley North	Wm. Scott	Nich. G. Glass	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
6 <i>Duke of York</i>	1327	S. Marjoribanks	Robert Locke	Geo. Ireland	F. Mac Nell	J. Thomson	J. R. Lancaster	Rich. Royce	Edw. Crawford	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
7 <i>Hereward</i>	1290	John Locke	J. C. Whiteman	Robert Card	Wm. Robson	A. H. Crawford	Henry Cayley	J. W. Wilson	Rich. Rawes	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
2 <i>Penitentiary</i>	1290	Joseph Hare	Rich. Glasspool	Wm. Edmonds	John Bell	James Crozier	Henry Cayley	A. Johnstone	Rich. Rawes	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
6 <i>Buckinghamshire</i>	1364	<i>Company's Ship</i>	David R. Newall	John Hillman	Longcroft	Thos. Alchin	T. Peckinun	Wm. Hayland	Rich. Rawes	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
11 <i>Seaboy Castle</i>	1242	<i>Company's Ship</i>	William Hay	Joseph Coates	Peter Pilcher	C. Hen. Leaver	Arthur Burnell	Robt. Strange	Wm. Bruce	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
4 <i>Charles Grant</i>	1246	William Moffat	John P. Wilson	R. Lindsay	Wm. B. Coles	Jacks Sparrow	C. Johnstone	R. Alexander	G. R. Griffiths	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
4 <i>Hythe</i>	1333	S. Marjoribanks	Samuel Serle	J. Dudman	Wm. B. Coles	James Mowat	John Garnett	John Lawson	R. Middlemas	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
8 <i>Infantis</i>	1298	R. Borradaile	Amb. F. Proctor	Wm. MacNair	Thos. Thoms	Mark Clayton	R. E. Warner	Joseph Docker	Jas. Thomson	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
5 <i>Windsor</i>	1352	George Clay	W. Cruickshank	Henry Cowan	George Lloyd	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
4 <i>Farquharson</i>	1356	John C. Lochner	W. Cruickshank	Henry Cowan	George Lloyd	James Walker	J. G. Murray	James Bruce	D. Grassick	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
9 <i>Bombay</i>	1242	Henry Templer	John Charrelle	H. Clement	George Wise	H. S. Isaacson	Thos. Foss	Wm. Westcott	Robert Miles	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
7 <i>General Kyd</i>	1240	James Walker	Alex. Nairne	Richard Applin	H. Thomson	A. C. Barclay	W. Mackenzie	F. P. Allyn	David Clark	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
6 <i>Waterloo</i>	1325	<i>Company's Ship</i>	Wm. Manning	W. R. Blakeley	G. T. Calvely	Fred. Hedges	Wm. Tate	Jas. Halliday	John Benford	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
1 <i>Duke of Sussex</i>	1300	S. Marjoribanks	W. H. Whitehead	John D. Orr	G. C. Arbutnot	Basil W. Mure	C. Mac Rae	John Sim	C. D. Morson	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
5 <i>Kellie Castle</i>	1283	Geo. Hare	W. H. Ludd	R. P. Stullo	J. Sercombe	Francis West	Wm. S. Stokley	John Cullen	J. C. Sinclair	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
7 <i>Mirvus</i>	976	George Palmer	George Probyn	John Dryden	Chas. Ingram	A. Tudor	Wm. Toller	C. H. Barnes	Chas. Reynell	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
8 <i>Pr. Charles of Wales</i>	973	C. B. Gribble	Chas. B. B. B.	Henry Fribble	C. W. Francken	Nath. W. Knox	Wm. Toller	C. H. Barnes	Chas. Reynell	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
9 <i>W. arrow Hastings</i>	1000	John L. Minet	George Mason	Thos. Davis	C. S. Bawtree	C. H. Wimbolt	John Campbell	Geo. Graham	Wm. Cragg	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
8 <i>Mary, Wellington</i>	901	Henry Bonham	Alfred Chapman	R. B. Shitler	John Sparke	W. Lidderdale	John Duncan	Wm. Winton	Fran. Jencks	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
10 <i>Thomas Grenville</i>	886	<i>Company's Ship</i>	Charles Shea	J. B. Burnett	Robt. Robson	Wm. Taylor	Aug. Urnston	Adam Elliot	Joseph Adams	Bombay & China	29 do.	14 Dec	19 do.
7 <i>Barossa</i>	729	Buckles & Co.	H. Hutchinson	—	—	—	—	—	—	China	13 Mar.	12 Apr.	—
7 <i>Alfred</i>	716	Fraser, Living & Co.	J. Pearson	—	—	—	—	—	—	China	13 Mar.	12 Apr.	—
7 <i>Broxburnbury</i>	731	Alfred Chapman	Thos. Fewson	—	—	—	—	—	—	China	13 Mar.	12 Apr.	—
7 <i>Lord Hungerford</i>	736	J. L. Heathorn	Wm. Heathorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	China	13 Mar.	12 Apr.	—

CHARTERED for ONE VOYAGE to and from CHINA.

PRICE CURRENT, Mar. 27.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.							
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Coffee, Javacwt.	2	8	0	Galls, Blue.....	5	0	0
Cheribon	2	8	0	Indigo, Blue and Violet lb	0	13	2
Sumatra	2	3	0	Purple and Violet	0	19	6
Bourbon	2	3	0	Extra fine Violet	0	11	9
Mocha	3	0	0	Violet	0	9	6
Cotton, Surat	0	0	5	Violet and Copper	0	9	0
Madras	0	0	5	Fine Copper	0	10	0
Bengal	0	0	5	Copper	0	8	9
Bourbon	0	0	9	Consuming sorts	0	7	0
Drugs & for Dyeing.				Benares and Oude	0	5	6
Aloes, Epaticacwt.	16	0	0	Low and bad Oude	0	3	0
Aniseeds, Star	3	10	0	Madras	0	8	9
Borax, Refined	2	4	0	Do. mid. ord. and bad	0	5	0
Unrefined, or Tincal	2	6	0	Rice, Bengal White....cwt.	0	14	6
Camphire	9	5	0	Patna	0	18	0
Cardamoms, Malabar. lb	0	7	0	Safflower	2	0	0
Ceylon	0	1	0	Sago	0	15	0
Cassia Budacwt.	8	13	0	Saltpetre	1	3	6
Lignum	5	10	0	Silk, Bengal Skeinlb	0	8	1
Castor Oil	0	1	0	Novi	0	12	7
China Root.....cwt.	1	10	0	Ditto White	0	11	0
Coculus Indicus	3	0	0	China	0	15	9
Dragon's Blood	6	0	0	Spices, Cinnamon.....lb	0	3	3
Gum Ammoniac, lump.	3	0	0	Cloves	0	2	6
Arabic	2	0	0	Mace	0	4	0
Asafoetida	6	0	0	Nutmegs	0	3	6
Benjamin	3	0	0	Ginger	0	16	0
Anil	3	10	0	Pepper, Black.....lb	0	0	4
Gambogium	19	0	0	White	0	3	0
Myrrh	4	0	0	Sugar, Bengalcwt.	1	13	0
Olibanum	2	5	0	Siam and China	1	12	0
Kino	14	0	0	Mauritius	1	0	0
Lac Lake.....lb	0	1	0	Tea, Bohea.....lb	0	1	5
Dye.....	0	4	4	Congou	0	2	3
Shellcwt.	2	10	0	Souchong	0	2	3
Stick	2	0	0	Campoi	0	2	10
Musk, China.....oz.	0	10	0	Twankay	0	2	10
Oil, Cassia.....oz.	0	0	5	Pekoe	0	4	1
Cinnamon.....lb	0	9	0	Hysen Skin	0	2	9
Cloves	0	1	9	Hysen	0	4	7
Mace	0	0	3	Young Hysen	0	4	3
Nutmegs	0	2	9	Gunpowder	1	14	0
Opium	0	2	0	Tortoiseshell	1	14	0
Rhubarb	0	2	0	Wood, Sanders Red	10	0	0
Sal Ammoniac.....cwt.	3	0	0				
Senna	0	0	9				
Turmeric, Java	1	4	0				
Bengal	1	5	0				
China	1	10	0				
Galls, in Sorts	4	0	0				

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Southern	ton	30	0	0
Sperm		67	0	0
Head Matter		75	0	0
Wool	lb	0	2	0
Wood, Blue Gum	ton	0	7	10
Cedar		0	0	4

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,

From the 26th of February to the 25th of March 1827.

Feb.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N4 Pr. C. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.	
26	207 1/2	83 1/2	82 1/2	—	89 1/2	97 1/2	19 5-8	11-16	245 1/2	52 54p	33 35p	82 1/2
27	206	83 1/2	82 1/2	90	89 1/2	97 1/2	19 1-16	11-16	245	54p	33 34p	82 1/2
28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mar	206 207 1/2	—	82 1/2	89 1/2	89	97 1/2	9 1/2	5-8	—	55p	35 36p	81 1/2
1	—	—	82 1/2	89 1/2	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	—	35 37p	82 1/2
2	—	—	81 1/2	82	—	96 1/2	10 1/2	9-16	243 1/2	55 57p	34 38p	81 1/2
3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	81 1/2	82	—	97	—	—	—	52 54p	32 34p	81 1/2
5	—	—	81 1/2	82 1/2	—	97	—	—	—	55p	34 35p	81 1/2
6	—	—	82	—	90	97 1/2	—	—	—	55 56p	35 37p	82 1/2
7	—	—	82 1/2	—	90	97 1/2	—	—	—	56p	35 37p	82 1/2
8	—	—	82 1/2	—	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	56 57p	35 37p	82 1/2
9	—	—	82 1/2	—	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	57p	34 36p	82 1/2
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	—	—	81 1/2	82	—	96 1/2	97	—	—	53 55p	34 36p	81 1/2
12	—	—	81 1/2	7-0	—	96 1/2	96	—	—	54 56p	34 36p	81 1/2
13	—	—	81 1/2	82	—	97 1/2	96 1/2	—	—	55 54p	34 36p	81 1/2
14	—	—	81 1/2	7-8	—	96 1/2	97	—	—	56p	34 36p	81 1/2
15	—	—	81 1/2	82	—	96 1/2	97 1/2	—	—	54 56p	34 36p	81 1/2
16	—	—	82 1/2	—	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	55 56p	35 36p	82 1/2
17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	—	—	82 1/2	—	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	55 56p	35 36p	82 1/2
19	—	—	82 1/2	—	—	97 1/2	—	—	—	55 56p	35 36p	82 1/2
20	—	—	82 1/2	7-8	—	97 1/2	96	—	—	—	35 37p	82 1/2
21	—	—	82 1/2	7-8	—	97 1/2	96	—	—	—	36 37p	82 1/2
22	—	—	82 1/2	7-8	—	97 1/2	96	—	—	57 58p	36 38p	82 1/2
23	—	—	82 1/2	7-8	—	97 1/2	96	—	—	57 58p	36 38p	82 1/2
24	—	—	82 1/2	7-8	—	97 1/2	96	—	—	58 59p	39 40p	82 1/2
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

MAY, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

ON SLAVERY IN THE EAST.

[*Concluded from p. 452.*]

IN proceeding towards the south of the peninsula, and especially the districts on the coast of Malabar, the picture of eastern slavery assumes darker and more forbidding colours than it wears in the other parts of India. The least favourable account of the slavery of Southern India is found in the work of Dr. F. Buchanan,* and could we be well assured that it was perfectly accurate, and that during the interval which has elapsed since his visit (which, it should be recollected, is nearly thirty years) no ameliorations have taken place, we should be greatly shocked at the condition of Indian slavery in that part of Hindustan, though far from disposed to assimilate it, as Dr. Buchanan does, to that of the negroes in the West-Indies, who seem in his opinion to be in a preferable state!

The slaves of Malabar, Dr. Buchanan tells us, are the absolute property of their dévarus, or lords, and may be employed in any work their masters please. They are not attached to the soil, but may be sold or transferred in any manner the owner thinks fit, except that a husband and wife cannot be sold separately. The right to the children of these slaves depends upon the customs of the caste to which the slave belongs, for even these poor creatures have all the pride of caste, and a Churman or Polian slave would be defiled by the touch of one of the Parian tribe. The master is bound to give the slave a certain allowance of provisions, which is a miserable pittance, and would be inadequate to support them, but that the slaves on each estate get a twenty-first part of the gross produce of the rice, as an encouragement to industry.

There are three modes of transferring slaves: 1st, by *jenum* or sale; a young

* Journey through Mysore, &c. *passim*.

young man with his wife sells for from £6. 4s. to £7. 8s.* 2d. by *canum*, or mortgage of the slave's labour; the proprietor receives a loan of about two-thirds of the value of the slave, and a small quantity of rice annually, to shew that his property in the slave still exists, and he may redeem the pledge whenever he pleases; the lender mean time has the labour of the slave by way of interest, and if the slave dies, the borrower supplies another: 3d. *patom*, or rent; in this case the master gives the slaves to another man, who maintains them, and pays about 4s. per annum for a man, and half that sum for a woman. "These two tenures," observes Dr. Buchanan, "are utterly abominable; for the person who exacts the labour and furnishes the subsistence of the slave, is directly interested to increase the former and diminish the latter as much as possible. In fact, the slaves are very severely treated, and their diminutive stature and squalid appearance shew evidently a want of adequate nourishment. There can be no comparison between their condition and that of the slaves in the West-India islands, except that in Malabar there are a sufficient number of females, who are allowed to marry any person of the same caste with themselves, and whose labour is always exacted by their husband's master; the master of the girl having no authority over her so long as she lives with another man's slave."†

Dr. Buchanan seems to have entirely overlooked all the objectionable features of West-Indian slavery, not one of which is to be found in the society he visited. The Eastern slave is not an alien to the soil; his physical aspect does not expose him to his master's contempt; there is no slave mart, no slave dealer, no overseer or gang-master, no cart-whip, in the slave system of Southern India; above all, the slave and the master are subject to the same laws, for the Company's courts would make no distinction whatever between the Polian and the Brahmin, the Parian and the Nair. The evidence of one would be taken with as much readiness as that of another; and the murder of a slave, instead of being punished, as in some parts of the West, when Dr. Buchanan wrote, by a paltry fine, would be expiated in India only by death, whether the victim was bond or free. The Indian slave, moreover, has a share in the produce of his labour.

If the slaves in Malabar are in a worse condition than the negroes in the West-Indies, what are we to think of that of the hired labourers? In the northern part of Malabar, Dr. Buchanan tells us, the panicans, or hired men, who are generally Nairs, Moplays and Tiars, work from morning to noon, when they are allowed an hour for their breakfast; they then work until evening, and all night they watch the crops! For this service they are given a hut, a piece of cloth twice a year, from 2s. 3½d. to 4s. 7d. *annually* for oil and salt, and a daily allowance of rice, which is larger than that given to the slaves. If the panicar is indebted to his master (and half of them are in that predicament) stoppages are made, and they are not allowed to change their employer. They are frequently flogged; and Dr. B. observes that as their masters are not obliged to provide for them in old age or during famine, "they seem to be in a worse condition than the slaves."‡

The real state of the slaves in Southern India is of the more importance from the large proportion which the servile class bears to the free population, according to the same writer. In Canara, out of a population of 123,000, no less than 16,000 are represented to be slaves; in another province the same number

* In other parts of Malabar the price is considerably less.

† Journey, &c. vol. II. p. 370.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 562.

number of slaves is given to a population of 106,000, and in another to 146,000.

We have little doubt that the statements of Dr. Buchanan are somewhat exaggerated; and we must bear in mind that his journey took place soon after the wars in the Mysore, which had disorganized the country, then recently subdued, and probably multiplied the voluntary as well as involuntary slaves.

That slavery in Southern India is more general and more systematic than in Bengal there cannot, however, be any doubt: it is a fact attested by many witnesses of indisputable veracity. In an able minute of the Madras Board of Revenue, in 1818,* it is stated, that in Malabar and Canara, the inferior land-owner is generally the personal slave of the proprietor of the land, and is sold and mortgaged by him independently of his lands. These slaves, belonging to the most depraved class of Hindus, generally outcasts, usually reside in the outskirts of the villages, receiving from their employers little more than food, with a scanty supply of raiment. In some provinces (as in the Tamil country) these domestic slaves are *adscripti glebæ*, and may even claim *merahs*, or hereditary private property, in the incidents of their villeinage; but in Malabar and Canara, though it is not the landlord's interest to sell the slaves who cultivate their lands, yet they dispose of the increasing stock; and their power to dispose of all their slaves, independently of their lands, seems undisputed.

Further and more detailed evidence touching the state of slavery in Southern India was elicited by a remarkable circumstance. In 1819 one of the judges of circuit in Malabar reported to the Court of Adawlut the fact of the seizure of some slaves, by distraint upon their master, who were sold by public auction, to defray arrears of revenue due to the Government. A fact so startling as this induced the Governor in Council to institute strict inquiries into the system of slavery in the provinces subject to the Madras government, and the several collectors were directed by the Board of Revenue to report fully on the state of slavery in their respective districts. It appears from the voluminous reports of these officers that Dr. Buchanan was much deceived as to the actual condition of the slaves in the South. The majority of the collectors decidedly impugn his representations, and exhibit a picture of this unhappy relation in far less odious colours. It appears from their statements that the principal slave districts in Southern India are those of Arcot, Madura, Canara, Coimbatore, Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, Malabar, Wynaud, Tanjore, and Chingleput; one of the authorities represents the number of the slaves in Malabar and Canara alone at 180,000, which is so extravagantly large that we conclude he has blended all the servile classes together.

This investigation was attended with beneficial effects. The Board of Revenue took into immediate consideration certain propositions for the present amelioration and gradual emancipation of this unhappy class; and they observe in their report, that a regulation ought to be published to prevent the further extension of slavery; that the further purchase of free females as slaves should be declared invalid and illegal, and all children subsequently born of slaves should be declared free. They also suggested that slaves should have power to purchase their liberty at the price for which it was forfeited; and that such as were attached to lands or estates which may escheat to government should be liberated.

We are not cognizant of what has since been done by the Madras Government

in this matter; but we have not the least scruple in believing that, with the disposition which that government evinced to check slavery, aided by the antipathy entertained by the tribunals and by the executive officers of the government towards the hateful relation, that it must have been materially ameliorated, and that the numbers subject to its bonds must have been greatly diminished.

To obviate a misapprehension into which some persons have fallen and may still fall, it should be observed that sugar is not cultivated in the Southern provinces: rice and other grain, which are easily raised, constitute the chief agricultural products in the slave districts.

Such then is the state of slavery in Hindustan, or at least under our two principal presidencies, for we have not the means of knowing its extent and character in the provinces under the Bombay Government. The writer we have quoted in an early part of this article observes:

Hindustan is now thrown upon its actual stock, and the number of slaves can henceforth only be kept up by the multiplication of the race amongst themselves, and purchase amongst the people of the country: the latter must become rare in proportion as the means of subsistence abound, and on the demand for free labour, co-extensive with extended cultivation and commerce; the former is therefore the only means to be relied on, and this will scarcely be equal to counteract the natural waste of life in a servile station, and the manumission of slaves by the piety and indulgence of their owners. Personal regard must frequently prompt emancipation, and both the Hindu and Mohammedan codes recommend it as an act of religion. Persons in reduced circumstances, unable to keep a number of slaves, prefer emancipating to selling them; for having been held a part of the family, it is regarded as highly disreputable to offer them for sale.*

In Ceylon we meet, indeed, with slavery: but this curse seems to have been inflicted upon the population by the European invaders of the island. From the testimony of the ancient Romans, who undoubtedly had some intercourse, direct or indirect, with Ceylon, and probably a settlement there, we learn that slaves were not found in it at that period. *In Taprobana*, says Pliny,† *servum nemini*; and there exists no direct proofs,‡ we believe, to contradict this assertion. It is said that Gautama, the last Buddha, sold his children into slavery to expiate a certain crime. But if Europe introduced the bane, it has also furnished the antidote. By the strenuous and judicious endeavours of Sir Alexander Johnston, late Chief Justice of Ceylon (whose many services to that island are stamped upon the grateful minds of the Cingalese, and deserve more applause in this country than the unobtrusive character of their author has procured for him) the gradual extinction of slavery was effectually provided for. The importation of slaves was forbidden; the purchase of a slave by a British European in the service of government freed the individual *ipso facto*; and at length the Dutch slave-holders (many of whom were reduced to such straits that they depended for subsistence upon the hire of their slaves, and to whom such a sacrifice was therefore severe) were prevailed upon (to use their own words) "to disencumber themselves, as far as possible, of that unnatural character of being proprietors of human beings." At a general meeting of the owners of slaves, it was agreed, that all children born of slaves, after the 10th day of August 1816, should be free, and should be educated and maintained by the owners of their parents till the age of fourteen.

By

* Oriental Mag. No. VII, p. 121.

† Nat. Hist. lib. vi, c. 24. Ed. Hard.

‡ We say direct proofs, because it would be impossible to deny that there are presumptions adverse to the assertion.

By the efforts of the late Sir Stamford Raffles, of Sir Hudson Lowe, and other public functionaries, the blot of slavery which other European nations had introduced at Bencoolen, Saint Helena,* and Malacca, is gradually disappearing.

At the Mauritius and the Cape of Good Hope, slavery, not of an eastern but of a western character, subsists, nor is there any provision made for its annihilation, beyond the interdiction of further supply, as in the American islands. The close resemblance which the slavery of the Mauritius bears to that in the West-Indies has, in fact, entitled that island to participate in the privileges conceded to our western colonies, from which the other portions of our eastern territory are debarred: so that it would really seem as if our Legislature granted a premium upon negro slavery!

We think it unnecessary to bestow more than a cursory glance upon the condition of slavery in the other eastern countries, of whose institutions it forms, almost without exception, a constituent part.

In Burmah, Siam, and the Indo-Chinese countries generally, slavery, from various causes, prevails to a considerable degree. A fruitful and legitimate source of bondage amongst these nations is war. Captives are enslaved for ever as a matter of course, and most of the public works are performed (especially in Siam) by captives, who labour, like the convicts of European nations, in chains. The utility of this institution has naturally led to the extension of the practice; and it has been one object of the late mission of Capt. Burney to the Siamese court to put a stop to the practice of kidnapping on the frontiers of the (now) British possessions which adjoin those of Siam, and a prodigious number of unhappy creatures have been liberated by his interposition. According to Mr. Finlayson,† debtors in Siam are reduced to slavery, if they have not the means of satisfying the demands of their creditors. Dr. Leyden tells us that the ruling race in Siam call themselves *Tai*, which signifies *free-men*.‡

The familiarity which Europeans in general have with the idea of a regularly graduated scale in society, prevents them from recollecting that eastern despotism recognizes no intermediate ranks between master and servant, or to use an apter expression, *slave*. In the extensive countries where the Arabic and its cognate dialects are spoken, the term *gholaum*, or *slave*, is used as *humble servant* with us, except that in the latter case it is always complimentary; whereas in the former, so far from being invariably a mere affectation of humility, the epithet is often a designation which denotes the exact condition of the speaker. Even in China, the Tartar statesmen in writing to the Emperor, use the phrase *noo-tsae*, that is *slave* (or possessed of no better abilities and qualifications than a slave) for the pronoun *I*.

The subject of slavery in China demands, however, some particular notice. According to Chinese authors, crime was the origin of slavery in China; the slaves of the present day are descended from the criminals of antiquity. "In ancient times," says Chow-le, "men and women who committed crimes became the property of government, and were made slaves. Ke-tsze was made a slave; he having affected madness, was therefore thus degraded." The same cause continues to consign persons to bondage. The existing government frequently sentences even light offenders to slavery: criminals are often given

as

* About a year ago, the proprietors of slaves in St. Helena offered to emancipate their slaves at once, provided an equivalent were given to them by the Company.

† Mission to Siam and Hué, p. 157.

‡ Asiat. Res. vol. x. p. 241

as slaves to the soldiery. But human beings may now be purchased into slavery, in China, though it is stated that the term *noo*, or *slave*, is not applicable by law to such as are bought with money: a very judicious distinction, considering the causes of this odious transfer, which generally proceeds from destitution. The poor often sell themselves or their children into slavery: in times of scarcity a lad may be bought for the value of half a dollar. Household female servants in China are mostly slaves.*

The laws against slaves are severe: according to the *Ta-tsing-leü-le*, "all male or female slaves who use abusive language to the head of the family shall be strangled; all slaves who strike the head of the family, whether they be principals or accomplices (in insubordination), shall every one be decapitated; all slaves and hired labourers who debauch their master's wife or daughters, shall every one be decapitated without respite."

Such is the law: but it would appear that Chinese slaves are treated leniently. The writers of China inculcate this as a duty. "Slaves and servants," says an ancient author,—“use them with indulgence. Wives are exhorted to treat with clemency slaves, both men and women.” In the Chinese scale of virtues and vices, to take slaves and at every frivolous offence to scold them vehemently, is rated as *one* fault for every fit of scolding; to refuse the ransom of male and female slaves, is rated at *fifty* faults; to observe they are ill and not to relieve them, but to require severe labour as usual from them, is set down at *one hundred* faults.†

We here bring our review of the subject of eastern slavery to a close. It will be seen that the relation, odious as it appears to us, was engrafted upon the institutions of oriental nations at a very early period of society, to which it was adapted; that it has been diffused, in process of time, throughout the whole eastern world, acquiring peculiarities of character, in regard to its causes and its effects, according to the various habits of the respective people which recognized the relation; and it will also, it is hoped, be seen that in origin, in character, and in every essential circumstance, it is altogether dissimilar to what is termed negro-slavery, the shocking characteristics of which it would be perhaps invidious, and is certainly needless to particularize.

That slavery is a disgusting institution must be admitted on all hands; but it is by an analysis of its actual nature, not by the mere term, that we should be governed in speaking of it, wheresoever we find it. What is the condition of convicts transported for life to our settlements in Australasia, but a species of slavery? they are the *property* of government, the produce of their labour is not their own, but their master's; they are farmed out to individuals, like cattle; and they have not the power of redeeming themselves. Yet the voice of humanity has never protested against this species of bondage; on the contrary, it is strenuously raised in recommendation of it, as a merciful substitute for the sacrifice of human life.

Nor must we suppose that slavery is without its advantages, its benefits, to the enslaved person, particularly in the East. A Hindu, who would coldly see his free fellow-creature starve without extending the hand of charity towards him, is interested in sustaining his slave, and can be compelled by law to do it. What are the terrors of perpetual slavery compared with the horrors of a dearth in India, where the lower classes have no chattels, clothes, and other articles of trifling value, by the sale of which the labourers of England can

protract

* *Cream*, in the Chinese language, has a name which is compounded of *slave*, because it attends upon tea! This circumstance shows the domestic nature of Chinese slavery.

† Dr. Morrison's Dict. in *rad. Ngu*.

protract the approach of want in times of scarcity, which, when it comes, only drives them to a workhouse—an establishment unknown in Hindustan? Far be it from us to palliate slavery; it ought to be abolished, as soon as practicable, by every Christian ruler; but our object is to urge that the *term* is improperly calculated to include *things* essentially different.

That slavery has its fascinations amongst Europeans subject to it, even in modern times, is demonstrated in the elaborate report of Mr. Jacob.* In Poland, the peasants, who are slaves, by the constitution, of 1791, were enfranchised. But the peasants viewed this boon at first with great distrust; they were “alarmed by the apprehension that in age or sickness, or other incapacity, they should be abandoned by their lords, and left to perish in want.” Mr. Jacob adds: “though no longer slaves, the condition of the peasants is but little practically improved by the change that has been made in their condition. When a transfer is made, either by testament or conveyance, the persons of the peasants are not, indeed, expressly conveyed, but their services are, and in many instances are the most valuable part of the property.”

* Report on the Trade in Corn, &c. of the North of Europe; 1826.

SUTTEES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: IN your brief sketch of the proceedings at the East-India House discussion of the 28th March last, your reporter* has inadvertently conveyed the impression that a statement was given by myself, and those gentlemen who (with me) advocated the suppression of human sacrifices in India, that the resolution which we proposed did not contemplate the employment of compulsory measures in any future instance.

Such a pledge undoubtedly was *required* by the Hon. Chairman, in the first instance; but, upon his receiving an assurance that, although we were unfeignedly opposed to the employment of force, at the present time, as believing it wholly unnecessary, it was impossible that we could come under any pledge for the future, the hon. Chairman withdrew the amendment which he had proposed, and the original resolution was adopted in its stead.

The necessity of our having pursued the course in question will be obvious to you, on considering that the equivocal nature of the condition proposed could not but preclude a compliance with it, inasmuch as some persons might consider as “the employment of force,” the half-yearly attendance of the military at Saugor, under which, the sacrifice of children there has been notoriously prevented, from the administration of Marquess Wellesley down to the present time: a measure, the wisdom and expediency of which can no longer admit of doubt in any quarter.

I have, &c.

JOHN POYNTER.

New Bridge Street, 17th April 1827.

* The sketch was not drawn up by our reporter; so that the inadvertency must be attributed to us. We are bound to say, however, that our impression, and that of others present at the debate, was that the pledge was given. This, we now conclude, must be a mistake.—E4.

GREEK AFFAIRS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR :—As you have occasionally bestowed some attention upon Greek affairs, you will not perhaps refuse a place to this letter.

I cannot conceal my astonishment that the subject of the first Greek loan should be suffered to sleep after the disclosures which have been made, and that the Greek Committee at large should not think it incumbent upon them to institute a thorough investigation into it. Enough has been *published* to show a *prima facie* case of shameful misconduct; and the apathy of the committee, so far from resigning to exclusive odium (if such be their intention) those whose names have been connected with the imputed misconduct, is calculated to lead jealous-minded men to suspect that the imputation is more generally applicable. Setting aside the claims which the bondholders and the unfortunate Greeks have upon all who have acted as committee-men, a regard for truth, for justice, for their own character, ought to have long ago stimulated some of the members to activity.

The chief object of this letter is, to make a strong appeal to these backward members to come forward, and if the public mind is deluded, and the conduct of the commissioners has not been culpable, to show it; or, if they deserve censure, to state what steps have been taken to repair the effects of such misconduct.

The public know not who were the active members of the Greek committee. I find, in the notable article on Greek affairs published in the *Westminster Review*, for July 1826, that an important communication was made to the Greek government, on the 12th June 1824, in the form of a remonstrance. As such a measure was not probably adopted without the concurrence of all the effective members, we may assume, I think, that most of them signed the document. The copy of it, in the *Review*, bears the following names : Mr. Hume, M.P. (in the chair); Lord Milton, M.P.; Mr. John Cam Hobhouse, M.P.; Col. Rob. L. Dundas; Col. Leslie Grove Jones; Mr. John Williams, M.P.; Col. Davies, M.P.; Col. J. Young; Lieut. Gen. Robt. Long; Mr. C. B. Sheridan; Dr. John B. Gilchrist; Mr. J. S. Buckingham; Capt. G. H. Dundas, R.N.; Mr. H. L. Bulwer; Mr. John Wilks; Mr. John Smith, M.P.; and Mr. John Bowring.

Amongst these, are individuals who talk and write, till the public are sickened and disgusted, upon imaginary wrongs, and fictitious cases of mismanagement, yet maintain an obstinate reserve upon a glaring case of political injustice, respecting which the public would be very glad to listen to them. Has Mr. Buckingham in his *Oriental Herald*, or Dr. Gilchrist in his speeches and voluminous writings, so much as touched upon this topic, notwithstanding the imputations against their colleagues, if not against themselves? Are they content that men should say of them, in the language of Persius, that they point at holes in other people's coats, whilst their own or their comrades' garments are in tatters?*

My design, Mr. Editor, is not to bring accusation against any one, but to call upon some candid member of the Greek committee, to disclose what he ought to know respecting a matter of which the public are improperly kept in ignorance.

Your's, ARISTIDES.

* If our correspondent refers to the following passage in Persius, his paraphrase is rather free :

Ut nemo in sese tentat descendere, nemo :

Sed præcedenti spectatur mantica tergo !—Ed.

GREAT BUCHARIA, OR BOKHARA.

THE Russians are the only people of Europe whose intercourse with the states of Upper Asia has afforded the means of obtaining an accurate account of the geography and modern history of those countries; amongst which Great Bucharia, or Bokhara, is perhaps, on many accounts, one of the most interesting. In a preceding volume of this journal * we inserted an historical sketch of the sovereigns of this state, given in a Russian periodical work, called the *Asiatsky Vestnik*, or *Asiatic Courier*; and we add the following geographical and statistical details, respecting its actual condition and limits, from the same source.†

Bokhara is surrounded by chains of mountains: on the north-east is the Kara-Tag (black mountain); and on the west, is the Ak-Tag (white mountain); the former is a branch of the lofty mountains of Tibet; and the latter proceeds from the Balkan range, a prolongation of the Caucasus. Several other mountains, separated from the principal branches, penetrate even into the interior of Bokhara; such are the Karnab, between Baganz and Kermin, from the top of which flow several streams, which irrigate a well cultivated country; the Gargan, between Kermin and Nour-At; the Hazem-Nour, where is to be seen the tomb of an individual esteemed by the Bokharians as a saint; the Kara-Tesse, near the Orontes on the side of Samarcand, and upon the summit of which is a fort. All these mountains are situated to the eastward and south-eastward of Bokhara: to the west of Dijak extends a long chain, and to the north-west are mounts Kiuguis, Assouman, Rizman, Nerdran, and Ourmitaneh, near the town of Jarza.

The sandy tract, called Kizil-Kouma (red sands), which commences at the desert of the Kirgheez Kaissaks, extends over a vast space between the rivers Zer-Efshan and Syr, westward of Bokhara, almost to the chain of the Kara-Tag. These sands have been probably formed from time immemorial by the fall and decomposition of the mountains of stone.

There is in Bokhara but a single lake known of any remarkable dimensions; this is the Kara-Koul, or black lake, near the town so named. It was formerly connected with the river Syr, and its waters were so abundant that it overflowed the environs: but in the course of time it has been separated from that river, and it now communicates with the Zer-Efshan.

The principal rivers of Bokhara are the following:—1st. The Amou-Daria, formerly the Oxus, or Jihoon. It derives its source from the district of Serguei-Sougnau, a day's journey from Mount Kiani-Lal (mine of rubies), and receives the waters of six rivers; the Bedak-Khan, the Derviz, the Hingvab, the Valia, the Karategan, and the Hissan,‡ all of which are formed, in a great measure, by the melting of snow. This river discharges itself into the sea of Aral by two arms known by the names of the great and little Amou-Daria. Its breadth in Bokhara is nearly a verst, or farsang of the country. Its current is gentle, its banks sandy, but well-wooded. 2d. The Syr Daria (red river), formerly the Jaxartes, or Sihoon, comes from the mountains called Beloor-Tag, and after receiving the waters of a great number of streams, discharges itself into the sea of Aral by three branches, which form three separate rivers, named the Syr, the Kouban, and the Yana. The current of this river

* *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xxii, p. 385. An account of Bokhara, the capital, from an Indian paper, may be seen in the same volume, p. 362.

† *Bullet. Univer. of Paris*, Jan. 1837, No. 83, p. 105.

‡ The names of these rivers do not correspond with those in our maps.

river is rapid; its breadth and its depth are equal to those of the Ural. It has been supposed, from the accounts of ancient geographers, that the two rivers now spoken of at one time discharged themselves into the Caspian sea, and that their present course has been the result of extraordinary labour, or of an earthquake, which, by elevating the land at their embouchures, created the sea of Aral itself, of which the ancients had no idea. But it is more probable that the sea was formed by the more elevated waters of a part of the Caspian sea. 3d. The Zer-Efshan (river of gold), anciently the Polytimetus, springs from a chain of mountains situated to the eastward of Samarcand, and passes near that city, as well as Degboud, Miankal, Kate-Kourgan, Katarji, Panaguenda, Kernin, and Zia-Voudin, traversing then the districts of Vagantz, Guizdovan, Vardantz, and Sultanabad; it forms the river of Vafkand, which is lost in the canals cut for the purpose of irrigating the villages of Ramitan, Zendami, and Vafkand. It there receives the name of the Dooab, or double river,—the Shroud and Roudi-istm-Bokhara; for it is divided into two branches, whereof one waters the environs of Bokhara, and the other falls into lake Kara-Koul.

The possessions of the Khan of Bokhara, Emir Hyder Emir-ul-Moumanin, consist of the following:

Bokhara, the capital, situated in a vast plain, on a canal, called Zekh-Kan, which communicates with the Shroud, one of the branches of the Zer-Efshan. It is surrounded with a wall, containing twelve gates, defended on each side by round towers. The wall is of earth and clay, except the gates and towers, which are built of brick. Bokhara is a handsome city, containing as many as 360 mosques, all constructed of brick. Each mosque has its iman or moollah, and also a crier to call the people to prayers. There are likewise seventy-five madrissas, or schools, built of stone; one of them was erected at the cost of the Empress Catherine II, by the exertions of Ir Nazar Maxioutof, ambassador from the Khan of Bokhara to St. Petersburg, in 1779. The number of moollahs, or priests, amounts to 2,000, and that of the students to 4,550.

The streets of Bokhara are narrow, dirty, and ill-paved. The houses are of clay. The whole city is divided into 400 quarters, containing fifty houses, each including three families. If we reckon four individuals of both sexes in each family, the population of Bokhara will consist of 240,000 inhabitants; and if we add to this number the moollahs and students, as well as more than 1,500 men dispersed in the caravans, and 1,200 Jews, the population will amount to 249,250 souls.

The palace of the khan, by reason of its antiquity, is one of the most remarkable monuments in Bokhara. It is erected upon a small eminence in a place known by the name of Rignastan, that is, *Sandy*, and surrounded by a high wall. It has only a single gate, flanked with towers fifteen sagenas high. It is alleged that it was built about ten centuries ago by order of Khan Kizil-arslan (red lion). Opposite to the palace are the only public place and the only two markets in the city. This place contains also two madrissas and two mosques, of which one called Merzedi-Keian, or the great mosque, erected under the same khan, is reckoned to be the most ancient in all Bokhara. Kizil-arslan Khan also built, they say, a tower of stone, thirty sagenas in height, which bears the name of Menar, or Mirgarab; this is the finest building in the city.

The towns which are in the vicinity of Bokhara, and belong to the Khan, are, 1st, Peikend, situated on one of the arms of the river Zer-Efshan, five farsangs

farsangs and a half from Bokhara, and one farsang from the ancient city of that name; it forms alone an entire district; its inhabitants, at the season of the north winds, suffer much from the vast quantity of sand which fills the air: 2d, Abguiri-Cahir-Abar, together with Shagri-Islam, may be considered to form part of Bokhara; the chief portion of their territory belongs to the Khan's treasury; the soil yields abundance of cotton: 3, Ramitan is rich in herbs: Zendami includes lands farmed out to individuals for a very small tribute; this sort of possessions is called Guiraji: Vaskand and Pirmessa compose a district of themselves: the soil is fertile, and produces an abundance of a plant named *rouien*, which affords a scarlet colour, yielding to the sovereign an annual revenue of 1,600 roubles: Vardanzi and Sultanabad constitute a district composed almost wholly of Guiraji; the latter abounds in pasturage: Guizdovan is not so much a town as the surname of another: Karakoul, situated upon the lake of that name: Vaganzi is farmed out by the crown to private persons; its meadows are rich in grass.

The dependencies of Bokhara are, 1st, Shinbi, Cahir-Jivum, and Kalti, which extend from the bridge of Minster Kassim, built on the Zer-Efshan, to the town of Aderkhai-Bokhara: 2d, Shindala, Roudi-Bokhara, and Roudi-Shekhr, situated to the north of Bokhara, from Kioushi-Mesir to Soulakian; at Roudi-Shekhr is a spot named Gourboun, which is considered as the nursery of all the fruit trees dispersed throughout Bokhara: 3d, Jeroubi-Roudi-Shekhr, to the south of Bokhara.

The dependencies of Miano-Kalai are, 1st, Kerminah, watered by four streams, two called Migni, and two called Joui-Kanim; there are no habitations to be seen in the environs of the former, which the Karakalpaks and other Tartar tribes have chosen for the scene of their nomade life; there is to be seen there, also, the fortress of Yani-Kourgan, belonging to the Topshee Bashee (chief of the artillery): 2d, Zai-Biden, a cantonment peopled by Usbeks, and comprehending the fortresses of Kate-Kourgan, Katarji, Penshinbah, and Ourgunj, inhabited by genuine Bokharians, or Tajiks, who speak Persian; the other inhabitants of Bokhara derive their names from the place where they are settled, and the mountaineers are called Sakhrans.

The places situated to the eastward of Bokhara, and subject to it, are, 1st, Karshi, or Naksheb, a large fortified town on the Karta, one of the branches of the river Sarsab; it is inhabited by Usbeks and Tajiks, and includes within its district Meïmenek, Kassin, and Khoja-Mourabek: 2d, Gouzar, a tolerably large and strong town: 3d, Shirabad: 4th, Chizak: 5th, Mitinah: 6th, Ourmitaneh and Jarza.

To the west of Bokhara is Ourti, a fortified town, having its own chief; dependent upon it are, 1st, Gujikanet, consisting of several villages which furnish salt to the seven districts of Bokhara: 2d, Ilji, a dependency of Ourti-Garaj. The commandant of Ourti receives for his revenue that of the four ferries across the Amou, the amount of which is 24,000 roubles.

The places situated on the left bank of the Amou subject to Bokhara are, 1st, Karshi, inhabited, chiefly, by nomade Toorkomans, a very considerable number of whom have settled upon the right bank of the Amou, in the villages of Beahir, Mekn, Bourdalik, Koutnim, Pervend, and Assekiz; the Toorkomans pay 80,000 roubles a year to the Khan of Bokhara, for permission to drink of the waters of the Amou; but the Nomade tribes of Talars are exempt from this tribute: 2d, Charjoui, a large town, surrounded by walls, inhabited by the same people: 3d, Marvah, which has two chiefs and a garrison of 1,000 men, half of whom are displaced every three months by troops sent from Bokhara;

one of the chiefs is an Usbeg, the other a Calmuck; they receive every three months 1,000 ducats of Bokhara under the title of emoluments.*

The population of the state of Bokhara is principally composed of Usbegs, Toorkomans, and indigenous Bokharians or Tajiks. The latter are the most ancient race, and were established in the country under Shah Jemshed of Persia. But the Tajiks are only those Bokharians who dwell in towns; those of the desert bear the name of Iliauts, or nomade Turks. The Usbegs derive their origin from one Khosref Khan, who wandered with his son, Usbeg Khan, in the deserts of the great Kirgheeze horde, between Siberia and China. They gained the supremacy over all the Usbeg tribes placed since the time of Genghis Khan in the steppes of the horde called Deshti Kipchaks; but under Bayan Kouli Khan, chief of the Bokharians, and father of Tamerlane, a descendant of Genghis Khan, part of the Usbegs voluntarily migrated to Bokhara; the remainder were carried thither by Toorke-Begadir, one of the officers of Bayan; Kouli Khan and all of them abjured idolatry in order to embrace Mohammedanism. At present the Usbegs dwell to the eastward of Bokhara; they pass the summer under their tents, and the winter in their towns and villages. They are distributed into ninety-two tribes, the most considerable of which are these: the Kaman-Bavours, the Kara-Mongols (from which tribe the present Khan of Bokhara derives his origin) the Tok-Mongols, and the Ak-Mongols. It is said that by taking an individual from each family, an army of 100,000 Usbegs might be raised.

There are, moreover, in the dependant provinces of Bokhara, 5,000 Arab families (white), about 1,000 Afghans in the service of the Khan, and as many as 40,000 Persian (*qu.* Russian?) slaves. The Jews have been long established in this country: independently of women and children, there are of this nation 500 at Bokhara, fifty at Samarcand, and twenty at Hissar. They are divided into four classes, for the collection of the capitation tax; the first class pays nine roubles sixty copeks every three months; the second, four rouble eighty cop.; the third, two rouble forty cop. They are exempt from every other contribution, besides the customs on the transit of merchandize.

To the number of the inhabitants of Bokhara must also be added 1,000 Tartar refugees from the Russian frontiers. There were at one time 2,000; but half that number took advantage of the amnesty granted in the manifesto of 1815, and hastened back to their native country.

There are in Bokhara about 200 Indians of Sakarpour and Scind, as well as fifty Sikhs of Moulton and the provinces of the Punjab, who have come to follow commercial pursuits. One of the caravanserais and covered markets is constantly occupied by merchants of one or other of these two people, who are distinguished from each other, by the former painting themselves between the eye-brows and shaving the head, preserving only a lock of hair on each side of the temples; whilst the other cut neither their hair nor their nails.

According to the confession of the Bokharians themselves, their trade with Russia is very advantageous, and much more important than that which they carry on with any other country; for it is from Russia alone that they receive a considerable quantity of gold and silver in exchange for their goods, besides cochineal and blue, which are indispensable articles for dyeing their stuffs. The Russians furnish them also with eider-down, copper in leaf, and plates of the

* Then follows a statistical table of the population, productions, and revenue of Bokhara, but it is too imperfect to be of use, or to supply new information.

the thickness of a finger, iron in bars and sheets, steel, and cast iron. Besides cotton, the Bokharians send to Russia manufactured articles of all kinds, Cashmere shawls, lamb-skins, rhubarb and fruits. Like the Jews, they travel to Cashgar and other Bokharian towns, where they exchange their lamb-skins for the silk stuffs, cotton and porcelain of China, tea and rhubarb.

Nearly all the cotton which the Bokharians send to Russia they obtain from Sarsab. It sells in Bokhara for fourteen roubles the poud; and once conveyed beyond the frontiers it is worth as much as forty roubles. It is in the same city that the Jew merchants and Bokharians exchange cotton and rice for women's stockings and the native-made shawls from the price of seven to eight roubles. The best come from Samarcand, and those of inferior quality from Sarsab. The two latter sort cost seventy roubles the poud, and one hundred and ten roubles when brought to Russia. The cotton of Mianka, as well as the inferior sort from Samarcand, is purchased on the spot for from forty-five to fifty-five roubles, and pays about eighty roubles duty. The low qualities, called *Sandar* and *Mezdi'an*, cost upon the spot from forty to forty-five roubles, and fetch in Russia from sixty to seventy.

A considerable quantity of silk is raised in Bokhara; the inhabitants of a great number of towns and villages are employed in bringing up the worms which yield it. The total quantity of silk produced amounts to 470 pounds: for 30,000 batman of unbleached silk yield 300,000 lbs of pure silk, and when it is washed in water, there remains but the 16th part (?) or 18,780 lbs. equivalent to 1,870 batmen, or 469½ pounds.*

All the productions of Bokhara are sold by the batman of weight, of eight pounds; but the batman of silk is only ten lbs. The lowest price of unbleached silk is thirteen paper roubles per eight batman or twenty lbs.; and the highest is sixteen roubles per batman. The batman of wrought silk sells for twelve or thirteen ducats of Bokhara, or from 192 to 208 paper roubles.†

The number of cattle is very considerable in Bokhara; for besides camels, horses, and oxen, there are many sheep, especially amongst the Usbegs and Toorkomans; the Bokharians make an advantageous branch of commerce of sheep. Of all the inhabitants of Bokhara, the Usbegs are those who possess the greatest number of horses.

The weights and measures of Bokhara are as follow:—

The batman equal to 8 pounds	Namsar equal to ...10 lbs.
Half batman 4	Charak 5
Delsar 2	Namsah 1½
Pendsar 1	Namsnamsah ½
Derandsar ½	Pendmiskal 30 zolotniks.

Bokharian merchandize is sold by the arsheen of the country (bez), which is equal to a half sarena; those goods which come from Russia are measured by the Russian arsheen.

There are three sorts of coin current in Bokhara: the ducat of gold or tilla (fifteen paper roubles); the tenka of silver (about forty copeks); and the poulo of copper (two copeks). The gold coin is struck upon the Dutch ducat, or gold procured from the sands of the Amou; the Zer-Efshan, and Badakshan. As to the silver coin, the metal is from the crowns, and especially from the Chinese yamba.‡

* The poud contains forty Russian pounds, of 13 oz. each.

† The rouble is worth 2s. 6d.; the paper rouble, about 10d.

‡ The names in this article are mostly left by the translator in the state he found them in the original, except that the Russian terminations are occasionally retrenched.

SERVIAN POETRY.

THE inquisitive spirit which actuates modern scholars could not perhaps be exemplified more strikingly than by the appearance of a volume of Servian poetry in an English dress.* A countryman of Pope and Gray must be impelled by an ardent curiosity and a sanguine temper to cultivate an intimacy with the Slavonian muse, and to indulge even a hope that the poetical stores of his native country could acquire any addition by the most active research amongst the traditionary ballads of an obscure people, half Christian half Musulman, whose abject condition has encouraged etymologists to deduce from their national designation the degrading appellation of *slave*.†

Mr. Bowring, however, tempted by his success in excursions not much less unpromising, has explored the bleak and barren wilds of Servian literature, and from the collections of Karadjich Vuk, Dosithei Obradovich, and others whose cacophonous names would be equally strange to an ordinary reader, he has culled a handful of wild-flowers, which, though they boast but little fragrance, and are utterly devoid of beauty, may be prized as exotics by the curious, and admired perhaps by a few for their unobtrusive simplicity.

An "Introduction" to the poems, which is decidedly the best portion of the book, affords a very necessary insight into the past history and present condition of that branch of the Slavonian race which now subsists under the name of Servians. The remote origin of this people is wrapt in darkness: their literature exhibits no traces of a date earlier than the thirteenth century; indeed, with the exception of a few religious books, written in the old church Slavonian tongue, no work of the slightest interest appeared in Servia, we are told, till the end of the seventeenth century. The remark which Dobrowsky applies to the signification of the Servian name, may with propriety be transferred to the origin of the people, "*nondum licuit eruere.*"

At the end of the ninth century the Servians were tributaries of the Greeks, against whom, in the twelfth century, they rebelled, but were subdued by Comnenus; they revolted again, and were again quelled by Isaac Angelos. Subsequently they became subject to Hungary, and in 1389 were conquered by Sultan Amurath, at Kossova; since which period no dawn of liberty has beamed upon Servia. Alternately the thralls of the Turks and the Hungarians, the miserable remnant of this people, whose country had been the theatre of bloody wars, at length found comparative repose beneath the Austrian yoke. Servia was released from Turkish sway at the beginning of the present century, and is now governed by a knez, or prince, under the protection of the Emperor of Austria.

By the successive transmutations of character which the Servians have undergone through these frequent changes, they have lost the distinguishing traits which identify a nation: even their language is a mongrel tongue, depraved (or *enriched*, as Mr. Bowring terms it,) by an admixture of various foreign idioms, oriental as well as occidental. It is true, Mr. Bowring, who understands more of this matter than we profess to know, describes the Servian language as "the most cultivated, the most interesting, and the most widely spread of all the southern Slavonian dialects;" as modified and mel-
lowed by the Greek and Latin; and as "softened down into a perfect instrument for poetry and music!" He adds, as true, a fanciful character of the
language

* *Servian Popular Poetry*, translated by John Bowring. 1 vol. 12mo. 1837.

† See Gibbon's *History*, vol. I. c. 56. Some derive the Servian name from the Latin *servus*.

language from Schaffarik, who says, that "Servian song resembles the tune of the violin; old Slavonian, that of the organ; Polish, that of the guitar. The old Slavonian in its psalms sounds like the loud rush of the mountain-stream; the Polish like the bubbling and sparkling of a fountain; and the Servian like the quiet murmuring of a streamlet in the valley." No language, however dissonant, has not, at some time or other, found an advocate who vindicated its musical properties. An uninitiated person could scarcely look at an assemblage of words in the Servian tongue without some sympathetic convulsions of the larynx.

Mr. Bowring's delineation of the character of Servian poetry, which discovers a flowing imagination, prepares us to expect much more than we find in it:

The earliest poetry of the Servians has a heathenish character; that which follows is leagued with Christian legends. But holy deeds are always made the condition of salvation. The whole nation, to use the idea of Göthe, is imaged in poetical superstition. Events are brought about by the agency of angels, but the footsteps of Satan can be nowhere traced;—the dead are often summoned from their tombs;—awful warnings, prophecies, and birds of evil omen, bear terror to the minds of the most courageous.

Over all is spread the influence of a remarkable, and, no doubt, antique mythology. An omnipresent spirit—airy and fanciful—making its dwelling in solitudes—and ruling over mountains and forests—a being called the *Vila*, is heard to issue its irresistible mandates, and pour forth its prophetic inspiration: sometimes in a form of female beauty—sometimes a wilder Diana—now a goddess gathering or dispersing the clouds, and now an owl among ruins and ivy. The *Vila*, always capricious, and frequently malevolent, is a most important actor in all the popular poetry of Servia. The *Trica Polonica* is sacred to her. She is equally renowned for the beauty of her person and the swiftness of her step:—"Fair as the mountain *Vila*," is the highest compliment to a Servian lady—"Swift as the *Vila*," is the most eloquent eulogium on a Servian steed.

Of the amatory poems of the Servians, Göthe justly remarks, that, when viewed all together, they cannot but be deemed of singular beauty; they exhibit the expressions of passionate, overflowing, and contented affection; they are full of shrewdness and spirit; delight and surprise are admirably portrayed; and there is, in all, a marvellous sagacity in subduing difficulties and in obtaining an end; a natural, but at the same time vigorous and energetic tone; sympathies and sensibilities, without wordy exaggeration, but which, notwithstanding, are decorated with poetical imagery and imaginative beauty; a correct picture of Servian life and manners,—every thing, in short, which gives to passion the force of truth, and to external scenery the character of reality.

It seems that the poetry of Servia was wholly traditional until within a very few years; that it was preserved chiefly by the lower classes of the people, in songs which were accompanied by a three-stringed instrument, called a *gusle*; that the collection made by Vuk, entitled *Narodne Srpske Pjesme*, from whence most of Mr. Bowring's translations are made, was committed to paper by the compiler from early recollections, or from the repetition of Servian minstrels; and that all the poetry of Servia is anonymous.

The historical ballads, which are in lines composed of five trochaics, are always sung with the accompaniment of the *gusle*. At the end of every verse, the singer drops his voice, and mutters a short cadence. The emphatic passages are chaunted in a louder tone. "I cannot describe," says Wessely, "the pathos with which these songs are sometimes sung. I have witnessed crowds surrounding a blind old singer, and every
cheek

cheek was wet with tears—it was not the music, it was the words which affected them.” As this simple instrument, the gusle, is never used but to accompany the poetry of the Servians, and as it is difficult to find a Servian who does not play upon it, the universality of their popular ballads may be well imagined.

We now lay before the reader some specimens of this poetry, premising that in the narrative poems the original measure is preserved, and that the sense is stated to be faithfully rendered by the translator, who has further assimilated his copy to the original by rejecting rhyme, which is seldom used by the Servians. We begin with the shortest of the narrative poems :

DUKA LEKA.

Yesterday was married Duka Leka :
 Comes to-day a mandate from the emperor :
 “ Duka ! on—on, Leka ! to the army.”
 Duka's steed caparisons he quickly ;—
 His love holds him by the bridle, weeping :—
 “ Woe is me !—woe's me ! thou voivode Leka !
 Goest thou with thy noble steed to battle,
 Leav'st alone thy young bride inexperienced ?”
 ‘ With thy mother, and with mine I leave thee.’
 “ Woe is me ! woe's me ? thou voivode Leka !—
 Thee away—and what avail two mothers ?”
 Duka Leka arms him for the battle :
 His young bride stands by his courser, weeping :—
 “ Woe is me ! woe's me ! thou voivode Leka !
 Goest thou with thy noble steed to battle ?
 And with whom dost leave thy bride untutored ?”
 ‘ With thy father, and with mine I leave thee.’
 “ Woe, my Duka ! woe ! thou voivode Leka !—
 Thee away—and what avail two fathers ?”
 Duka Leka girds him for the battle ;
 Weeping holds his wife his horse's bridle :—
 “ Woe is me ! woe, Duka !—voivode Leka !
 Dost equip thy good steed for the battle ?
 Who shall care about the unpractised loved one ?”
 ‘ To thy brother, and to mine, I leave thee.’
 “ Woe ! O Duka, woe ! thou voivode Leka !
 Thee away—and what avail two brothers ?

The reader will probably think this an ominous commencement : more *jeune* poetry was never probably honoured by translation. We shall take, for the next specimen, a longer piece, which enjoys the distinction of having attracted the notice and admiration of Göthe, who saw it, indeed, in a French version, which he rendered into German :

HASSAN AGA'S WIFE'S LAMENT.

What's so white upon yon verdant forest ?
 Is it snow, or is it swans assembled ?
 Were it snow, it surely had been melted ;
 Were it swans, long since they had departed.
 Lo ! it is not swans, it is not snow there :
 'Tis the tent of Aga, Hassan Aga ;
 He is lying there severely wounded,
 And his mother seeks him, and his sister ;
 But for very shame his wife is absent.

When

When the misery of his wounds was softened,
 Hassan thus his faithful wife commanded :
 " In my house thou shalt abide no longer—
 Thou shalt dwell no more among my kindred."
 When his wife had heard this gloomy language,
 Stiff she stood, and full of bitter sorrow.

When the horses, stamping, shook the portal,
 Fled the faithful wife of Hassan Aga—
 Fain would throw her from the castle window.
 Anxious two beloved daughters followed,
 Crying after her in tearful anguish—
 " These are not our father Hassan's coursers ;
 'Tis our uncle Pintorovich coming."

Then approached the wife of Hassan Aga—
 Threw her arms, in misery, round her brother—
 " See the sorrow, brother, of thy sister :
 He would tear me from my helpless children."

He was silent—but from out his pocket,
 Safely wrapped in silk of deepest scarlet,
 Letters of divorce he drew, and bid her
 Seek again her mother's ancient dwelling—
 Free to win and free to wed another.

When she saw the letter of divorcement,
 Kisses on her young boy's forehead, kisses
 On her girls' red cheeks she pressed—the nursing—
 For there was a nursing in the cradle—

Could she tear her, wretched, from her infant ?
 But her brother seized her hand, and led her—
 Led her swiftly to the agile courser ;
 And he hastened with the sorrowing woman
 To the ancient dwelling of her fathers.

Short the time was—not seven days had glided—
 Short indeed the time—and many a noble
 Had our lady—though in widow's garments—
 Had our lady asked in holy marriage.

And the noblest was Imoski's Cadi ;
 And our lady, weeping, prayed her brother :
 " I exhort thee, on thy life exhort thee,
 Give me not, oh, give me not in marriage !
 For the sight of my poor orphan'd children
 Sure would break the spirit of thy sister !"

Little cared her brother for her sorrows ;
 He had sworn she should espouse the Cadi.
 But his sister prayed him thus unceasing :
 " Send at least one letter, O my brother !
 With this language to Imoski's Cadi :
 ' Friendly greetings speeds the youthful woman ;
 But entreats thee, by these words entreats thee,
 When the *Suates* * shall conduct thee hither,
 Thou a long and flowing veil wilt bring me,
 That, in passing Hassan's lonely dwelling,
 I may hide me from my hapless orphans.' "

Hardly

* Conductors of the marriage festival.

Hardly had the Cadi read the letter,
 Than he gather'd his Suates together,
 Armed himself, and hastened t'wards the lady,
 Home to bring her as his bridal treasure.

Happily he reached the princely dwelling,
 Happily were all returning homeward,
 When t'ward Hassan's house they were approaching,
 Her two daughters saw her from the window,
 Her two sons rushed on her from the portal :
 And they cried, " Come hither ! O come hither !
 Take thy night's repast with thine own children ! "

Sorrowfully Hassan's consort heard them ;
 To the Sarisvat she thus addressed her :
 " Let the Suates stay, and let the horses
 Tarry here at this beloved portal,
 While I make a present to the children. "

As they stopped at the beloved portal,
 Presents gave she unto all the children.
 To the boys, boots all with gold embroidered ;
 To the girls, long and resplendent dresses ;
 And to the poor baby in the cradle,
 For the time to come, a little garment.

Near them sat their father, Hassan Aga,
 And he called in sorrow to his children :
 " Come to me, poor children ! to your father ;
 For your mother's breast is turn'd to iron,
 Closed against you, hardened 'gainst all pity. "

When these words were heard by Hassan's consort,
 On the ground she fell, all pale and trembling,
 Till her spirit burst her heavy bosom
 At the glances of her orphan children.

We add another piece which refers to the battle of Kossova, and the defeat of Lazar, the second Tsar of Servia, by Sultan Amurath, which is the subject of many melancholy ballads amongst the Servians. It is exhibited as poetry in Mr. Bowring's book, but we shall save some space by printing as prose :

FINDING OF THE HEAD OF LAZAR.

When Lazār's head, from his body severed, lay upon the battle-field Kossova, 'twas not found by any of the Servians : but a Turkish boy—a young Turk found it. 'Twas a Turk,—a Turk in slavery nurtured ; but he was the child of Servian mother ; and thus spake the Turkish boy who found it : " Hear, ye Moslems ! hear, my Turkish brethren ! this was once the head of high-ranked Servian ;* and, by God ! it were a shame and scandal if profaned by eagles or by ravens, if 'twere trod upon by man or courser. " So he took the head of the holy emperor, wrapt it carefully within his mantle, bore it to a neighbouring water-fountain, and he threw it in the crystal water. There long time it lay, all unmolested : happy time ! it lay for forty summers. On Kossova lay the headless body ; but the eagles touched it not, nor ravens, nor the foot of man, nor hoof of courser ; therefore let the God of peace be worshipped ! Lo ! a caravan of youthful travellers, from the city white, the lovely Skoplja,† leading on ; both Grecians and Bulgarians travellers they, bound to Vidin and Nissa :‡ and they
 make

* *Ovo glava jednog gospodara*, the head of a Hospodar ; man of high rank. † Scupi, in Macedonia.
 ‡ Vidin, a large fortress in Bulgaria, on the Danube. Nisha, a large fortified city on the Servian frontier.

make their halting on Kossova, on Kossova take their meal as wonted; and, when thirsty, ere the meal was over, lo! they light the splinters of the fir-tree; made a torch to light them as they wander, seeking all around a water fountain. Lo! a strange and wond'rous fate awaits them! Swift they speed them to the crystal water. Then exclaimed one of the youthful travellers—"Lo! the moon is on the waters shining!" And another traveller thus retorted—"Brother! it is not the moon that shineth." But the third is silent—no word utters—turns him to the east—the sun's uprising—then he speaks, and prays to God the righteous; prays to God and to the holy Nicholas—"Help me, God! and thou, O father Nicholas!" and he sought again the fountain-water; drew the holy head from out the water—holy head of holy Servian monarch; threw it on the verdant turf, and pouring water, swiftly filled the travelling vessel. They had quenched their thirst, and all were seated—seated round the head, and looked about them. On the verdant turf it lies no longer; o'er the field the head is slowly moving—holy head seeks out the holy body; joins it, where that body lay untainted. When the dawning of the morn had broken, to the aged priests the youths reported—to the aged priests, the wond'rous story. Lo! a crowd of priests are hastening thither—crowds of ancient priests—above three hundred, and twelve high and dignified archbishops, and four patriarchs, the most exalted: him of Pechki,* and the Tzarigrader † of Jerusalem, and Vassiljēnski. All were habited in priestly vestments; camilanks their holy heads enshrouded; in their hands they held old sacred writings—and they poured their fervent prayers to heaven, and performed their holiest solemn vigils through three days, and through three nights of darkness; nor for rest they stopped, nor for refreshment, nor for sleep, nor any interruption; and they asked the holy dead, unceasing, where his grave should be—his corpse be buried; in Opōvo, or in Krushedōli, or in Jāssak, or in Besheñōvi, or Racōvatz, or in Shisatōvatz, or in Jivski, or in Kurejdini,‡ or in distant Macedonia rather. But Lazar will choose no foreign cloister; he will lie among his own loved kindred, in his own, his beauteous Ravanitz,§ on the mountain forest, broad Kushaja, in the convent he himself erected; in his days of life and youthful glory, he erected for his soul's salvation; with his bread and with his gold he raised it; not with tears nor wealth from poor men wrested.

We must own that these narrative poems afford us but a very poor idea of the literature in which they are found. The lyrical pieces at the end of the volume are of a different character; but here we have the confession of the translator militating against the reputation of the original. "In the lyrical pieces," says Mr. Bowring, "I have allowed myself some latitude of expression." If we needed a proof of the effect produced upon this meagre poetry by a little "latitude of expression," it would be furnished by the contrast which Mr. Bowring has pointed out between his own faithful translation of some lines on "Ajkuna's Marriage" (p. 28), and the embellished version of the same by a writer in the *Quarterly Review*. The following seems, not merely from its smoothness but its point, to belong to a different nation from the foregoing:

HEROES SERVED.

Upon the silent Danube's shore,
When ev'ning wastes, 'tis sweet to see
(Their golden wine cups flowing o'er);
Our heroes in their revelry.

A youthful

* Ipek, a city in Albania.

† Tzarigrader, Zarigrad, the city of the Tsar—Constantinople. The four Greek patriarchs are those of Constantinople, Jerusalem, Antioch, and Alexandria. Ipek (in Servia) was the fifth patriarchate, though the first in the eyes of the Servians. Vassilenski is no other than Constantinople (Vaselenaki), though constantly confounded by the uninstructed.

‡ All these are Servian convents. Krushedol was founded in 1509, by Bishop Maximus Brankovics, and is celebrated in many Servian legends. It is famous for its collection of reliques.

§ A renowned convent built by the Tsar Lazar, on the Remava. It was destroyed by the Turks in 1435.

A youthful beauty pours the wine,
 And each will pledge a cup to her;
 And each of charms that seem divine
 Would fain become a worshipper.

"Nay! heroes, nay!" the virgin cried,
 "My service—not my love—I give:
 For one alone—for none beside:
 For one alone I love and live."

Even the lyrical pieces, however, with all the advantages they derive from Mr. Bowring's skill, and it is not small, offer few attractions.

We confess that we have looked in vain for the "singular beauty" which Göthe discovered in the Servian amatory poetry, and the "passionate, overflowing, and contented affection," it is said to breathe; its "shrewdness and spirit," its "marvellous sagacity," its "vigour and energy," its "sympathies and sensibilities," its "poetical imagery and imaginative beauty," have equally escaped our diligent search. We have been able to find no distinct or intelligible "picture of Servian life and manners" in the ballads translated by Mr. Bowring; and we should be inclined to suspect another person than Göthe of spiteful irony and sarcasm who should assert that these poems displayed "every thing which gives to passion the force of truth, and to external scenery the character of reality."

We should lament the waste of talents upon such unprofitable employment as that of translating ballads without pretensions to be known beyond the pale of their original language, but that we feel a becoming distrust of our own judgment, which it would be arrogant to oppose, upon a question like this, to the authority of Göthe and Mr. Bowring. We have observed, moreover, in a foreign journal, a review of Talvi's collection of Servian ballads, translated into German by a lady named Jacob (of whom and of whose translation Mr. Bowring speaks with commendation), wherein the writer expresses himself in terms of warm admiration respecting the merits of Servian poetry. Referring to the collection made by Vuk, which has furnished most of the specimens in Mr. Bowring's volume, he says, the "songs of women," or lyrical pieces, display warmth, sentiment, and imagination; and the "songs of men," or epic (termed by our translator narrative) pieces, may be compared with the *rhapsodies* of Homer, if not for elegance and grace, at least for their energy and simplicity. "The collection," he adds, "is a real acquisition made by Western literature, and which will render the study of the Slavonian dialects more general than it has been: these vigorous accents of simple and majestic nature often strike us with irresistible force, and impress us with the grandeur and sublimity of their ideas."

It is, perhaps, our own fault that we are insensible to the charms of Servian minstrelsy.

THE BRITISH TERRITORIES IN THE DECCAN.

At the termination of the Mahratta war, the conquered territories in the Deccan were placed under the immediate charge of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone (the present governor of Bombay) as commissioner. This gentleman took the earliest steps to obtain a full knowledge of the state of the country, with a view to the introduction of such improvements in its administration as circumstances required. The results of his own observation, and the ample information derived from the civil and military officers in charge of districts, or otherwise associated with the commissioner in the settlement of the country, were digested by Mr. Elphinstone into a comprehensive and voluminous report to the Marquess of Hastings, the governor-general. A copy of this document, dated 25th October 1819, forms one of the valuable papers composing the fourth volume of the "Selections from the Records at the East-India House," just printed by order of the Court of Directors. The authenticity which the facts acquire from the high character and known talents, as well as the official station and facilities, of the writer of the report, has induced us to prepare an epitome of it,* under the impression that information thus vouched, regarding a portion of British India generally but little known, could not be otherwise than interesting.

Mr. Elphinstone commences his report with a description of the country, which necessarily includes some portions which do not belong to the British Government. The possessors of independent territory are the Rajahs of Sattara and Colapore, the Nizam, Scindia, Holkar, the Rajah of Berar and the Guicowar. The lands held by dependent chiefs belong to Angria, the Punt Suchem, the Prittee Nedhee, the Putwardhuns, and other jagheerdars. The whole extent of the British portions are roughly estimated at 50,000 square miles; and the population, excluding the detached territories beyond the Nizam's frontiers, is conjectured at four millions.

The grand geographical feature of this tract, is the chain of ghauts which run along the western boundary for its whole length; between this range and the sea lies the Concan, now under Bombay. It extends from forty to fifty miles in breadth, includes many fertile places, producing abundance of rice, but in general is very rough, and much crossed by steep and rocky hills. Towards the ghauts the country is in most places extremely strong, divided by hills, intersected by ravines, and covered with thick forest; the range itself is from two to four thousand feet high, extremely abrupt and inaccessible on the west. The passes are numerous but steep, and very seldom passable for carriages. The table-land on the east is nearly as high as many parts of the ridge of the ghauts, but in general the hills rise above it, to the height of from a thousand to fifteen hundred feet. The table-land is for a considerable distance rendered very strong by numerous spurs issuing from the range, among which are deep winding rugged valleys, often filled with thick jungle. Further east, the branches from the ghauts become less frequent, and the country becomes more level till the neighbourhood of the Nizam's frontier, where it is an open plain.

The northern part of the chain of ghauts and the country at its base is inhabited by Bheels; that part to the south of Baugland and the country at its base as far south as Bassien is inhabited by Coolies, a tribe somewhat resembling the former, but more civilized and less predatory. The Bheels possess

* The report, with the replies, &c. appended to it, occupies 170 folio pages.

possess the eastern part of the range, and all the branches that run out from it towards the east, as far south as Poona; they even spread over the plains to the east, especially north of the Godavery, and to the neighbourhood of the Wurda. On the north they extend beyond the Taptee and Nerbudda. Both the Bheels and the Coolies are numerous in Guzerat. South of Poona, the Bheels are succeeded by the Ramoosees, a more civilized and subdued tribe, but with the same thievish habits as the Bheels; they have no language of their own, are more mixed with the people, and resemble the Mahrattas in dress and manners, whereas the Bheels differ from the rest of the people in language, manners, and appearance. Of the latter, Mr. Elphinstone remarks that, although they live quietly in the open country, they resume their wild and predatory character whenever they are settled in a part that is strong, either from hills or jungle. The Ramoosees do not extend further south than Colapore, or further east than the line of Bejapoor.

The districts in Nemaar, which are small and of little value, Mr. Elphinstone recommends to be exchanged for some other territory: our most northern district would then be Candeish. This province is bounded on the north by the Sautpoora range, and on the south by that in which are the fort of Chandore and the ghaut of Adjunta: on the south-west by the range of Syadree, commonly called the Ghauts, at the termination of which, south of the Taptee, is the hilly tract of Baugland. The plain of Candeish descends towards the Taptee from the hills on the north and south (especially from the south); on the east it is bounded by Scindia's and the Nizam's territories on the plain of Berar; and on the west the plain along the Taptee extends, without interruption, from the hills to the sea: but it is divided from the rich country about Surat by a thick and extensive jungle. Though interspersed with low ranges of unproductive hills, the bulk of the province is exceedingly fertile, and it is watered by innumerable streams, on many of which expensive embankments have formerly been erected for purposes of irrigation. Some parts of the province are still in a high state of cultivation, and others more recently abandoned convey a high notion of their former richness and prosperity; but the greater part of Candeish is covered with thick jungle, full of tigers and other wild beasts, but scattered with the ruins of former villages. The districts north of the Taptee in particular, which were formerly very populous and yielded a large revenue, are now almost an uninhabited forest.

Candeish is low and hot. Gungterry, which joins it on the south, is from fifteen hundred to two thousand feet above the level of the Taptee, and the rest of the conquered territory (except the Concan) is on the same table-land. From this to the Kistna, or rather the Warna and Kistna, is comprehended in the districts of Ahmednuggur and Poona, and the Rajah of Sattara's territory. The western half of all this tract is hilly, the valleys rich and highly cultivated, and the country diversified and beautiful. Further east are plains, but not all in the same condition. The east of Gungterry, though open and fertile, is almost entirely uninhabited since the famine in 1803; the country between that and Ahmednuggur is better, and the plains south of Ahmednuggur are, for many marches in all directions, one sheet of the richest cultivation. I do not know the state of the south-east of that district towards Colapore, but I imagine it is equally prosperous. The country beyond the Neera is in a very different state, thinly peopled and badly cultivated. It is in this tract that most of the horses in the Mahratta country are bred, and that most of the Silladars or military adventurers reside. The principal towns in the Peishwa's late dominions are between Candeish and the Kistna, but none of them are considerable.

considerable. Poona may be reckoned to contain about a hundred and ten thousand inhabitants, having lost from a tenth to a fifth since the removal of Bajee Rao with his court and army. Nassick does not contain more than a fourth of this number. Punderpoor is still smaller than Nassick, and the rest all much smaller than Punderpoor. Ahmednuggur, however, must be excepted, which is reckoned to contain twenty thousand souls, and is increasing rapidly.

This tract is the oldest possession of the Mahratta Government: its inhabitants are by far the most decidedly Mahratta. The character of this people is thus depicted. The Brahmins, who have long conducted all the business of the country, are intriguing, lying, corrupt, licentious, and unprincipled; when in power, unfeeling and systematically oppressive; at present, generally discontented, and restrained by fear alone from treachery and treason. They are superstitious and narrow in their attachment to their caste to an unexampled degree; but they are mild, patient, intelligent, and even liberal and enlightened on many subjects; though regardless of sufferings of which they are indirectly the cause, they are naturally very averse to cruelty and bloodshed. Many instances of exception occur of course, and the opinions of some may be relied on as sound and candid; but they are generally supple and insincere.

The Mahratta chiefs, whilst in power, are generally coarse, ignorant, rapacious, and oppressive. Those settled in the country, however, are of a better character, being sober, industrious, and encouragers of agriculture.

The soldiery so much resemble the chiefs, that individuals of the two classes might change places without any striking impropriety. The chiefs, of course, are more vicious, and probably more intelligent. The Mahratta soldiery love war, as affording opportunities for rapine in an enemy's country, and marauding in a friend's. In battle they seem always to have been the same dastardly race: but they are active, hardy, vigilant, patient of fatigue and privations, and though timid in action, they shew great boldness and enterprize in their incursions into distant countries; and on all occasions they appear to have the greatest confidence in their horses, though little or none in their swords. Their plan in a campaign is to avoid general engagements, to ravage their enemy's country, and to cut up convoys and detachments; in an action it is to disperse when attacked, and to return to the charge when the enemy has broken, to plunder; by these means they are enabled to prevail against better troops than themselves. In all of these people we, of course, have mortal enemies, and might have formidable opponents: they have been ruined by their regular armies and equipments, by their fears of losing their wealth and their territories, and by some approaches to a regular government amongst their chiefs; but if they were once reduced to desperation, and were again the same lawless freebooters that they were in the beginning of their career, they might not only occasion a long and expensive struggle, but might be the most dangerous opponents that Asia could produce to the valour and discipline of Europe. The Mahratta peasantry have some pride in the triumphs of their nation, and some ambition to partake in its military exploits; but although circumstances might turn them into soldiers or robbers, at present their habits are decidedly peaceful: they are sober, frugal, industrious, mild, and inoffensive to every body, and among themselves neither dishonest nor insincere. The faults of their government have, however, created the corresponding vices in them; its oppression and extortion have taught them dissimulation, mendacity, and fraud; and the insecurity of property has rendered them so careless

careless of the future, as to lavish on a marriage, or other ceremony, the savings of years of parsimony. The first class of these vices, though prevalent throughout the whole in their dealings with Government, is more conspicuous among the Patells and others who are most brought into contact with their rulers; and the effects of the second are felt in the debts and embarrassments in which the whole of the agricultural population is plunged.

It may be observed in conclusion, that the military Brahmins combine part of the character of Mahratta soldiers with that of their own caste, and that the character of the Mahratta soldiery, in like manner, runs into that of the cultivator. Taking the whole as a nation, they will be found to be inferior to their Mahomedan neighbours in knowledge and civilization, in spirit, in generosity, and perhaps in courage; but less tainted with pride, insolence, tyranny, effeminacy, and debauchery; less violent, less bigoted, and (except while in armies on foreign service) more peaceable, mild, and humane.

The country south of the Kistna, or, as the Mahrattas call it, the Carnatic, has few hills and places incapable of cultivation, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the Ghants: a large portion of it is, however, uncultivated. It consists of extensive plains of black or cotton ground. There are no large towns in this part; Hoobly is the largest, which has been estimated at 15,000 souls. Belgaum and Shahpoor, which are contiguous, may amount together to 14,000; no other town in this district contains more than 5,000.

Both this division and Beejapoor are inhabited by Canarese, who retain their own language and manners. The Mahrattas (consisting of soldiers and Brahmins) are reckoned to constitute no more than one-eighth or one-tenth of the inhabitants. The Canarese are described as resembling their countrymen in the Ceded Districts, but more honest, manly, and courageous, though less mild, hospitable, and humane: both are equally industrious and frugal. The people of the Carnatic have always been considered by the Mahrattas as turbulent and disaffected; they seem now perfectly quiet and well-disposed. The general use of *Shait* Sunneedeas, or landed militia, so common in Mysore, is only found in this part of the conquered territory.

Mr. Elphinstone next gives a sketch of the history of the Mahrattas, which affords such a succinct view of the subject, that we subjoin it nearly in his own words.

The Mahratta language and nation extend from the Sautpoora mountains nearly to the Kistna, and from the sea on the west to a waving frontier on the east, which may be tolerably indicated by a line drawn from Goa to the Wurda, near Chanda, and thence along that river to the Sautpoora mountains. The whole of the territory was probably under a Mahratta king, who resided at Deeoghuree, now Dowlatabad; but this empire was subverted in the beginning of the fourteenth century by the Mahomedans, and remained under various dynasties of that religion until the end of the seventeenth century, when the greater part was delivered by Sewajee and his successors. The eastern part still remains under the Moguls.

The grandfather of Sewajee was of very humble origin, but his father had attained a considerable rank under the kingdom of Beejapoor, had been entrusted with a government, and profiting by the weakness of the king's power, had rendered himself nearly independent in the southern part of the Beejapoor dominions. The same weakness encouraged Sewajee to rebel and plunder the country; and he was enabled, by the increasing confusions in the Deccan, to found a sort of government, which the desultory operations of Aurengzebe, distracted by his numerous and simultaneous foreign wars, allowed him time to consolidate.

solidate. His rebellion began about 1646; he declared himself independent in 1674, and at his death, about 1682, he was possessed of great part of the Concan; the rest being in the hands of the Moguls of Surat, or in those of the Portuguese, or held for the Beejapoor government by the Siddies or Abyssinians of Gingera. He seems also to have possessed the greater part of the line of ghauts, and to have shared with the Mahomedans the tract immediately to the east of those mountains, as far north as Poona, and as far south as Colapore.

Most of these possessions were wrested from his son, who was reduced to the hills and part of the Concan, when Aurengzebe was drawn off to the subversion of the monarchies of Golconda and Beejapoor. The convulsions occasioned by the extinction of those states completely unsettled the country, and threw a large portion of the armies, which had hitherto maintained tranquillity, into the scale of the Mahrattas, to whom the Zemindars throughout the Deccan also appear to have been inclined. The consequence was, that although on the execution of Sumbajee, the son of Sewajee, in 1689, his son and heir, Sahoojee, fell into the hands of the Moguls, and his younger brother, Raja Ram, who succeeded him, was shut up in the fort of Gingee, south of Arcot, so that, for several years, the Mahrattas had no efficient head, yet they were able under different leaders to withstand, and at length to deride, the efforts of the Moguls, which were enfeebled by the factions of the generals and the declining age of the emperor, till the year 1707, when the death of Aurengzebe, and the contests among his successors, set them free from all danger on the part of the Moguls. The chiefs left in charge of the Deccan first faintly opposed, and then conciliated, the Mahrattas. A truce was concluded about 1710, by which they yielded the choute; and this, or the confirmation of the agreement, together with a formal grant of their territorial possessions by the emperor in 1719, may be considered as the final establishment of the Mahratta Government, after a struggle of at least sixty years.

During the period between the death of Aurengzebe and the confirmation of the choute, &c. a great revolution had taken place among the Mahrattas. Sahoo Raja, son of Sumbajee, was released in 1708, but on his return to the Deccan he found himself opposed by his cousin Sewajee, son of Raja Ram. This prince had succeeded on the death of his father in 1700, but being either very weak, or entirely deranged in his intellects, his affairs were conducted by his mother, Tarow Bye. Sahoo Raja was enabled, chiefly by the good conduct of his minister, Ballajee Wisswanaut, to gain over Canoojee Angria, the chief support of his rival's cause, and to seat himself on the Mahratta musnud. He immediately appointed Ballajee to the office of Peishwa, which had before belonged to the family of Pinglia, but was forfeited by its possessor's adherence to the cause of Tarow Bye. Sahoo Raja being incapacitated by his mental imbecility from exercising the authority with which he was invested, the entire administration devolved on Ballajee Wisswanaut.

At the time of the confirmation of the choute, although the Mahrattas had numerous claims over several of the provinces possessed by the Moguls, their actual territory does not appear to have extended beyond the narrow limits to which it had reached under Sewajee. The Mogul's grant, confirming their possessions, enumerates the districts, by which it appears that they extended in the Concan from the Goa territory to a point considerably to the south of Demaun; while above the ghauts they only reached from the Gatpunda to the river Kookree, forty miles north of Poona. The greatest length (on the sea-coast) is two hundred and eighty miles; the greatest breadth (from

Hutnee and Punderpoor to the sea) one hundred and forty: but this breadth is only found to the south of Poona; north of that city the breadth does not exceed seventy miles.

It was long before the Mahrattas obtained possession of the country in the immediate neighbourhood of their first conquests; the forts of Joonere and Ahmednuggur, the first within forty, and the other within eighty miles of Poona, were not reduced until within the last sixty years, long after the Mahrattas had made themselves masters of Malwa and Guzerat, and had plundered up to the gates of Agra. Candeish was not subdued until within these sixty years, nor the Carnatic until a still later period. The cause of this inconsistency was the close connexion between the Mahrattas and Nizamool-Moolk, who was glad to encourage them as the means of weakening the power of the Court of Delhi; while they, with their usual policy, were pleased to disunite their enemies and attack them one by one. To this connexion also it is to be ascribed, that a third of the Mahratta nation should have been left to this day under the dominion of the Moguls.

Ballajee Wisswanaut, dying in 1720, was succeeded by his son Bajee Rao Belall. This chief, who appears to have been a man of activity and abilities, took full advantage of the weakness, the distraction, and the mutual jealousy and treachery of the Moguls. He overran all Malwa, and had entirely reduced it some time about the year 1735; while the troops of the Senaputtee, another great general of Sahoo Raja, had made similar progress in Guzerat. The rivalry of these generals renewed the domestic distractions of the Mahrattas; but Bajee Rao finally overcame the Senaputtee, as Nana Sahib subsequently did his powerful servant the Guicowar in 1750, when he compelled the latter to submit implicitly to his authority, and to make over half of Guzerat to his officers. Bajee Rao died in 1741, and was succeeded by his son Ballajee Rao, commonly called Nana Sahib.

This prince was the first of the Peishwas who openly exercised the sovereign authority on the Raja's behalf. His two predecessors had always affected to act under the orders of that prince, but Raja Sahoo dying in 1749, it was alleged by the Peishwa that he had formally invested him with the sovereignty of his dominions, on condition of his keeping up the name of the Raja's descendants. I may here remark, that it appears more than doubtful whether the Rajas of Sattara ever pretended to possess absolute sovereignty, or to hold their territories otherwise than as vassals either of Beejapoor or Delhi. Nana Sahib was an inactive prince, and intrusted his internal government to his cousin Saddashew Rao Bhow, and the command of his armies to his brother Ragoonath Rao, the father of the late Peishwa. A temporary exchange of these functions occasioned the defeat and fall of the Bhow at Paniput, and the death of Ballajec, who never recovered the shock.

The government then fell into the hands of Ragoonath Rao, who detained Madhoo Rao, the son of Nana Sahib, in a state of tutelage and dependence, but who was not long able to resist the talents and energy which that prince early displayed. Madhoo Rao then took the reins into his own hands, imprisoned Ragoonath, and reigned for eleven years. Though at least equal to his predecessor as a general, Madhoo Rao's chief praise arises from his civil government. He was the first who introduced order into the internal administration, and who shewed a sincere desire to protect his subjects from military violence, and to establish something like a regular dispensation of justice.

His death, which happened in 1772, was soon followed by the murder of his

his brother Narrain Rao, the usurpation of Ragoonath Rao, and a long struggle, in which the English were unsuccessful supporters of the claims of that usurper. During this disturbed period, and the thirteen years of comparative tranquillity which followed, Nana Furnavees acted as regent in the name of the infant son of the murdered Narrain Rao. The territories in the Deccan were quiet, and were governed in a spirit of peace and moderation, which aided the former measures of Madhoo Rao in softening the predatory habits of the Mahrattas; but at the same time the great chiefs of Hindostan began to appear rather as allies than as servants; and although the connexion of the Mahrattas as a confederacy was probably at its greatest height at this period, yet the seeds of dissolution which were inherent in the nature of it, began evidently to display themselves. A short view of the members of this confederacy will show the loose ties by which the whole was held.

The state of Tanjore was scarcely ever even in alliance with Sattara; that founded by Morar Rao Gorepara, in the north of Mysore, was in nearly the same situation, and that of Colapore never joined it in any war. The confederates must therefore be the Raja of Berar, the Guicowar, Scindia, Holkar, the Powars, and the chiefs of Jhansi and Sagur. The first of these powers was closely united in interest with Poona, and had no points of disagreement; yet it was frequently at war with the Poona state, and seemed to have been almost as much connected with the Nizam as with it. The Guicowar was oppressed and subdued, a vassal rather than a confederate. He joined the first power that appeared against the Mahrattas in his part of India, and has adhered to his alliance to the last. The other chiefs were subjects and servants of the Peishwa, and were themselves born and bred in the heart of the Mahratta country, as were the whole of their national troops, not one of whom to this day, perhaps, was born in their foreign conquests. Besides the ties of kindred, language and country, which in most nations keep up a connexion for ages, the Mahrattas had a strong interest in opposing their common enemies; yet there is perhaps no instance in which they were all engaged on one side in a war, and it is surprising that states so circumstanced should be unable to keep up a closer alliance for a period little exceeding the natural life of man. These facts do not, however, shew that there is not at this moment a confederacy cemented by the common country, common interests, and common enmity to their conquerors; but that there is nothing particularly durable in the connexion to prevent its dissolving at no distant period.

At the death of Madhoo Rao Narrain in 1796, the whole of the great Mahratta chiefs, the Raja of Behar, Scindia, Holkar, and the Jagheerdars of the Deccan, appeared at Poona for the last time as vassals of the empire. The power and weight of the minister was insufficient to control this tumultuous assembly, and a scene of factions, violence and intrigue ensued, at the conclusion of which Bajee Rao, the rightful heir, but the representative of the unpopular and proscribed house of Ragoonath Rao, was elevated to the musnud by the military power of Scindia. He however was for some time little more than a pageant in the hands of that prince, and it seemed probable that Scindia would soon imitate the example of the Peishwa's ancestors, and reduce his nominal master to the condition of the Raja of Sattara. It was perhaps the dread of the interference of the British which prevented this change of dynasty, and at the end of a few years the increasing disorders in Scindia's own possessions obliged him to quit his hold on the Peishwa, and to withdraw to Hindoostan. Bajee Rao, now left alone, had neither ability nor inclination

inclination to put himself at the head of his turbulent chiefs and mutinous army; he remained quiet in Poona, while every Jagheerदार assumed independence, and the country was overrun by banditti, formed from the soldiery that were no longer employed in the armies, to within a few miles of the capital. At length his Highness was expelled by Holkar. He returned supported by a British force, and from that time began a new order of things, which existed at the time of our conquest.

Instead of the extensive, but loose confederacy, of which the Peishwa was head, which was in a constant state of foreign war and internal disorder, and which could only be held together by constant vigilance and activity, as well as concession and management, the Peishwa was now to possess in peace a small compact territory, and as this had formerly partaken of the loose government of the general mass, it became the Peishwa's object to consolidate his power, and establish it on such a footing as would allow of his governing with as much ease as other eastern princes.

Some progress had been made towards the state of things during the governments of Madhoo Rao and Nana Furnavees; and Bajee Rao himself, from temper as much as from policy, had already adopted the course most suited to his situation. The head of an unpopular party, and educated in a prison, he had little sympathy with the bulk of his nation, and little desire for any enterprize in which he might require their assistance. His only wish was to gratify his love of power and of revenge, without endangering his safety or disturbing his ease; he had therefore begun his administration by plundering all the ministers connected with his enemy. Nana Furnavees had seized on the jagheers of his principal opponents. When the treaty of Bassein (1803) relieved him from all apprehension of resistance, he gave a loose to his desire for depressing the great and degrading his enemies.

Almost all those who had been connected with the government of his predecessors were discarded; the great Sirdars who held lands were either dispossessed or kept at a distance, and obliged to yield implicit obedience to his will. No attempt was made to restore the old army; the chiefs who had commanded it were left in want; the court was almost entirely composed of new men, and the few troops that were retained were commanded by upstarts and paid from the treasury.

A severe famine that followed Bajee Rao's restoration, prevented the natural effect of his reduction of the military force; many men perished and more horses, and the vacancies occasioned by the deaths of the owners of land afforded a provision for many, who had till then maintained themselves by the profession of arms. Many more went to the camp of Scindia, who was then exchanging his Mussulman retainers for Mahrattas: others found employment with Holkar and the Raja of Berar; and many probably joined the hordes of Pindarries which began about this time to be conspicuous.

[To be concluded next month.]

TESTIMONIES OF THE ANCIENTS REGARDING THE SUTTEE CUSTOM.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: As the self-immolation of Hindoo widows is a subject which now engages public attention, and will soon be brought under the notice of Parliament, perhaps it may not be unacceptable to you and your readers to be furnished with the testimonies regarding the custom to be found in the ancient Greek and Roman authors, which I accumulated in the course of an investigation into the origin of this barbarous practice. Besides gratifying curiosity, the extracts must convince us of the great antiquity of the practice, and will afford perhaps the best guide we can expect to obtain of the real motive which led to its institution,—a fact of no small importance to ascertain when we are endeavouring to put it down, not by coercive means, but by the gentle expedients of argument and persuasion.

Ancient authors report a number of facts which prove that the practice of self-immolation on a funeral pile was by no means uncommon. Casaubon, in his *Animadversiones in Athenæum*,* enumerates a multitude of examples of this species of voluntary sacrifice, from Sardanapalus to more recent cases; and the authorities quoted in the note,† refer to others, in India as well as elsewhere.

The father of profane history, Herodotus, speaks of a custom amongst the ancient Thracians which nearly resembles the Hindoo ceremony; and from the allusion to India in the outset of his account, I cannot help surmising that it refers to an Indian, not a Thracian tribe. He says that the Thracians, after the Indians, are the most considerable nation; he then states that those Thracians, who are situated beyond the people of Crestona, have this custom: "Each has several wives. When the husband dies, a great contest arises amongst them, together with a violent stir upon the subject amongst the deceased's friends, as to which of the wives was most beloved by him. She who is adjudged to have enjoyed this honour, is adorned by the men and women, and sacrificed by her nearest relation on the tomb of her husband, with whom she is then buried; the other wives considering this as a great misfortune to them, for they hold it to be the highest disgrace to survive."‡

Pomponius Mela § gives a similar account of the Thracian custom, probably from Herodotus: and there is a passage in the fragments left by Stephanus Byzantinus, which refers to a law amongst the Getæ,—τὸ ἐπισφάζει τῆς γυναῖκος τῇ ἀνδρὶ—for sacrificing the wife on the husband's tomb.

Taking the Greek and Roman writers, who expressly mention the Hindoo custom, in the order of their respective dates, we must begin with Cicero, who refers to it, as well as to the voluntary cremation of the Brahmins, in the following terms: ||

What barbarism can be greater or more brutal than that in India, where those who are esteemed wise men pass their lives in nakedness, and endure Caucasian snows and severest frosts without complaint? Nay, when they throw themselves into the fire they burn without a groan. The women, too, when their husbands die, contend amongst each other which was the most beloved (for a plurality of wives is allowed in India); and she who triumphs, overjoyed, proceeds, attended by her friends, to place herself along

* *Deipnosoph. lib. xi. c. 7.*

† *Plut. in Alex. Strabo, lib. xv. Ælian. Var. Hist. lib. v. c. vi. Clc. de Div. c. 23. Val. Max. lib. i. Porphyry, lib. iv. &c. &c.*

‡ *Torpes. c. 5.*

§ *Lib. li. c. 2.*

|| *Tusc. Quæst. l. v. c. 27.*

along with her husband's body, upon the funeral pile; whilst they * who are unsuccessful depart in sorrow.

The next author is Diodorus Siculus, who gives the fullest and most interesting account of the nature and origin of the custom. He speaks of it in two places. In the first† he is relating an expedition of Alexander against the Adrastæ, a people situated, according to Arrian, on the Hydraotes, or Rauwee, one of the rivers of the Punjaub. From thence they reached the region of the Cathays,‡ who also appear to have inhabited the Punjaub. "Amongst this people," the historian observes, "there was a law that married women should be burned with their deceased husbands. This institution took its rise amongst these barbarians from the crime of one wife, who destroyed her husband by poison." This expedition took place in the second year of the 103d Olympiad, or B. C. 327. The following is the other account given by Diodorus, of the ceremony, which he characterizes as "an unheard-of crime, and abhorrent from Grecian laws and customs."§

Ceteus, the leader of those (troops) which came from India, having fallen bravely fighting in battle, left in the camp two wives, who had been the companions of his military expedition; one of them had been but recently espoused (*νύμφη*), the other had entered the marriage-state (*ἐμνηστευσα*) some years before. Both loved their husband with extreme affection. According to the ancient law of the Indians, men and virgins, who directed their thoughts towards marriage, contracted that relation, not by the judgment of parents, but by mutual consent; and whereas in early times, in marriages between young people, it happened that false opinions were formed of each other, and repentance soon after appeared, many wives became thereby corrupted, and followed other men. In the end, not being able to accomplish their objects by honest means, they took off their husbands by poison. For such a purpose, this country affords not a few means, as it produces many and various plants|| of deadly qualities, some of which, slightly mingled in food or drink, occasion speedy death. This wicked practice increasing, and many falling victims to it, and the punishment of the guilty not serving to deter others from the commission of this crime, a law was passed that wives should be burned with their deceased husbands, except such as were pregnant, or who had children; and that any individual who refused to comply with this law, should be compelled to remain a widow, and be for ever excluded from all rights and privileges whatsoever, as guilty of impiety. This measure being adopted, it followed that the abominable disposition to which the wives were addicted was converted into an opposite feeling. For, in order to avoid that climax of disgrace, every wife being obliged to die, they not only took all possible care of their husband's safety (which indeed concerned their own), but emulated each other in promoting his glory and renown. Such was the result of this law on the present occasion. Although the law required that one wife only should be burned with the body, yet both the wives of Ceteus approached his bier, desirous of sacrificing themselves as a tribute to his superior virtue. The matter became a question of dispute before the chiefs. The younger wife alleged that the other was pregnant, and therefore was prohibited from burning by law. The elder maintained that, out of regard to her seniority, she ought to have the privilege of burning; since in other things, the elder wives had more claim to honour and reverence than the younger. The chiefs, however, finding from the testimony of those who were skilled in the obstetric science, that the elder wife was really pregnant, decided in favour of the younger. Whereat she who had lost her cause departed weeping, rendering the

* According to the judicious, and indeed indispensable, reading of Bentley.

† Lib. xvii. c. 91.

‡ The critics prefer *Kabaiar*, here, to *Kabagōv*, which is the reading of all the copies. The former agrees with the text of other authors. The name refers probably to the Cahatriyas, or Rajpoots.

§ Lib. xix. cc. 32, 33.

The *Datura* was used for such purposes, and it is to be feared is sometimes so employed at the present day. See Dr. Fleming's Catalogue of Indian Plants. *As. Res.*

the veil which covered her head, and tearing her hair, as if some great calamity had been communicated to her. The other, rejoicing at her success, proceeded to the funeral pile, crowned by the females of her household with mitres (*mitres*). She was decked with other ornaments, as if for a nuptial festival, and was attended by her relations chaunting a song in praise of her virtue. As soon as she reached the pile, she took the ornaments from her person, and distributed them amongst her attendants and friends, as memorials, one would say, of her affection. The ornaments consisted of a multitude of rings upon her fingers, set with precious stones of various colours. Upon her head was no small number of stars of gold, discriminated by means of stones of all kinds. About her neck were many gems, some small, and the rest gradually increasing to a larger size. At length, having embraced her family, she was placed upon the pile by her brother, and to the great astonishment of the people, who assembled to witness the ceremony, she terminated thus heroically her life. Before the pile was lighted, the whole army, in military array, marched three times round it.* The widow bending towards her husband's body, uttered no pusillanimous cry when the flames began to roar; which excited towards her the pity of some of the spectators, whilst others extolled her resolution. There were not wanting, however, individuals amongst the Greeks, who condemned this custom as cruel and inhuman.

The date of this occurrence is the first year of the 106th Olympiad, or B.C. 314. We have, therefore, in these two instances, demonstrative evidence of the prevalence, and even antiquity, of the suttee ceremony in India, more than 2,150 years ago.

The next author in rotation is Strabo, who refers to it incidentally, in speaking of the people of India, in these terms:†

It is related, moreover, of the inhabitants of Cathay (*Kassian*), that man and wife select each other by mutual choice. Also that wives burn with their deceased husbands, from this cause, namely, that the former, in early times, falling in love with younger men, withdrew from their husbands, or took them off by poison. Wherefore, to put a stop to these poisonings, this law was passed: but neither the law nor the custom appears to me very probable (*in u. d. d. d.*).

I may here properly interpose a remark, that it is somewhat extraordinary that neither Arrian, Quintus Curtius, nor Pliny, gives any account of the suttee rite, although the latter is copious and absurd enough in his details of Indian matters. Arrian, indeed, who took his facts chiefly from Megasthenes, the contemporary of Alexander, tells us‡ that it was not his object to describe exactly the laws and institutions of the Indians, but the historical events of Alexander's expedition. Quintus Curtius§ reports the practice of voluntary cremation amongst the Indian philosophers; and Ælian|| gives a particular account of the self-immolation of a Brahmin named Calanus, in the presence of Alexander and his army; but neither alludes to widow-burnings.

The poet Propertius celebrates this act of devotion, on the part of Indian females, in the following elegant verses:¶—

*Felix Eois lex funeris una maritis,
Quos Aurora suis rubra colorat equis.
Namque ubi mortifero jacta est fax ultima lecto,
Uxorum positis stat pia turba comis:
Et certamen habent leti, quæ viva sequatur
Conjugium: pudor est, non licuisse mori.
Gaudent ** victrices, et flammæ pectora præbent,
Imponuntque suis ora perusta viris.*

In

* This was a Greek custom. See Hom. *Il.* v. 13, and Virgil, *Æn.* xl. 188.

† *Geogr. lib.* xv.

‡ *Lib.* viii. c. 17.

§ *De Rob. Gest. Alex. lib.* viii. c. ix.

|| *Var. Hist. lib.* v. c. vi.

¶ *Lib.* iii. *El.* xl. Ed. Burmann. *El.* xlii. Ed. Vulp.

** Some read *Ardent*.

In plain prose: Eastern husbands are favoured by this funeral law; that when they die, ere the torch is applied to the fatal pile, their wives, who stand around it with dishevelled hair, maintain a deadly contest for the honour of accompanying their husband: for it is a disgrace not to die with him. The exulting victor courts the devouring flames, and expires with her burning cheek upon her husband's corpse.

Valerius Maximus is the next author. In speaking of the resolution of certain nations, he says:—

But wherefore should I praise men as bravest in this sort of courage? The wives of the Indians are commemorated, who, when several are married to one man, according to the custom of the country, upon their husband's death dispute and contend with each other which loved him best. The victor, exulting with delight, and led by her friends displaying cheerful countenances, throws herself into the flames of her husband, and is joyfully consumed with him. The unsuccessful candidates live oppressed with grief and sorrow. The boldness of the Cimbrians, the constancy of the Celtiberians, the resolute wisdom of the Thracians, and the crafty prudence of the Lycians in despising sorrow, are not comparable to this Indian sacrifice, wherein the pious wife ascends the pile in the face of instant death, as if it were a nuptial couch.

Solinus, a writer of uncertain date, supposed to be of the third century, who professes to take his facts from Megasthenes, whose history was extant in his time, says † (so far as his meaning is intelligible), as follows:

Among these people (the Indians) several wives marry one man, and in the event of his death, they plead before grave judges their merit in respect to him, and she who succeeds in obtaining their judgment, gains the privilege of ascending the pile of her husband, and sacrificing herself to his manes: the other wives live in obscurity.

Stobæus, a Greek Heathen writer, whose date is A.D. 405, and who is valued for his faithful transcripts from more ancient authors, has the following passage respecting the suttée-practice:‡—

The Indians, when they die, are burnt with one of their wives whom they love most. A great contention takes place between the women on this account, and the friends of each incite her to gain this distinction.

The last writer I shall quote is Servius, the commentator on Virgil, about the same date as Stobæus, who refers to the practice in one of his annotations:§

It was a custom amongst the ancients, as at present in India, that when a king died, the most prized of his horses or slaves, and the most beloved of his wives, were burned with his body. Amongst the latter there was a great contention for this honour.

The preceding are all the passages which I have been able to find respecting the suttée ceremony in the Greek and Roman writers. I have a large collection of extracts from travellers and more recent authorities; but with these I will not trouble you.

I am, &c.

T.

* Lib. c. vi. 14.

† Polyhist. c. 52. Salmasius, *Plin. Ererc. t. l. p. 80*. The voluminous comments with which Salmasius has smothered this author do not always elucidate his meaning. In this passage, by reading and supporting *accendat* instead of *ascendit*, and in *nota*, instead of *ignota*, he totally subverts the sense.

‡ *De Sepulto*, Sermon. 122.

§ *Ad Æn. lib. v. 11*.

PROBABLE DISCOVERY OF THE FATE OF LA PEROUSE.

A **VERY** interesting fact has been announced at Calcutta, namely, the discovery of some vestiges of the celebrated French circumnavigator, La Perouse, respecting whose fate, subsequently to his departure from New South Wales, no particulars have hitherto been learned, notwithstanding the diligent inquiries set on foot by his own government,* and by navigators of other nations. The last newspapers from Calcutta teem with this subject, and from their several statements we extract the following details.

On the 4th September last the Chilian vessel *St. Patrick*, commanded by Peter Dillon, a native of Ireland, arrived at Calcutta, originally from Valparaiso. Capt. Dillon immediately made public the curious fact, that he had obtained, at one of the islands in the South Pacific Ocean, several articles which had evidently belonged to La Perouse or his companions, and that there was reason to believe that some of those unfortunate men were now alive and residing on the Malico Islands, part of the group called the New Hebrides.

The communication was of such importance that the government seems to have promptly taken up the matter, and Capt. Dillon accordingly laid before it a memorial, from which we extract the following particulars:—

It appears that in September 1813, when Capt. Dillon was an officer in the Bengal ship *Hunter*, he visited the isles called Feejee, forming part of the Friendly Islands, on a voyage from Calcutta to New South Wales and Canton. Several Europeans were then living on these islands; but in an affray with the natives, all the foreigners on shore were killed except Mr. Dillon, a native of Prussia, and an Englishman belonging to the *Hunter*. The Prussian (who had been a resident amongst the Feejees) and a lascar, who had married a Feejee woman, took refuge on board the *Hunter*, and begged of the captain to land them at the first place he touched at on his route to Canton. This proved to be the island called Barwell Island in the charts, but by the natives Tucopia, in lat. 12° 15' S., long. 169° E. The lascar and his wife were accordingly put ashore and left on this island.

On the 13th May 1826, Capt. Dillon, then in command of his own ship, the *St. Patrick*, bound from Valparaiso to Pondicherry, came in sight of Tucopia, and hove to, in order to ascertain whether the persons left there in 1813 were alive. Shortly after, two canoes put off and came alongside the *St. Patrick*, in one of which was the lascar, and in the other Martin Buchert, the Prussian, both in perfect health. We now quote Capt. Dillon's own expressions. "The lascar had an old silver sword-guard, which he sold for a few fishing hooks to some of my people. I inquired of the Prussian where it had come from: he told me, that on his first arrival on the island, he saw in possession of the natives this sword-guard, several chain-plates belonging to a ship, also a number of iron bolts, five axes, the handle of a silver fork, a few knives, tea-cups, glass beads and bottles, one silver spoon with a crest and cipher, and a sword, all of French manufacture. He further stated, that as soon as he became sufficiently acquainted with the language, he asked the natives how they obtained those articles, as they said that the *Hunter* was the first

* The National Assembly passed a decree on the 9th February 1791, the object of which was to urge foreign powers to make inquiries respecting Perouse and the crews of the *Boussole* and *Astrolabe*, engaging to indemnify and reward all persons who should afford assistance to the unfortunate navigators; the king was also requested to despatch an expedition in search of them.

first ship they ever had any communication with. They replied, that about two days' sail in their canoes to leeward, there was a large group of islands, under the general name Malicolo, to which they were frequently in the habit of making voyages, and that they obtained these articles from the inhabitants of the Malicolo Islands, who had a number of similar articles in their possession. Upon examining the sword-guard minutely, I discovered, or think I discovered, the initials of Perouse stamped on it, which excited my suspicion, and made me more exact in my inquiries. I then, by means of Buchert and the lascar, questioned some of the islanders respecting the way in which their neighbours procured the silver and iron articles. They then told me that the natives of Malicolo stated, that many years ago, two large ships arrived at their island: one anchored at the island of Whanoo, and the other at the island of Païow, a little distance from each other. Some time after they anchored, and before they had any communication with the natives, a heavy gale arose, and both vessels were driven ashore. The ship that was anchored off Whanoo grounded upon the rocks. The natives came in crowds to the sea-side, armed with clubs, spears, and bows and arrows, and shot some arrows into the ship; the crew, in return, fired the guns and some musketry on them, and killed several. The vessel continuing to beat violently against the rocks, shortly went to pieces: some of the crew took to their boats, but were driven on shore, where they were to a man murdered, on landing, by the infuriated natives; others threw themselves into the sea, but if they reached the land it was only to share the fate of their wretched comrades, so that not a single soul escaped out of this vessel. The ship which grounded on Païow was driven on a sandy beach, and the natives came down and also shot their arrows into her: but the crew prudently did not resent the aggression, but held up axes, beads, and other toys, as peace offerings; upon which the assailants desisted from hostilities. As soon as the wind moderated, an aged chief put off in a canoe to the ship: he was received with caresses, and presents were offered him, which he accepted. He went on shore, pacified his countrymen, and assured them that the people in the ship were good and friendly men: upon which several of the natives came on board, and were all presented with toys; they soon supplied the crew with yams, fowls, bananas, coco-nuts, hogs, &c., and confidence was established between them. The crew of the vessel were obliged to abandon her, and went on shore, bringing with them a great part of their stores. They remained for some time, and built a small vessel from the wreck of the large one. As soon as the small craft was ready to sail, as many as could conveniently get room embarked, being plentifully supplied with fresh provisions by the islanders. Several of their shipmates were left behind, and the commander promised to return speedily with presents for the natives, and to bring off the remainder of his crew; but she was never heard of afterwards by the islanders. Those who remained of the crew distributed themselves among various chiefs, with whom they resided until death. There had been left several muskets and some gunpowder by their comrades, and by means of these they were of great service to their friends in battle against the neighbouring islanders."

To this statement of the islanders the following confirmatory facts are added:—Capt. Dillon spoke with some of the people who manned the canoe which made the last voyage to Malicolo, who said that there were abundance of iron materials from the wrecks still remaining on the islands; and Capt. D. procured the sword-guard referred to, as well as some glass beads, and a silver ring which had been made by Buchert from a spoon brought from the wrecks.

The

The lascar had gone once or twice to Malicolo with the Tucopians, and he positively affirmed (Capt. Dillon states) that he had seen and conversed with two of the Europeans on Paiow, who spoke the language of the islanders. "They were old men, he said, and told him that they had been wrecked several years ago in one of the ships; the remnants they shewed him. They told him also, that no ship had touched at the islands since they had been on them; that most of their comrades were dead, but they had been so much scattered among the various islands, that they could not tell precisely how many of them were alive at the time." The lascar added that they were Frenchmen.

Capt. Dillon, upon learning these facts, determined to proceed to the Malicolos, and endeavoured, though in vain, to prevail upon the lascar to accompany him. Buchert, however agreed to go, and also a native of Tucopia. Upon making the islands, the provisions on board the *St. Patrick* were nearly exhausted, and the vessel had become leaky, owing to which cause, and to the remonstrances of a person on board who was interested in the cargo, Capt. D. was constrained to abandon his interesting object at the very moment it was within his reach, and took advantage of a favourable breeze to proceed to Calcutta, which he reached with some difficulty.

He brought with him Buchert, who is a valuable evidence to the accuracy of his statement, and the articles he procured at Tucopia. The sword-guard, which was closely examined at Calcutta, is described as follows:—It is of silver, old fashioned, diamond cut, and ornamented with cordons upon the margin. A French artist recognized it, from its peculiar workmanship, as one of the articles executed in a manufactory at Versailles about forty years ago, and conjectured that it might have been a present from Louis XVI. Upon the upper surface of the guard, within a small space, about a quarter of an inch square, very delicately and beautifully executed, is discovered a cipher quite distinct, in which, by the help of a clear magnifier, may be discerned J. F. G. La Perouse.* The capital letters are very plain, and the others are easily traceable from their combinations. Impressed upon the opposite half of the guard, appears a capital P. surmounted with a coronet ornamented with the *fleur de lis*. At the upper portion of the guard, immediately above the opening intended for the admission of the blade, is perceived a cross between the letters F. M. F., surmounted by the remains of the masonic emblems, the *square* and compasses. It is conjectured that this mark indicates the unfortunate navigator to have belonged to that fraternity, the letters forming the initials of *Franc Maçon Frere*. Upon the inferior surface of the guard is also perceptible a small anchor, which is however very minute, and not altogether distinct. This relic was worn round the neck of a Tucopian as an ornament!

In consequence of some observations made, by a writer in a Calcutta paper, upon the statement of Capt. Dillon, the latter published a letter, containing a variety of observations calculated to shew the probability of the Malicolos being the scene where the *Boussole* and the *Astrolabe* were wrecked. The Malicolos of Cook, he says, are not the same as those of the Tucopians; the former are described as distant by the charts from Tucopia 265 miles, whereas the Malicolos of the Tucopians are only 155 miles † from their island. The Whanoo and

* The name of the French navigator was Jean François Galaup de la Perouse.

† So says the printed letter in the *Bengal Hurkaru*, but we apprehend it should be *fifty-five* miles only. An article on this subject in the *Government Gazette* states that the Malicolos of Capt. Dillon are in the same latitude as Tucopia, and sixty miles distant. The Malicolos of Cook are in lat. 16° 18'. The blunders

and Païow of the Tucopians are the Oury and Edgcombe Islands of the charts. He adds the following observations :—" It will be recollected that La Perouse lost at Port de Français, on the N. W. coast of America, in the early part of his voyage, three [two] boats and boats' crews, which were upset in a surf on crossing a bar ; amongst the unfortunate sufferers his nephew paid the debt of nature ; he also lost Capt. de Langle and several officers at the Navigator's Islands ; therefore, at that period, he must have been rather short of officers, and it is most probable that those who had escaped from the frigate wrecked at Païow, embarked in the small vessel built there. It would then be very unlikely that the sailors left behind, who knew nothing of navigation, could possibly attempt a voyage to Port Jackson in a Malicolo canoe. Another thing is, the natives of the South Sea Islands, whenever they get a European among them possessed of a musket and gunpowder, will never allow him to depart from their islands, he being a terror to their enemies. I have known numerous instances of this nature to occur on various islands in the Pacific. We have no account on record of any two large ships being lost at the same time, unless it were those under the command of La Perouse. Do not the Tucopians, Martin Buchert, and the lascar, account for it in the most satisfactory manner possible ? Can it be for a moment supposed that the lascar, Martin Buchert, and the innocent and unoffending Tucopians, without any interested view or motives, would attempt to establish such a story ? Moreover, the lascar informed me that one of the Frenchmen living on Païow was the armourer of the ship wrecked upon that island, and that there were eight brass cannon and two anchors lying on the beach at Païow, nearly covered over with sand. It is not out of a Port Jackson sandal-wood craft those brass guns could be procured, neither could it be one of that class of vessels that could account for the number of skulls which are now in the spirit house* at Whanoo." Capt. Dillon concludes his letter with expressing his confident belief that the unfortunate French navigator terminated his career either at Païow or Whanoo.

Before we state the *à priori* arguments offered in the Calcutta papers to support the probability of this conjecture, so strongly recommended by the facts alleged by Capt. Dillon, it is desirable to furnish the reader with a brief outline of the proceedings of La Perouse up to the time of his arrival at Botany Bay, which is taken from the preface to the work published at the expense of the French Government.†

The expedition, consisting of two frigates, the *Boussole* and the *Astrolabe*, the former commanded by de la Perouse, the latter by de Langle, sailed from Brest in the month of August 1785. The plan of the expedition was drawn up by the king himself. The vessels touched at Madeira and Teneriffe, and arrived on the coast of Brazil in November of the same year. From thence they proceeded round Cape Horn into the South Sea, and anchored in the Bay of Concepcion, on the Chili Coast, in February 1786. They proceeded thence to Easter Island, or Davis's Land, which they reached in April, and from thence steered directly to the Sandwich Islands. The expedition then sailed to explore the coast of North America. In June the vessels anchored at

blunders of the *Hurkaru* are extremely annoying. They occasionally betray almost incredible ignorance. In copying an article respecting Perouse which appears in the *Government Gazette* (and to which we shall hereafter refer), wherein " New Hebrides " is by a typographical error printed " *New Hebrides*," throughout the article, the *Hurkaru* servilely adopts this glaring mistake.

* This is a building appropriated to the disembodied spirits of deceased persons supposed to reside there.

† Entitled " *Voyage autour du Monde, par J. F. G. de la Perouse.*" 3 vols. 4to. Paris, 1798.

at Port Français, in lat. $58^{\circ} 37' N.$, where the boats were wrecked, to which allusion is made by Capt. Dillon. M. de la Perouse subsequently proceeded southward, to California, and in September he cast anchor in Monterrey Bay, on the coast of New Albion, whence he stood across the Pacific, and arrived in the roads of Macao in January 1787. In February he reached Manilla, which he quitted in April for the Japan islands. Passing the straits between Corea and Japan, and the coast of Chinese Tartary, which was seen in lat. $42\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, he anchored in a bay of the island Saghalien, or Tchoka, and thence proceeded still further to the northward, up the channel between that island and the continent, as far as lat. $51^{\circ} 29'$. He then returned, and reached the southern extremity of Saghalien in August. He passed the strait which divides this island from Jesso, which has since been named Perouse Strait, and entering the North Pacific, anchored in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, on the isthmus of Kamchatka, in September. Here the ships were refitted, and thence proceeded to Navigator's Islands, which they reached in December, and anchored in the bay of Maoune. Here M. de Langle, M. de Lamanon the naturalist, and ten men of the *Astrolabe*, lost their lives in a conflict with the natives. From this place Perouse proceeded to New Holland, and arrived at Botany Bay in January 1788. Here he built two long boats to replace those he had lost, and quitted the Bay on March 10th. Nothing has been known respecting his later proceedings, except what is stated in a letter, the last received from him, dated 7th February 1788, whilst at Botany Bay, wherein he says: "I shall bear up again for the Friendly Isles, and shall fulfil most strictly all my instructions respecting the southern portion of New Caledonia, the Isle Santa Cruz of Mendana, the southern coast of the Arsacides of Surville, and the Louisiade of Bougainville, attempting to determine whether the last is separated from, or part of, New Guinea. I shall proceed about the end of July, between New Guinea and New Holland, by a different passage from that of the *Endeavour*, if any such exist. During September and October I shall explore the Gulf of Carpentaria, and the eastern coast of New Holland to Van Diemen's Land, but only so far as to enable me to return to the northward in time to reach the Isle of France by the beginning of December 1788."

There can be no doubt that the French navigator, therefore, shaped his course, in the first instance, to the north, although, as he was detained so long at Botany Bay, it is possible he might have thought it unnecessary to return to the "Friendly Isles," having sufficiently explored them on his previous visit. As it is probable that something would have been heard of him if he had ever returned to the eastern coast of New Holland, it seems equally so that it was in the early part of his course he was lost. The navigation to the Friendly Isles was through an open sea; but when it deflected westward, towards New Caledonia, it became intricate with islets and rocks, in which such a catastrophe as is said in Capt. Dillon's narrative to have occurred, was every where to be apprehended. It is not, however, from the general course of the voyage, that a deduction favourable to the correctness of his account may be drawn, but from its actually comprehending the places where the vessels are said to have been lost. From the Friendly Isles, Perouse was to sail to New Caledonia, in doing which he would necessarily pass the southern extremity of the New Hebrides, or the Isles de Saint Esprit, in which Malicolo, Whanoo, and Païow are situated, or he might have attempted a passage through them, which led to his loss. Again, from New Caledonia he was directed to proceed to Queen Charlotte's Isles, and to examine particularly the

the southern extension of Santa Cruz, the Egmont of that Archipelago, or by some included amongst the Solomon's Isles, or the Arsacides of Surville, the next object of Perouse's navigation. Both before and after his visit to New Caledonia, therefore, his course must have laid immediately in and about the position of those islands in which the vestiges of his fate are still said to be traceable, and which lie between the eastern or southern extremity of New Caledonia and Queen Charlotte's Archipelago.

The judicious writer* by whom the foregoing arguments are employed, adds various confirmations of the account given by Capt. Dillon, deduced from such slender information as D'Entrecasteaux acquired, who seems to have performed his task with very culpable neglect, or with little judgment. He visited New Caledonia, Santa Cruz, the Arsacides, and Louisiade, the places mentioned in La Perouse's letter; but although he passed close to the south, and not far to the west, of the New Hebrides, he never attempted even to communicate with these islands. Besides Perouse's letter, there were reasons which might have induced him to think that his countryman, of whom he was in search, had been lost in this part of his homeward voyage. Labillardiere, in his account of the expedition, says, "it is not unnatural to suppose, notwithstanding we could obtain no accounts of our unfortunate countrymen, during our stay on New Caledonia, that this dangerous and almost inaccessible coast proved fatal to them;" and, in fact, a double canoe was found on the north coast of Caledonia, which had come from the eastward, a day's sail from an island called Aouvea, one of the benches of which was coated with white paint, and was evidently part of some European vessel. D'Entrecasteaux does not notice this circumstance, in his journal published several years after Labillardiere's work, by Lieut. de Rossel, although he relates the arrival of the canoe from Hohoua, or Aouvea, in nearly the same terms, and particularizes its situation, as lying E.N.E., precisely the bearing of the New Hebrides from the coast of New Caledonia. What made the matter still more suspicious was, that when questioned about this part of their equipment, the savages of this canoe set sail to the west, promising to return with additional information, but never re-appeared. D'Entrecasteaux says, "the departure of these people caused me much regret, for I had hopes of deriving from them some further information than we had been able to procure from the inhabitants of New Caledonia." Labillardiere supposes them to have come from a small island off the coast of Caledonia, named by the expedition the Isle of Beau-pré; but this is a mere guess, and the vessel might have come from the Malicolo groupe, where the vessels of La Perouse are said to have been wrecked.

With reference to a report published in the *Asiatic Journal* for October 1825,† of a whaler having found French swords, medals, and a cross of St. Louis, at some island between New Caledonia and New Guinea, the same writer observes, that this nameless island, though said to be exactly half-way between New Guinea and New Caledonia, may be nearer to the site suggested by Captain Dillon than appears from such a loose report; or, if the place be correctly designated, the party that left the islands, and the major part of the crew, might have been lost there, as it lies in the track they would probably have followed in order to make the nearest Dutch settlements.

A valuable letter of Commodore Hayes, on this subject, appears in one of the Calcutta papers, in which the experienced writer mentions several geographical facts connected with this portion of the Pacific, which he examined in

1793

* The Editor of the Calcutta Government Gazette.

† Vol. XX. p. 438.

1793 (in particular, he states that the Louisiade forms no part of the main land of New Guinea, a fact ascertained by him); and he concludes by declaring in favour of the account given by Capt. Dillon, and that he is satisfied Perouse and his companions were wrecked on the Malicolo Islands.

The Bengal Government, with a laudable degree of promptitude, has despatched the H.C.'s ship *Research*, under the command of Capt. Dillon, on a voyage to the eastward, in order to make search after the vestiges of La Perouse. Dr. Tytler accompanies the expedition as surgeon and naturalist, with instructions to record the proceedings of the voyage. We hope, therefore, in a short time to receive further intelligence upon this subject, which will set this very interesting question completely at rest.

The Calcutta journals contain many particulars respecting the natives of Tucopia and of the Malicos; but as these people are not very much discriminated from those of the adjoining archipelagos, and as we shall probably be furnished shortly with fuller details concerning these islands, we forbear from extending this article by inserting what relates to them.

We have just seen some communications upon this subject from the French authorities at Chandernagore, which have appeared in the Paris papers. The principal document is a report from Capt. Cordier to the Administrator General of the French Establishments in India (Vicomte de Richemont), relative to the statement of Capt. Dillon, who is said by M. Cordier to be a Frenchman born at Martinico, and who was closely interrogated, as well as the Prussian sailor, by the French authorities. The facts we have already stated are confirmed in the report, except as respects the sword-guard. Capt. Cordier says that this guard or shell was closely examined with a microscope; that it is of French workmanship, but that the letter P. could not be distinguished on it, though J. F. G. were distinct; that the *fleur de lis* could be seen by no one; that the letters were surmounted by a sword, with a crown over it. He adds: "several captains observed that this shell could not have belonged to an officer of the French navy, since it was of silver, which was not the uniform." Capt. C. at the same time declares, that he had seen at Brest, before the Revolution, retired officers of the navy with silver-hilted swords.

It further appears, from these papers, that a communication had been made last year to the French government, by an American Captain, of traces of La Perouse in the quarter mentioned by Capt. Dillon, and that the corvette *Astrolabe* (a singular coincidence) was in consequence despatched thither from Toulon, in April 1826, on a voyage of discovery. If due diligence has been used, this vessel will have reached the spot long before the *Research*.

Some French gentlemen have been permitted by the Bengal Government to join the expedition in the *Research*; amongst whom is M. Chaigneau, nephew of the Cochin Chinese Mandarin, now retired to his native soil, and from whom, or his companion, M. Vannier, we anxiously expect some information respecting the country in which they were so long domiciliated.

THE REVENUE SYSTEMS OF BENGAL AND MADRAS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : I find it stated in Mr. Auber's work on the Constitution of the East-Company, p. 273, under the head of "Bengal," that the provisions of the Bengal Regulation XLI, A.D. 1793, were extended in 1803 to the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under the Bengal presidency.

The dates of the acquisition of the several provinces under the presidency of Madras are not given in Mr. Auber's work. The latest acquisition was in 1801.

In 1799 power was given by the Act of the 39 and 40 Geo. III. c. 79, to the Governor in Council at Madras, to frame regulations, on the principles of the Act 37 Geo. III. c. 142, which adopts and incorporates into its provisions the principles set forth in the Preamble to the Regulation XLI, A.D. 1793, of the Bengal Code. Under this power, a code of regulations, prepared by Colonel Leith, Judge Advocate General, was printed and published at Madras; and under its provisions criminal courts were established generally, in 1802, in the provinces subject to that presidency. The civil courts, in the first instance, were established in the old territories only, that is, in those acquired previously to 1799, in which the revenue had been permanently settled.

In 1803 and 1804, the Governor in Council at Madras discussed the expediency of extending the benefits of civil courts to all the provinces under the Madras presidency; and on a reference to Bengal, Marquess Wellesley, then Governor-General, decided for the adoption of the measure, giving (amongst other powerful arguments in its favour) the following :* "that it can never be desirable that the Government itself should act as the proprietor of the lands, and should collect the rents from the immediate cultivators of the soil. If any difference should arise between the landholders and the tenants regarding engagements or usages, the courts of judicature will form the proper tribunals for deciding such differences. These questions are of private right, in which the executive authority cannot interfere consistently with justice, policy, or its own interests." Accordingly the Marquess announces to the Governor in Council at Madras that he has carried into execution, in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under Bengal, the measures he directs to be adopted at Madras; in other words, that he has extended the Bengal Code to the newly acquired provinces under Bengal, and directs the Madras Code to be extended to all the provinces under Madras.

I find it stated in Mr. Auber's work, p. 284, that the Court of Directors, in 1814, pointed out to the Governors in Council in Bengal and at Madras the defects which they considered to exist in the administration of civil justice in British India, as provided for under the Codes of Regulations above referred to: but the alterations *ordered* to be made at the same time, in the prevailing and previously approved revenue system at Madras,† are not stated in that work. They were,

1st. The discontinuance of all permanent or temporary engagements with intermediate agents for the collection of the land-revenue.

2dly. The collection of the land-revenue every where in money from each individual

* See page 930, vol. iv. *Selections*, 1826.

† See letter of 19th September 1798, to Bengal, in Harington's *Analyst*.

individual cultivator of the soil, by means of a salaried head of the village, and a large provincial establishment of stipendiary native collectors.*

3dly. The granting of civil jurisdictions, in questions connected with the administration of the land-revenue, to the European collectors of that revenue.

4th. The granting of the full powers of a magistrate to the European collector, and, to a certain extent, to his native stipendiary collectors, including, subsequently, the power to inflict corporal punishment.†

5th. The making the European collector superintendent of police, and all his native servants employed in the collection of the revenue, instruments of police.‡

6th. The granting of a power to the European collectors, and by delegation to his native stipendiary servants, to remodel the entire assessment of the land revenue; to commute all customary payments in kind for payments in money, and all variable money rates for fixed money rates; including the power to remit or collect these rates in full, according to the means of the people in the formation of annual ryotwar settlements of the land revenue.

The readers of Sir Thomas Munro's and Sir John Malcolm's writings, must have been struck with the objections these great authorities have to the Bengal judicial system, and to the introduction of courts under that system into newly acquired territories. But Marquess Wellesley, a great authority also, did establish these courts in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under Bengal, immediately, or very early after, their acquisition.

The regulations enacted for the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under the Bengal Government, in the full spirit of Regulation XLI, 1793, of the Bengal Code, adopted by the Legislature of Great Britain in the Act of the 37 Geo. III, rendered collectors amenable for their acts, as revenue officers, to the local civil courts; defined and limited their powers in assessing and collecting the various branches of revenue; withheld from them all civil jurisdiction, all magisterial and police powers.

No regulation has been enacted at Madras, that I can discover, for the guidance of collectors in *assessing* the land revenue, in making commutations of payments in kind for payments in money, or for collecting the annual ryotwar revenue settlements; so that the provisions of Regulation I., 1802, promulgated under the sanction and on the principle of the 37 Geo. III, which requires that a regulation be enacted when such powers are to be executed, have not been obeyed.

If any orders have been issued for the guidance of collectors in making ryotwar surveys and assessments, they must have materially affected "the rights, persons, or property of the natives;" and under Regulation I., 1802, it was declared, "that it was essential to the future prosperity of the British territories, that all regulations which may be passed by Government, affecting in any respect the rights, persons, or property of their subjects, should be formed into a regular code, and printed with translations in the country languages; that the grounds on which each regulation may be enacted should be affixed to it; and that the courts of justice should be bound to regulate their

* Heads of villages never collected the revenue when it was paid in kind; a very large portion of the public revenue was, by custom, payable in kind, before ryotwar money-rates were introduced.

† See Regulation IV. 1831, Madras Code.

‡ Heads of villages, besides being collectors of revenue, local magistrates, and police officers, are judges with power to try civil suits to a certain amount, and to fine and confine.

their decisions by the rules and ordinances which these regulations may contain. A code of regulations," it is added, "founded on the above principles, will enable individuals to render themselves acquainted with the laws upon which the security of the many inestimable privileges and immunities granted to them by the British Government depends, and the mode of obtaining redress against every infringement of them," &c. &c.

Leaving to others, whose duty it may be, to inquire to whom the neglect, if true, is imputable, I am at present anxious only to obtain, through your valuable work, information as to the result of these two opposite courses of measures. I hope, therefore, some of your intelligent readers, who may possess the information, will inform us what has been the result, in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces in Bengal, of the principles of Government as introduced by Marquess Wellesley, contrasted with the result of a directly opposite course of measures, such as have been explained above, introduced under the presidency of Madras, at the recommendation and under the influence of Sir Thomas Munro.

R. R.

TEACHING OF HINDOOSTANEE.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: The tone of the article on the "Education of Cadets," in your last number, induces me to trouble you with one or two friendly hints, which may perhaps suffice to excite, on your part, a constant vigilance lest multiplied articles, on the "merits of Dr. Gilchrist," all from the same source, should be imposed upon you under the disguise of different signatures. From some expressions in the letter alluded to, I began to suspect that it might have emanated from the learned equivocalist himself;* but though the phrases "you have editorially spoken of"—"the axiom"—"is continually manifest"—and other traces of verbal prodigality are sufficiently pedantic,—still the absence of absurd digression, the introduction of some statements which are to the point, and, above all, the occurrence of a few sentences, in which regard to unity of composition is perceptible, forcibly tend to explode the suspicion that there can be any identity between the author of the encomium and the subject of it.

Dr. Gilchrist's merit is, to have been the first to construct a Hindoostanee Grammar available to the learner, and most eligible when there was no other: his demerit is, to have clogged and deformed this with an obscure surplusage of words, and with an overlaying mixture of rambling impertinence, as it respects both the materials and the method. These pernicious vagaries of the tutor grievously retard the pupil. The same may be said of his other publications. Hence the professors of Fort William College adopt his principles, and discard his works; and other professors cannot do better than follow their example.

SUUM CUIQUE.

London, 7th April 1827.

. Other communications on this subject have reached us; but as we have now inserted a letter on each side of the question, we decline, for obvious reasons, admitting more.

* We happen to know that the writer of the letter is an officer in the Bengal artillery.—Ed.

DEPENDENCIES OF THE MAURITIUS.*

BEGINNING from the east, and proceeding northwards, the isles and islets dependent upon Mauritius are the following :—

RODRIGUES.

This island, situated in $19^{\circ} 40' 40''$ S. lat., and $63^{\circ} 11' 20''$ E. long., is distant about 300 miles, from point to point, from the island of Mauritius, in a direction E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. It is about eighteen miles from E. to W., and three or four from N. to S.; it contains only 9,000 acres of land adapted for cultivation; the western portion of the island being almost entirely composed of sand and coral, without a supply of water fit to drink. There are two anchorages; one in a safe and commodious harbour in the northern part of the island; the other, which is merely a cove, with a narrow winding entrance, is on the south side. The number of inhabitants on Rodriguez is 123; viz. whites 20, free persons 3, slaves 100. No civil or military establishment has existed there since 1824.

ST. BRANDON, OR CARGADOS CARAYOS.

On the bank of St. Brandon, which is seventy-two miles in circumference, extending about twenty-seven miles from E. to W. and twelve miles from N. to S., are twelve \dagger islets, forming five separate groups, from one to two leagues apart from each other. This bank, situated in $16^{\circ} 26'$ S. lat., and $59^{\circ} 35'$ E. long., is distant (its most southern point) from Port Louis about 246 miles, in a direction N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. All the islets are merely masses of coral, more or less elevated above the water, calculated solely to shelter the crews of small vessels employed in the fishery, which is very abundant, and is carried on, throughout the whole extent of the bank, by persons to whom the Mauritius Government has given a private right in these islets. These persons, six in number, have no permanent establishment on them; there is therefore no fixed population here, nor any civil or military establishment whatsoever.

On the 19th March 1826, during a hurricane which lasted eighteen hours, but which was not felt at the Mauritius, four of these islets disappeared, and a fifth, named l'Isle aux Cocos, was separated into two. The crews of two boats, which happened to be there and were lost, were obliged to take refuge in the coco-trees, the islet being under water.

DIEGO GARCIA.

This island, which in form resembles a horse-shoe, and is twelve miles from N. to S., and six miles in its greatest breadth, forms a capacious bay, capable of containing a great number of vessels in safety. It is situated in $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., $72^{\circ} 32'$ E. long., distant from Mauritius 1,176 miles, N.E. 5° E. It produces abundance of coco-trees, and is not unprovided with fire-wood; but the water, which is procured by means of wells dug in the sand, is brackish, though not unwholesome.

The property of this island was granted to and shared amongst three inhabitants of the Mauritius, by a decree of 2d May 1809, on condition of receiving

* Compiled from an official return from the Government of the Mauritius, laid before Parliament agreeably to an address to his Majesty by the House of Commons, and printed by order of the House, 27th February 1827.

\dagger There is an error in the Parliamentary paper in this place: the copy of the original documents, which are in French, has *douze*; the translation, which accompanies them, says *six*. The latter is doubtless incorrect; the translation is, in fact, miserably executed altogether.

receiving such individuals as might be attacked with leprosy, and were sent thither by Government. These proprietors, who reside at Mauritius, have each an establishment on the island of Diego, conducted by a white manager, who sends them the coco-nuts prepared to make the oil, which is manufactured at the Mauritius. The whole population of the island is 275, viz. whites 6, free persons 14, slaves 218, lepers 37.

Since 1825 one of the managers has been entrusted with the maintenance of order on land and in the roadsted, by a regulation of Government, dated 1st June 1824.

LES SIX ISLES,

So called from their number, are situated in $6^{\circ} 35'$ S. lat., $71^{\circ} 25'$ E. long., and are distant seventy-two miles nearly N. W. from Diego Garcia, and 1,188 miles N. E. from Mauritius. These islets, arranged like a horse-shoe, form an anchorage, eight or nine miles in circumference, the entrance of which is towards the north, with two fathoms and a half of water. Coco-trees are plentiful here, and the fishery is very abundant. The surface of the islets, which is of small extent, is nothing but a compound of sand and coral, very little elevated above the surface of the water. A person from the Mauritius has been settled here for about twenty years, with some negroes, but apparently without a grant for that purpose.

LES TROIS FRÈRES.

Between Les Six Isles and Les Trois Frères, which are about eighteen miles apart, two small islets, not yet named, are situated a little to the west. The most southerly is very dangerous, by reason of the reefs which surround it. The northern one is accessible in its N. W. part. The Trois Frères, like the Six Isles, have taken their name from their number. They are situated in $6^{\circ} 10'$ S. lat., and $71^{\circ} 28'$ E. long., 1,209 miles N. E. some degrees N. from Port Louis. In the centre islet is a cove, where coco-trees, fish, and turtle are in great plenty. The water is procured as in Six Isles and in Diego.

By an act of the 18th May 1823, an inhabitant of the island of Mauritius obtained the proprietorship of these islets, where he has established a manufactory for coco-nut oil. He employs forty-three individuals, viz. : white 1, free persons 2, slaves 35, leprous 5.

ISLES SALOMON, OR ONZE ISLES.

These islets, eleven in number, lie in $5^{\circ} 23'$ S. lat., $72^{\circ} 35'$ E. long., distant 1,275 miles N. E. from the island of Mauritius. The soil upon them is, generally speaking, superior to that of all the others of the archipelago, and they are free from rats, which swarm in the preceding. Besides coco-trees, there is a sort of tree found on them, the wood of which is excellent, and the length of the trunk, as far as the first branches, is sometimes forty feet. One of these isles is seven miles and a half in circumference, another four, two of three miles each, six of two miles each, one of one and a half. They encircle a basin, which affords a good anchorage to vessels of moderate size.

These isles have been granted to private persons, four by act 18th June 1822, and the other seven, by act 1st September 1823; these proprietors employ here ten individuals, of whom nine are slaves.

LES PEROS BANHOS.

These are a cluster of twenty-two islets, situated in $5^{\circ} 23' 30''$ S. lat., and $72^{\circ} 3'$ E. long., about 1,260 miles N. E., a few degrees N. from Port Louis : the largest is not more than two miles long. They form a basin eighteen miles
in

in length by twelve in breadth, having two outlets to the north, one somewhat narrow, the other very dangerous; and a very fine passage to the south.

An inhabitant of the Mauritius, to whom a grant of these islets was confirmed by act 18th May 1823, has formed a very excellent establishment here for the manufacture of oil for fishing, which employs 120 person, *viz.* whites 1, free persons 6, slaves 113.

ISLE LEGOUR.

This island, which was discovered in 1820 by the *Sieur Legour*, is situated in $5^{\circ} 39'$ S. lat., and $72^{\circ} 37'$ E. long., distant from Mauritius N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. about 1,250 miles. Its length is about two miles, its breadth two thirds of a mile; it is divided into two parts by a small canal, one-sixth of a mile broad. Being difficult of access, and having no anchorage, it offers no inducements to settlers. *M. Legour*, to whom it was granted by act 20th Dec. 1820, has, therefore, formed no establishment here. It serves as a retreat to a vast number of turtle and sea-cows.

ISLES GEORGE ET ROQUEPIZ.

These isles, which are placed in $6^{\circ} 20'$, $7^{\circ} 10'$, and $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $60^{\circ} 4'$, $60^{\circ} 45'$, and $63^{\circ} 8'$ E. long., are of very doubtful existence. It is extremely probable that some parts of the bank of *Saya de Malha* being exposed, gave navigators reason to infer the existence of these isles, which, if in existence, cannot be of much value.

From the north, proceeding westward, are the following:—

AGALEGA.

This island, situated in $10^{\circ} 29' 50''$ of S. lat., and $56^{\circ} 55'$ of E. long., is about 561 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. W., some degrees W. from the Mauritius; it is separated into two parts by a canal, nearly 500 toises broad, fordable at low water. It is about eleven miles long, from north to south, by a mile and a half broad, from east to west, and is covered with coco-trees in the centre of three-fifths of its length. It has no vegetative earth, and the water is all brackish, being obtained by means of wells dug in the sand and coral, of which its soil is entirely composed. It is very low and has no anchorage. Nevertheless, an inhabitant of the Mauritius, to whom it was made over by act 28th October 1820, has formed here two excellent manufactories of oil, which employ 199 individuals, *viz.* white 1, free persons 2, slaves 196.

This island, from its situation, has afforded, and still may afford, assistance to navigators.

COETIVI,

Situated in $7^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $56^{\circ} 23'$ E. long., is 768 miles N., 6° W. from Mauritius. It is about nine miles in circumference, and possesses in its N.W. part an anchorage for small vessels, from twenty-five to thirty tons; before which is a roadsted, but with very bad anchorage-ground for large ships. Its soil of sand and coral is mixed with some portions of earth fit for the cultivation of maize, which grows there tolerably well in the 500 or 600 acres adapted for tillage. There is no water but what is drawn from wells, which furnish a brackish kind, as in the other islands reduced to the same expedient for procuring it.

A captain of a merchantman of Mauritius, who obtained the island in 1814, brings thence maize, turtle, and coco-nut oil. He has a small establishment here, where 100 individuals are employed, *viz.* whites 1, free persons 19, slaves 80.

ISLES SEYCHELLES.

These islands, thirty in number, of which several are merely islets, form an archipelago, the most considerable of the dependencies of the island of Mauritius, comprehended between $3^{\circ} 38'$ and $5^{\circ} 45'$ S. lat., and between $55^{\circ} 15'$ and $56^{\circ} 10'$ E. long., distant about 115 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N., $3\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W. from Port Louis. These islands are as follow :—

1. L'Isle Mahé (the principal) having, to the east, and touching it,
2. L'Isle Ste Anne.
3. L'Isle aux Cerfs.
4. L'Isle Anonyme.
5. L'Isle du Sud Est.
6. L'Isle Longue.
7. L'Isle Ronde.
8. L'Isle Moyenne, to the west, very near.
9. L'Isle Thérèse.
10. L'Isle de la Conception.
11. L'Isle aux Vaches Marines.
12. L'Isle aux frégates, the most eastern of this archipelago.
13. L'Isle la Digue.
14. L'Isle Praslin.
15. Les Cousin et Cousine.
- 16, 17, 18. Les Trois Sœurs.
19. L'Isle Ronde.
20. L'Isle Aride.
21. L'Isle Félicité.
22. L'Isle Marianne.
23. L'Isle aux Rescifs.
- 24, 25. Les deux Isles du Nord.
26. L'Isle Denis, the most northern.
27. L'Isle Curieuse.
28. Les Mammelles.
29. L'Isle Silhouette, the most western.
30. L'Isle Plate, the most southern.

Mahé.—This island is from seventy-five to seventy-six miles in circumference; there are 72,768 acres of land granted in it. It is hilly, intersected with ravines, and full of rocks. Its soil is various, and has in general little depth. It is tolerably well watered. In the eastern part, where the town of Mahé is situated, there is a roadstead, capable of holding about thirty vessels of all sizes. The total population of this island is 5,834,* viz. whites 573, free persons 328, slaves 5,159.

The civil establishment of the island consists of an agent of government, whose authority extends to all the islands of this archipelago; an under-agent, who is also collector of the revenue and registrar of slaves; a justice of peace, two assessors, and a clerk; a commissary of police; a land surveyor. The military establishment consists of fifteen gens-d'armes under the orders of the government agent.

Isle Ste. Anne, the most considerable of the islets forming the road of the Seychelles, is about a league to the eastward of Mahé. It has about 1,200 acres

* It will be perceived that the succeeding items make a total of 6,000 : the figures are the same in both parts of the document, so that we cannot remedy the blunder. These disgraceful clerical errors in the official papers are, we are sorry to say, extremely frequent.

acres fit for cultivation, the soil of which is tolerably good. It is inhabited by 246 persons, *viz.* whites 9, free person 1, slaves 236.

Isle aux Cerfs, an islet, near the preceding, and to the south of it, much smaller, and inhabited by only thirty-three persons, *viz.* whites 6, slaves 27.

Isles Anonime and Du Sud Est, very small islands, near the preceding, and to the south of them; they are neither inhabited nor fit to be so.

Isle Longue. This islet, with the succeeding, called *Isles Ronde and Moyenne*, between, and a little to the east of, the islands of *Ste. Anne and aux Cerfs*, form but one sole and very inconsiderable property; they are cultivated and inhabited by twenty-two individuals, *viz.* whites 8, slaves 14.

Isles Thérèse, De la Conception, and Aux Vaches Marines, are islets situated to the west of, and very near to, *l'Isle Mahé*. They are not inhabited.

L'Isle aux Frégates, the most eastern islet of this archipelago; it is not inhabited, and appears little adapted for being so.

L'Isle la Digue. This little islet, three miles in length, by one and a half in breadth, has no more than 2,000 acres of land fit for cultivation, of which 1,454 are granted, and inhabited by 344 individuals, *viz.* whites 74, free persons 30, slaves 240.

A delegate of the civil agent at *Mahé* resides here, with the honorary title of *Commandant du Quartier*.

Isle Praslin, the largest of this archipelago, after *Mahé*, has scarcely more than a third of its soil fit for cultivation. The census gives 2,514 acres of land as granted. There is tolerably good anchorage in the north, between it and *L'Isle Curieuse*. Its population is 408 individuals, *viz.* whites 53, free people 45, slaves 310.

The police here is confided to a *commandant du quartier*, chosen from among the inhabitants by the agent of government, to whom he is subordinate.

Les Cousins et Cousine are two uninhabited islands.

Les Sœurs are three islets of small extent, on which is a population of fifteen individuals only, *viz.* whites 6, slaves 9.

L'Isle Ronde and l'Isle Aride, two uninhabited islands, close to *Praslin*.

L'Isle Félicité, a small island, of little extent, having only thirty-four acres for cultivation, and a population of fifty-two individuals, *viz.* whites 11, free persons 2, slaves 39.

Les Isles Marianne, aux Rescifs, Du Nord, Denis, Curieuse and Mammelles, are all of circumscribed extent and value, and without inhabitants. The two islands *Denis and Curieuse* are the most considerable. The former is about three miles long, by one and a half broad, and has from 500 to 600 acres of land fit for cultivation. The latter is only two miles long, by one broad, and has no more than 150 acres of arable land.

L'Isle Sibouette. This island, which lies very low, is about nine miles in circumference, and 1,515 acres of its land are divided amongst six proprietors. Its population consists of 136 individuals, *viz.* whites 23, free person 1, slaves 112.

L'Isle Plate. This island, which is of small extent and uninhabited, has been hitherto destined for the quarantine of ships which have contagious diseases on board.

LES AMIRANTES.

The archipelago of the *Amirantes* is a collection of eleven small isles or islets, united together by a bank of sand and coral. They are but masses of coral mixed with sand, very little higher than the level of the sea. Their names are as follow :—

L'Islet Africain.

L'Isle

L'Isle Zemire.
 L'Isle D'Arros.
 L'Isle St. Joseph.
 L'Isle Poivre.
 L'Isle des Roches.
 L'Isle de l'Etoile.
 L'Isle Lampériaire.
 L'Isle de la Bondeuse.
 L'Isle Marie Louise.
 L'Isle des Neuf.

The most northerly, l'Islet Africian, is situated in $4^{\circ} 59'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 32'$ E. long.; the most southerly, l'Isle des Neuf, in $6^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 14'$ E. long.; the most easterly, l'Isle Lampériaire, in $5^{\circ} 45'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 46'$ E. long.; the most westerly, l'Isle de la Bondeuse, in $6^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $53^{\circ} 4'$ of E. long. The mean latitude of this archipelago, distant 840 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from the island of Mauritius, is therefore $5^{\circ} 35' 30''$ S., and its east longitude $53^{\circ} 25'$.

These islets are without water, and adapted only for the turtle fishery; they are uninhabited, and frequented in the fishing season merely by a few inhabitants of the Seychelles, to whom some of them have been granted, viz. l'Isle D'Arros, l'Isle St. Joseph, l'Isle Poivre, l'Isle des Roches, l'Isle Marie Louise, and l'Isle des Neuf.

L'ISLE ALPHONSE.

This island, thirty-six miles to the south of the Amirantes, is situated in 7° S. lat. and 53° E. long., about 804 miles N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N.W. from Mauritius. It is larger than any of the islets of the Amirantes, and has an abundant fishery: it was granted to Mr. G. Harrison, by Act 17th December 1820, but as yet it is not inhabited.

ISLE DE LA PROVIDENCE

Is situated in $9^{\circ} 12'$ of S. lat. and $52^{\circ} 17'$ of E. long., about 726 miles N.N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from Mauritius. This island, which is eight miles in length by one in breadth, has no anchorage. There are coco-trees upon it, and several pieces of good soil; but it has no water. It was granted by an Act of 20th July 1817, to an officer of the health department of the island of Mauritius, who engaged to receive and treat there persons attacked with leprosy. In consequence he formed an establishment, wherein are thirty-five individuals, viz. white 1, free persons 7, slaves 25, leprous 2.

LES ISLES JEAN DE NOVE

Are islets, to the number of six, situated in $10^{\circ} 12'$ S. lat., and $15^{\circ} 56'$ E. long., about 675 miles N.N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from Port Louis. They are of very limited extent, and surrounded by reefs, except in the northern part, where there is a passage which leads to a tolerably good anchorage, of five or six fathoms, near the land. These islets, the soil of which is the same as that of the Isle de la Providence, and where a few scattered coco-trees indicate that, with care, that valuable tree might thrive as well as in Providence, were granted to an inhabitant of Mauritius, by an Act of 10th December 1813; who, having died before he had formed any establishment on them, they were granted, by Act 4th February 1826, to the proprietor of Providence, as being necessary to that isle, by reason of the anchorage which they afford for vessels sailing from Mauritius to Providence. The establishment formed here by the grantee employs seven individuals, of whom six are slaves.

ISLE ST. PIERRE.

This uninhabited island is situated in $9^{\circ} 15'$ S. lat., and $50^{\circ} 55'$ E. long., upwards of 750 miles N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W., a few degrees N. from Mauritius. It is six miles long, by one mile and a half broad, and almost inaccessible; its coasts presenting nothing but immense blocks of coral, against which the sea dashes violently, excepting a spot on the N.W., where there is a small flat beach of sand. Great numbers of a brown kind of pigeon are found on the island.

L'ISLE ST. LAURENT.

The existence of this island is very doubtful; several captains declare that they have repeatedly passed over the place where it is said to lie, without ever having seen it. On the map of l'Islet Geoffroy it is placed in $9^{\circ} 44'$ of S. lat., and $51^{\circ} 28'$ of E. long., between the islands of Providence, Jean de Nove, and St. Pierre.

ISLE ASTOVE,

Situated nearly N.N.W. from Madagascar, in $10^{\circ} 10'$ of S. lat., and $47^{\circ} 50'$ of E. long., is of little importance, presenting no resources but its fishery. It was granted by Act of 25th January 1821, to two Creoles of the Mauritius, who have not yet taken possession of it.

ISLES COSMOLEDO,

Situated in $9^{\circ} 45'$ of S. lat., and $47^{\circ} 40'$ of E. long., were granted, by Act 21st December 1820, to an inhabitant of Mauritius, who as yet has formed no establishment there. It is of little importance, being surrounded with reefs, with a bank running along almost the whole of its extent.

L'ISLE DE L'ASSOMPTION,

Situated in $9^{\circ} 44'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 40'$ of E. long., is uninhabited, and appears of little value. Like the former, it is surrounded with reefs, except on its N.W. part, where it is approachable.

ISLE ALDABRA.

Aldabra, in $9^{\circ} 22'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 50'$ E. long., is merely a mass of great blocks of coral, intersected by canals; its circumference is about twenty-four miles. This group of small islets of coral is uninhabited, and uninhabitable, having neither land nor water.

L'ISLE NATAL.

A small islet of inconsiderable value, situated in $8^{\circ} 27'$ S. lat., and $46^{\circ} 32'$ E. long.

L'ISLE DE SABLE.

This very small islet, in $15^{\circ} 53'$ S. lat., and $54^{\circ} 43'$ E. long., is about 306 miles N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ N., some degrees N. from Port Louis; and, properly speaking, is merely a small portion out of water of a bank about sixty leagues in length by ten in breadth, N. by E. of this small islet, and which is very dangerous to navigators.

ISLES ST. PAUL ET AMSTERDAM.

From the south, standing eastward, among the dependencies of the island of Mauritius, lie the islands of St. Paul and Amsterdam. The first, in $37^{\circ} 45'$ of S. lat.; the second, in $38^{\circ} 15'$ of S. lat.; mean longitude 78° E.; and mean distance from the island of Mauritius 1,446 miles S.E., a little S. These islands are difficult of access, affording few resources for subsistence, and exposed to cold and tempests; they have only been frequented by ships going thither in search of sea-cows, which abound there.

DR. GILCHRIST *versus* THE ORIENTAL HERALD.

DR. GILCHRIST has transmitted to us copy of a letter, which he addressed to the editor of the *Oriental Herald* last month, complaining of the misrepresentations and ridicule in that work of the observations which fell from him (Dr. G.) at the East-India House on the 7th February. This letter, he tells us, the editor of the *Herald* refused to insert on account of its length, although, it is added, the editor devoted four pages and a half of small close print to his own statement of the matter, whereas Dr. Gilchrist states his belief that his own letter would not have occupied above half that quantity. The object of Dr. G. was to defend himself against the unjust inferences in the notes which the editor of the *Herald* most unfairly appended to the report of the debate, and especially against the charge of "having avowed principles of action no better than returning a foul expression, or even a blow, with the *secret stab of an assassin*."

In the *resumé* of the subject, given in his last number, the editor of the *Herald* has not admitted, Dr. G. says, a single sentence of his defence against so foul an accusation. Being thus prevented from defending himself in the work wherein he has been attacked (and which is so loud in its professions of impartiality), Dr. Gilchrist requests the admission of his letter in this journal.

A compliance with his request in our present number is impracticable; and we are not sure that, if less encumbered with matter, we should not expect Dr. Gilchrist to remodel and condense his letter (which might be done with great benefit to his case), previous to admitting observations of such length, not directed against any remarks of our's, and respecting a subject (somewhat of a personal nature) with which our readers are already satiated. Desirous, however, as we have always shewn ourselves, to admit, as freely and as promptly as we can with propriety, vindications of such individuals as think it worth while to notice the misrepresentations so common in the work referred to, we subjoin a *review* of Dr. Gilchrist's letter.

The writer begins by expostulating with the editor of the *Oriental Herald* (a work, Dr. G. says, the principles and object of which he has uniformly done every thing in his power to support) for his severe strictures on sentiments contained in the speech in question, which the editor strenuously advocated the last time the same subject was publicly discussed in that work. Dr. Gilchrist then adverts to the sentiment alleged to have been uttered by him at the East-India House (see p. 416), that if a young officer from India attacked him (Dr. G.) with a horsewhip, he would shoot his assailant through the head. Upon which the editor of the *Herald*, he says, remarks, that "to shoot a man through the head would, under such circumstances, be no better than returning a foul expression, or even a blow, with the *secret stab of the stiletto*." Dr. G. asserts that his declaration was only a fair warning, in an open assembly, that if assailed he would use the weapon next at hand, in *self-defence*; and observes, that he is represented by the writer in the *Herald* as evincing a readiness to take away the life of a fellow-creature *on a sudden, unarmed, and unprepared*, and, assassin-like, to *stab him secretly with a stiletto*. Dr. G. adds: "I pray you, look again to the text, and say candidly if, garbled as it is,* it can fairly warrant an interpretation imputing to me a sentiment so atrocious. I spoke of self-defence only, and avowed my determination to obey

* Dr. Gilchrist complains that his speech of *four hours* was slurred over in the *Herald* in *four* pages. In our report the speech occupies nearly *fifteen* pages.

obey the first law of nature, in exercising the right of self-preservation;—a right warranted alike by the laws of nature, the dictates of honour, and the laws of England, which is not surely a nation of assassins.”

The editor of the *Herald* having called in question, the writer says, the degree of utility resulting to young men proceeding to India from acquiring the elementary principles of Hindoostanee in this country; and having observed, with flippant levity, that a cadet, who has been a week on shore, knows perfectly well how to call for his claret, horses, dogs, women, and other luxuries, and where to procure them each of the best, &c. Dr. Gilchrist justly remarks that young gentlemen are sent to India, by their parents and the East-India Company, with some higher and more important objects in view than “claret, horses, dogs, women, and other luxuries:” and he recapitulates the obvious benefits which a cadet will derive from acquiring the rudiments of the language in England.

With reference to a remark of Dr. G.’s (see p. 418), that but for an English officer’s accurate knowledge of the French language, Canada might never have been ceded to England; the editor referred to (according to Dr. Gilchrist) has laboured in a long argument to prove that Canada was not ceded to England *merely* because an English officer had learned French well! Dr. G. thinks his exculpation here to be superfluous.

Dr. Gilchrist next comments on the invidious mention in the *Herald* of the names of two individuals engaged in Oriental tuition in this country, and of the proposal that they should pursue their vocation in India; and he remarks, that it is not very liberal in the editor thus to endeavour to influence the public in a way to injure the efforts of those individuals to procure a livelihood; and that to talk of their return to India is a cruel mockery.

In the letter addressed to us, the Doctor makes some further observations upon this subject: he says, “With respect to one remark of his, on the use of the word ‘invidiously,’ I need only observe, that I myself having mentioned certain gentlemen as most laudably and usefully employed here in diffusing a knowledge of Oriental languages, the editor of the *Oriental Herald* named the same gentlemen, for the purpose of saying that it were better they were employed somewhere else (and that in a country where, even if health and other circumstances permitted them to follow such an occupation, it would be by no means reputable, without a public appointment, to adopt a profession followed by thousands of native moonshees of little credit or character): under these circumstances, I consider *my* mention of their names to have been kind and courteous, *his* rather sneering and *invidious*, from the way it was introduced.”

Such appears to us to be the chief points of the “suppressed defence” of Dr. Gilchrist. We cannot quit the subject without urging upon the learned gentleman the absolute necessity, for his own sake, of studying compression; the public will not read compositions, especially on a subject which does not strongly interest general readers, wherein three or four times more is said than necessary.

RULES for the EXAMINATION of the JUNIOR CIVIL SERVANTS of BOMBAY.

DEGREES OF MERIT.	LANGUAGES.	POINTS FOR EXAMINATION.	PRIZES.	REMARKS.
<div> <div>Indispensable qualification for Official employment.</div> <div>1st.</div> </div>	Hindoostanee.	1st. Translations, <i>vis à voce</i> , and without premeditation, into English from a Prose Author, and particularly from Letters and Petitions.		The Characters required to be known at this examination are the printed Naskh, and written Taleek; and the Books to be read such as the Ukiagi Hindoe, Bagh o Bahar, Khird Afroj, Tota Kabbree.
		2d. Written Translations with premeditation, but without any kind of assistance from English, of a Tale, or similar kind of Narratory Style; and of a Letter, or Petition, or Section of a Government Regulation.		
		3d. Translations, <i>vis à voce</i> , from English, of a Dialogue, or of Questions and Answers proposed by the Examiners.		
		4th. Conversation implying a comprehension of all that is addressed to the Candidate on all common Commercial, Revenue, and Judicial subjects, and a tolerable degree of fluency in replying.		
		5th. A knowledge of the Grammatical Rules and Principles, to be shewn by correctly parsing any passage which may be pointed out, or by answering any questions on the subject that may be proposed by the Examiners.		
<div> <div>Qualification for promotion to the Second Step in any line.</div> <div>2d.</div> </div>	Maratha or Goojralee.	The five points noticed above.	—	The Characters required to be known at this examination are the Balbooth, both for Maratha and Goojralee, and also the Moree and Goojralee running hand. The Books such as the Singhasun Battsheeh, Panchopakhyan, and Esop's Fables.
	Hindoostanee.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters required to be known in this examination are the printed Naskh, the written Taleek, and the Shikasta; and the Books (besides those already enumerated) to be such as the works of Sauda, or Meer Tukee.
	Maratha.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters required to be known in this examination are the Balbooth and Moree; and the Books such as those above specified, and Pandow Prataap, and Tookoba Che Ubhang.

3d. { "High Proficiency."	Distinction of	Gujaratee.	An Examination in the five points above noticed to be passed, according to the judgment of the Committee, in a superior style.	Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters required to be known in this examination are Balbodh and the Gophrate running hand; and the Books such as the Panchopakhya, Bhatra, &c.
		Sanskrit.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Books to be read at this examination such as the Pancha Tantra, Hitopades, &c.
		Persian.		Rupees 800 and a Certificate from the Committee.	The Characters to be known at this examination are the printed Naskh, the written Taleek, and Shikasta; and the Books such as the Awkari Sobah, Goolistan, Ayat Danab, &c.
4th. { Distinction of Extraordinary Proficiency.		Maratha, Gujaratee, Sanskrit, Persian.	Making ready and correct Translations, from any Book (poetry included) in the language in which the gentleman is examined; holding conversations in such language with any person, and with such degree of facility as the Committee may, with reference to the particular language, deem satisfactory, and generally displaying, under any test which it may occur to the Committee to propose, an extensive, accurate, and intimate knowledge of the language.	Rupees 1,600 and a Degree of honour under the Signature of the Honourable the Governor.	
	Proficiency in "Hindoo and Mohammedan Law."	Sanskrit and Arabic.	The Sanskrit and Arabic languages generally, and the explanation of Books on Hindoo and Mohammedan Law.	Rupees 3,000, a Medal, and a Prize of Oriental Books.	

The examinations in the four first degrees are open only to Writers; that in the fifth to every Civil Servant. No Student shall receive two pecuniary rewards on account of the same language; but any Student, who, after receiving a Certificate of "High Proficiency," may become entitled to a Degree of Honour for "Extraordinary Proficiency," shall obtain the difference between the rewards attached to the two degrees of proficiency. The prizes will be granted for examinations at the Presidency alone, and the Hindoostanee examination will be confined to the same place; but the examination in the languages which entitle a gentleman to his second step may, for the present, be allowed to take place at out-stations. The examinations will be held on the 10th of January, 10th of May, and 10th of October each year, and at no other period. The Candidates for examination to give one month's notice to the Secretary of the Committee, specifying the degree of merit for which they present themselves, and the Secretary will duly inform them of the place and hour of the Committee's meeting.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.
L. R. REID, Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Gazette,
1st September, 1858.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF RAMNAD.

It is perhaps scarcely known in England, that the title to the once opulent raj or principality of Ramnad, or Rāmanāt'ha, in southern India, which has now dwindled into a zemindarry, has been for a long period depending upon the decision of the Privy Council. Nearly twenty years ago, the succession being disputed by three claimants, the question was referred by them to one of the East-India Company's tribunals, and was eventually brought, by way of appeal, before his Majesty in Council. Upon a motion made by the Marquess of Lansdown, in the House of Peers, for a return of the number of appeals from India, his Lordship took occasion to advert to this in particular; and there is reason to think that he intends to bring the case under the notice of Parliament.

We have been favoured, by an able civil servant of the Company (late collector of the northern district of Malabar), with an historical sketch of the zemindarry, from native authentic sources; and we think that, under existing circumstances, and considering the little information we possess of this part of India, the particulars contained in the paper will be highly acceptable. We have endeavoured, not always successfully, to restore the proper names, which are much disguised by Tamul writers, to Sanscrit orthography.

Ramnad first rose to a state of consequence under the auspices of the celebrated Trimalla Nāyaca;* it was greatly extended by his descendants, in return for important military services rendered to them, at periods of danger from Mahratta invasions, by two possessors of Ramnad. It continued for a century to increase in population and military strength; and the possessor of the puttum† received the peculiar title of Sétupati, which literally signifies "protector of the sacred stone," where the pilgrims perform their ablutions in the holy temple of Rāméswarem.

In the year 1734 of our era, when Raghunāt'ha Sétupati was in possession of the puttum, the extent of Ramnad was as follows: it was bounded on the north by Devicottah, Manarcoil, and Trivalore, on the south by Vypar; its western boundary approached a small fort within six miles of the fort of Madura; the eastern limit was, and still continues to be, the extremity of Adam's Bridge. During the reign of Raghunāt'ha Sétupati, the raja of Tanjore, at the instigation of the dependents of Sétupati's minister, who had been put to death by his master, usurped the districts of Trivalore, Devicottah, and Manarcoil; and from that period they were annexed to the Tanjore kingdom, the limits of Ramnad to the northward becoming then defined by the boundary of Patticottah.

Raghunāt'ha Sétupati reigned over Ramnad for thirty-eight years, and during that time he bestowed upon a man named Perya Wudayah Tawen land sufficient for the subsistence of 300 peons, who thenceforward became a petty poligar, under the title of Narcouttah Wudayah Tawen.

Raghunāt'ha Sétupati, previous to his death, placed his son, Vidyā Raghunāt'ha Tawen, upon the puttum. Narcouttah Wudayah Tawen so completely established himself in the favour of this prince, that he obtained the natural daughter of the raja in marriage for his son, Sheshewarne Tawen, with a dowry in lands sufficient for the maintenance of 1,000 men. As the latter was
remarkable

* The particulars of its origin, and other circumstances connected with its history, may be seen in the History of the Kurtakul of Madura, given in our Journal, vol. xxii, p. 666, and vol. xxiii, p. 9, &c.

† Puttum and puttum in MS. Qu. pollum ?

remarkable for his courage and for the beauty of his person, he was distinguished above all the inferior poligars in the raja's service, and continued in the quiet possession of his lands, which received a considerable addition during the life of this raja, and for a short space in the reign of his immediate successor, Tundra Tawen. The pretensions of the latter to the puttum being disputed by Bowani Sunkra Tawen, Tundra Tawen stationed the ancestor of the Tondimans in Treemean and Patticottah, to defend the northern boundary. Tondiman established himself in that country, and Bowani Sunkra Tawen, aided by the Raja of Tanjore, dispossessed Tundra Tawen of Ramnad. Bowani Sunkra Tawen remained in possession of the puttum; but Narcouttah Sheshewarne Tawen, prompted by ambitious motives, joined in a conspiracy to eject him, with one Kurta Tawen, who had married a legitimate daughter of Vidyá Raghunát'ha Sétupati, and was otherwise allied to the family.

Bowani Sunkra Tawen defeated their project, and they were forced to fly for safety. The hope of interesting the Raja of Tanjore in their behalf led them to his capital, where they sojourned for a considerable time, in poverty, and without a chance of attaining their object. At length Sheshewarne Tawen gained an opportunity of displaying his courage before the raja by killing a royal tiger in single combat at a public feast. This brave action obtained for him and Kurta Tawen a force sufficient to wrest from Bowani Sunkra Tawen the possession of Ramnad, and to place Kurta Tawen upon the puttum. Kurta Tawen immediately transferred to the Raja of Tanjore (in fulfilment of the condition under which he obtained the force) the territories between Patticottah and Cottah Kurrugar, a small river which runs at the foot of Armogam in the Rasemungalum talook, leaving four of the seventeen talooks now constituting the province of Ramnad (*viz.* Cottaputnam, Goolaganaud, Oroor, and Anoomuntagoody) appertaining to Tanjore; but they were forcibly recovered during the war which subsequently distracted that kingdom.

Kurta Tawen then proceeded to requite the obligations he owed to Sheshewarne Tawen. Having divided the whole raj of Ramnad into fifths, he resolved to give him two-fifths; but the latter, having bribed the sumpradies, who regulated the division, they undervalued the talooks he desired to obtain. The portion made over to him lay wholly to the northward of Ramnad, and near the source of the Vyaz: a circumstance then little adverted to, but which was the cause, in the subsequent division of its waters, of repeated scenes of bloodshed between the two houses. The territory acquired by Sheshewarne Tawen received thenceforward the general name of Sivaganga; but he retained the title of the village whence his family originated, Narcouttah, and he is so recognized in Orme's History.

When Sheshewarne Tawen died, his son and successor, Mutu Wulaga Tawen, refused to pay tribute to the Nawáb of the Carnatic; which occasioned the equipment of a large army to punish him as well as Ramalingum Sétupati of Ramnad, who also resisted the demand. Mutu Wulaga Tawen was slain by a cannon-ball in the fort of Calercoil, and his surviving widow (the late heiress) fled with her daughter, accompanied by the predaun of her late husband and several of her relatives, to Veerapachee, where they were joined by two servants of the old raja, named Vella Murdoo and China Murdoo, the one his dog-keeper, the other his betel-bearer.

These two men, upon the death of the predaun, which happened about six months after leaving Sivaganga, took the lead in the Rani's affairs; and when Hyder Ally attacked Arcot, at the commencement of the war of 1780, the

younger

younger Murdoo, afterwards Sherogar of Sivaganga, having obtained from Seyd Saheb Tippoo's killedar of Dindigul a small force of horse and foot, desolated and burnt the Nawáb's villages to the very gates of Madura, and entered the Sivaganga country. The Nawáb's troops, few and badly disciplined, could offer but little resistance; and as his civil government had not won the people's affection, they crowded to the standard of the Raní, in whose behalf the two Sherogars professed to act, and the entire country was completely subjected by them.

The attack of Hyder was likewise the signal for revolt in the Ramnad country, where different Marawa leaders found no difficulty in totally subverting an authority, which even in peaceable times was devoid of energy, and incapable of resisting the struggles of the people.

The distractions of the Marawas, which were perhaps in a more disordered state at this period than the central parts of the Carnatic in general, during Hyder's invasion, combined with a sense of his weakness dictated to the Nawáb, at this crisis, a temporizing expedient. When his highness, Omdat-ul-Omrah, who commanded the army sent against Ramnad, took possession of the fort, he sent Mutu Ramalingum Sétupati to Trichinopoly. His restoration was now determined upon, in order to calm the agitations of the country. He was accordingly taken from prison, and placed upon the puttum, with the stipulation of paying an annual peshcush of 1,75,000 rupees; a moderate sum, which was, however, paid with difficulty, owing to the extravagance of Mutu Ramalingum and the mismanagement of his ministers.

Here ends the account of the zemindarry; the sequel, we believe, may be told in a few words: the property descended to a female, at whose death three competitors appeared; and as no tribunal existed by which their claims could be satisfactorily adjusted, besides the Company's courts, a suit was brought, we understand, before the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut, in the year 1808 or 1809; an appeal from the decision of the judges of that court was addressed to the Governor-general (the Marquess of Hastings), who, having no appellate jurisdiction, recommended an appeal to his Majesty.

T O R O S A .

WHAT your lovers say is true,
 Rosa, flow'rs are types of you :
 Your bosom's hue the lily shows,
 The rose's tints your cheeks disclose,
 Your lips with scarlet pinks compare,
 With crisped hyacinths your hair.
 But flowers are of fragile make,
 Dear Rosa, which a storm will break ;
 And a sad truth should be revealed,
 By flatt'ers studiously concealed :—
 Though flow'rs, like you, are fair and gay,
 In one short summer they decay.

E. R.

Review of Books.

Travels from India to England ; comprehending a Visit to the Burman Empire, and a Journey through Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey, &c., in the Years 1825-26. By JAMES EDWARD ALEXANDER, Esq., Lieut., late H.M.'s 13th Light Dragoons, and attached to the Suite of Col. Macdonald Kinneir, K.L.S., Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Tehran. London, 1827, 4to.

Personal Narrative of a Journey from India to England, by Bussorah, Bagdad, the Ruins of Babylon, Curdistan, the Court of Persia, the Western Shore of the Caspian Sea, &c. By Capt. the Hon. GEORGE KEPPEL. London 1827. 2 vols. 8vo.

THAT good is evolved from evil, we are not now to learn: a practical evidence of the axiom may be perceived in the advantages which science has derived from the war to the eastward and that to the westward of India. Our contest with the Burmese has afforded the means of communicating to Europe more knowledge of the Ultra-Gangetic regions than we should have acquired during a century of peace; and the existing war between Russia and Persia, by stimulating the curiosity of readers and the industry of writers, promises to add to our stock of information regarding the last named country.

Both the works mentioned at the head of this article probably owe their existence to the expected avidity of the British nation to learn more of Persia, since it became the scene of hostilities. We shall give precedence in our notice to the last of the two works, because it is most easily despatched.

Capt. Keppel's "Personal Narrative," is written in an easy and agreeable style; it discovers reading and research; it is, we make no doubt, accurate in its details, and it contains well-drawn descriptions. Having said this, we have nearly exhausted the topics of eulogy which the "Narrative" affords. We perceive little in it which is new, that is, which a reader may not find in other publications. The time elapsed since the author travelled in Persia, the short period he remained in that country (about three months), and the hasty manner in which he travelled, prepare us, indeed, to expect little from his work. Its circulation, however, seems to have been extensive; we could scarcely look into a newspaper, soon after the appearance of the "Narrative," without observing copious extracts from Capt. Keppel's work, which might, for any novelty they contained, have been just as well epitomized from Malcolm, Ouseley, Kinneir, or Morier. As a specimen of his style of narration, we quote Capt. K.'s account of the (supposed) ruins of Babel:—

The ruins of the Tower of Babel are six miles S.W. of Hilleh. At first sight they present the appearance of a hill with a castle on the top; the greater portion is covered with a light sandy soil, and it is only in ascending that the traveller discovers he is walking on a vast heap of bricks. This mound, like the Mujillebè, is oblong. The total circumference has been found to be two thousand two hundred and eighty-six feet, which gives to the ruins a much greater extent of base than to the original building. The surplus is very great, when one considers the quantity that must have been removed by the Macedonian soldiers, and how much, in the course of ages, must have been taken by the workmen employed in digging for bricks. The elevation of the mound is irregular: to the west it is one hundred and ninety-eight feet high. On the top is that which looked like a castle in the distance; it is a solid mass of kiln-burnt bricks, thirty-seven feet high, and twenty-eight broad. The bricks, which are of an excellent description, are laid in with a fine and scarcely perceptible cement. At

regular intervals, some bricks are omitted so as to leave square apertures through the mass: these may possibly have been intended to procure a free current of air, that should prevent the admission of damp into the brick work. The summit of the mass is much broken, and the fractures are so made as to carry conviction that violence has been used to reduce it to this state.

Distinct from the pile of bricks just described, and lower down on the north face of the large mound, is another mass exactly similar. Pieces of marble, stones, and broken bricks, lie scattered over the ruin. The most curious of the fragments are several misshapen masses of brickwork, quite black, except in a few places where regular layers of kiln-burnt bricks are discernible: these have certainly been subjected to some fierce heat, as they are completely molten—a strong presumption that fire was used in the destruction of the Tower, which, in parts, resembles what the Scriptures prophesied it should become, “a burnt mountain.”

Travellers who have visited this spot have been struck with the curious appearance of these fragments; and, having only seen the black surface, have altogether rejected the idea of their being bricks. In the denunciation respecting Babylon, fire is particularly mentioned as an agent against it. To this Jeremiah evidently alludes, when he says that it should be “as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,” on which cities, it is said, the “Lord rained brimstone and fire.” Again, “I will kindle a fire in his cities, and it shall devour all round about him;” and in another place, “Her high gates shall be burned with fire, and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.”

Taking into calculation the brick mass on the top of the large mound, the ruins are two hundred and thirty-five feet high, which gives nearly half the height of the Tower in its perfect state. Rich thought he could trace four stages, or stories of this building; and the united observations of our party induce the same conviction.

The “Travels” of Lieut. Alexander are for several reasons much more interesting. Although his stay in Persia, as well as in Ava, was short, he enjoyed advantages in his journey through the former country, by being attached to the mission of Col. Kinneir, which compensate for the brevity of his stay. His visit, moreover, is recent, and it took place at a very critical and interesting moment, the eve of hostilities with Russia, which circumstance enabled him to collect on the spot some valuable information respecting the causes and early events of the war, which he has digested into a perspicuous narrative in the appendix to the volume.

Previous to his overland journey to England, through Persia, &c., Mr. Alexander profited by an opportunity to visit the Burman empire. Owing to the war, he could proceed no further than Prome; but he succeeded in accumulating many interesting facts respecting the country and the people of Ava. He describes the Burmans of Pegu, succinctly, as follows:

The inhabitants are stout and athletic: the men are about five feet eight inches in height, seldom taller, with straight muscular limbs; the women are rather diminutive, but well-formed in every respect except the nose, which is commonly flat. Both sexes are of a copper colour: they are lively and inquisitive; they smoke segars constantly: almost all of them read and write; and having no prejudices, they are readily susceptible of improvement and civilization. The women are not immured at home, like those of Hindoostan; they superintend the domestic economy, and weave their own and their husbands' clothes: the latter are checks, of different patterns, resembling tartans. The men wear a single cloth tucked round the loins, and hanging down to the knee; the loose part is thrown across the shoulders, strongly resembling the ancient mode of dress amongst the Scottish Highlanders. Both the men and the women wear the hair of the head long, but eradicate with pincers the hair from the other parts of the body: the men have neither whiskers nor mustachios. The head-dress of the men is a handkerchief twisted round, entwined in the hair in front, and tied in a knot. Sandals are

are worn on the feet, consisting of a sole of leather fixed on the foot by two straps, which unite at the great toe. The dress of the women barely serves the purposes of decency: it consists of a narrow piece of cloth, worn over the breasts and tucked in at either side; in walking, one leg is always exposed. Over the lower robe is worn a loose vest with sleeves (commonly white), which reaches to the upper part of the thigh. The hair of the women is divided in front, and tied in a knot behind, in which flowers are entwined. Men and women attain the age of puberty before they marry. Those who can afford it burn their dead; but the poorer classes make a narrow hole in the ground, about three feet deep, and having tied up the corpse in a mat, thrust it in sideways, first carrying it three times round the hole or grave; they then throw the earth over it, trampling it down hard. I observed massive tombstones in several parts of the outskirts of the town, which had been placed over the ashes of poonghees, or inferior priests.

Males and females have holes in the lobes of both ears, in which they stick their segars: they dye their teeth and the edges of their eye-lashes with antimony. The greatest compliment that can be paid a Burman, is to take the lighted cheroot from your mouth and present it to him; he, immediately after placing it in his cheek, performs the shiko, or salaam, with both hands. They are very fond of drinking tea and brandy with Europeans, and eat and drink with them without the least scruple. When the men and women quarrel, they fight it out; the men with their fists, and the ladies with their slippers: they despise the Hindoos for confining their contests to abuse, without coming to blows.

The incidents of the voyage up the Irawaddy; the traits of character observed amongst the various tribes situated on either bank; the description of Prome, seated in a most picturesque country, inviting as they are, must be passed by, in order that we may hasten to the other portion of the volume, which, under existing circumstances, offers "metal more attractive." We must not omit, however, to state, that the author has given a full relation of the military transactions in Ava during the period of his stay, and a complete chronological epitome of the events of the war, from its commencement till its close.

Mr. Alexander left Bombay on the 26th April 1826, in company with Capt. Campbell, second Assistant to the Envoy Extraordinary from the Governor-General of India to the Persian Court. An introductory chapter acquaints us with the circumstances which led to this mission.

During the late continental war, Persia received from the East-India Company a considerable annual subsidy, on condition that she did not suffer our eastern empire to be invaded through her territories. The subsidy ceased with the danger; but it was to be renewed if Persia was attacked by Russia. Arrears of the subsidy were alleged to be due; and Col. Macdonald Kinneir was appointed envoy from the Supreme Government of India to adjust and discharge the claims. The Court of Persia, however, influenced, Mr. Alexander thinks, by Russian influence, refused to receive an envoy not accredited by the King of Great Britain; but the Shah, impatient to touch the money, despatched a British officer (Major G. Willock) on a private mission to Calcutta; and the Supreme Government, rather indiscreetly, settled the claims in this manner. The disclosure of the real views of the Russian cabinet in regard to Persia, and the judicious efforts of our *chargé d'affaires*, Mr. Willock, brought the Persian Court to a better temper, and the Shah agreed to receive the British Envoy.

Passing over the interesting details given by our author of the scenes and incidents which he describes, previous to his departure from Bushire towards Shiraz, we come to that part of the fourth chapter in which is recorded his

visit to Shapoor. As the sculptures at this place have been particularized by preceding travellers, we merely remark that Mr. Alexander's details are succinct and perspicuous.

On arriving at Shiraz, the effects of the earthquake of 1824 were sadly apparent. There is not a single dome or minaret standing; and, from the same cause, the climate has become insalubrious, owing, Mr. Alexander supposes, to the extraordinary rise in the water of the wells, now near the surface, which fills the atmosphere with aqueous particles. He visited, of course, the tombs of Saadi and Hafiz :—

We went on the morning of the 21st to visit the tomb of Saadi, &c. It is about two miles and a half from the Tukht-i-Kudjur, and to the south, situated in a small garden surrounded by high walls. The tomb itself is under cover, and of marble. Inscriptions cover every part of it, being passages from the Koran and from his own works. At the head of the tomb are a pair of nightingales. Outside the garden is a well, with steps to descend to it. It is of octagonal shape, with recesses. Here Saadi used to sit and compose, screened from the heat. The water is beautifully clear.

We next proceeded to the garden of the Dil-i-gooshah. On entering it you are introduced into a little octagonal porch, in which is a cistern of water. Here was painted in very brilliant colours Roustam, the Persian Hercules, throwing himself off his horse, and plunging his dagger into the Deeve-i-Sufecd, or white demon. Down the centre of the garden from the house is a shallow stone channel of water, interrupted every ten or twelve paces by small cascades. We could not gain admittance for some time into the house, as the Prince's women were in it: however, they went to the upper story, and we were allowed to visit the lower apartments. We found them painted and gilded in the most extravagant manner. The ceilings represented furious combats between the Persians, Russians, and Turks; the royal princes were represented larger than the rest, and cutting men down from the crest to the saddle-bow. As usual, no regard was paid to perspective.

We then went to the tomb of the Persian Anacreon, Hafiz, which is about a mile only from the Tukht-i-Kudjur: it is in the midst of other tombs, in a burial-ground enclosed with a wall: but vulgar bones do not repose near him; men of rank alone are allowed that privilege. His tomb is distinguished above the rest by its superior dimensions. The marble, like Saadi's tomb, is covered with inscriptions, beautifully cut. Shiraz is deservedly famed for stone-cutting, enamelling, and seal-engraving. Near the tombs is an open building, in which resides a venerable Fakir, who has charge of a complete copy of the works of Hafiz: this he produced, and we opened the book at random to see what would be our fates, by the *fal*, a kind of divination, like the *Sortes Virgilianæ*.

Mr. Alexander's account of Persepolis is highly curious, and with the help of an admirable lithographic view, affords a more perfect idea of this remarkable scene of ruins than any preceding work. It records, moreover, a very interesting discovery made during their visit. Col. Macdonald having employed some people to clear away the earth from a staircase, a bas-relief was denuded, representing a chimerical figure, being a winged lion or griffin, with a human head bearded, and bearing a sort of tiara, resting one of its paws upon a lotus-flower, supported by a stem like that of the date-tree. Another bas-relief, discovered at the same time, represents a procession: four figures are ascending a flight of steps; the first bears two cups, the second a covered goblet, the third a lamb or kid, and the fourth a skin of water, or more probably wine. They are executed in a very spirited and masterly manner, and are far superior to the sculptures hitherto seen at Persepolis. These bas-reliefs, of which excellent prints in outline are given in this work, will doubtless lead to curious speculations. Are they Grecian or Persian? If the latter, they prove

prove that the art of sculpture had reached a higher degree of perfection under the ancient monarchs of Persia than has been commonly supposed.

At Ispahan (as at Shiraz), the mission was introduced to the Governor, who is, at each place, a member of the royal family. His Persian Majesty's progeny, even to the third generation, is so numerous, that he is able to provide all the provinces and principal cities with a chief magistrate from his own family. The prince of Ispahan, Sultaun Mahomed Mirza, is a favourite son of the King. He is only fourteen years of age; handsome (as are all the royal family), with a florid complexion. The Envoy here became involved in one of those disputes about forms, which are perpetually annoying a diplomatic personage in Persia, through the contemptible artifices of the court ministers, who are always upon the alert to overreach Europeans in respect to the highly essential points of etiquette. The Prince's prime minister wished to seat his royal highness in an inner room, the Envoy and suite in an outer, with a window between. The Envoy insisted upon sitting upon the numud, or carpet, on which the Prince sat, as he had done at Shiraz; but it was not without great trouble and delay that this (apparently) frivolous obstacle was removed by the concession of the Persian minister. This nobleman, Khoosroo Khan, is a eunuch; notwithstanding this dispute, he received the mission subsequently in a frank and engaging manner; divesting himself of Persian formality, he laughed and joked with the utmost gaiety and good-humour.

At this city, the Persian servants belonging to the mission grew so untractable, that recourse was had to the bastinado. Lieut. Alexander gives the following account of this peculiar operation :

The culprit seats himself on the ground, elevates his feet, which are put into a loose noose in the middle of a fuluk, or stout stick, held by two furashees, or carpet-spreaders; the stick is then twisted, which effectually prevents the offender from withdrawing his feet, and exposes the soles to the strokes of willow-rods applied by two other furashees standing in front. They frequently miss the soles on purpose, and break their sticks over the fuluk, especially if the person operated on pays them well; but turning up the heels of one of the executioners prevents a repetition of this. Miserable is the condition of the unfortunate Armenian who may be subjected to this punishment: his toes are seen to hang down after a few strokes, and not unfrequently the nails are torn from his feet! Persians generally endeavour to spare their fellow Musselmans, if they can do so with impunity; but to a Christian no mercy is shewn. So little sense of shame do the Persians feel, that a person even of rank and family does not consider himself disgraced by having his soles turned up. His Majesty punishes his nobles frequently in this manner.

After visiting the curiosities at Ispahan and Joolpha, the mission departed for the royal camp at Sultaneah. In some of the villages beyond Ispahan, the natives hardly understood a single word of Persian: to the northward and westward of the city Turkish is generally spoken. Of this fact, and of the rude manners of some of these villagers, Mr. Alexander had a disagreeable proof, in the route to a place called Zohra. Having, in company with Capt. Campbell, lost the way, and being benighted, they saw a man, at a village in the nook of a glen, who most ungraciously, and only in consideration of a present, agreed to point out the road. Something displeasing him, he summoned the rest of the villagers, who attacked the party, and on being spoken to in Persian, said, "we speak Turkish, and know nothing of your Persian." Both Lieut. Alexander and Capt. Campbell received severe wounds, and had a narrow escape.

Just before the mission reached Ardebeel, news arrived that the King's camp had been transferred to Achar. At Ardebeel they found and conversed with the

the Russian officers taken prisoners by Prince Abbas Mirza at Kunjeruk, one of whom was a colonel.

In the neighbourhood of Ardebeel is the lofty mount Sevelund, about 8,000 feet in height, capped with eternal snow. Our author furnishes a very amusing account of an expedition to its summit by Mr. Willock and Lieut. Shee. They experienced much difficulty in reaching the summit, where they found the tomb and body of the *frozen prophet*, said to have lain there from time immemorial. The details of the visit are interesting, but we cannot afford space for them.

On approaching the royal camp at Achar, the Envoy was met by the *istakball*, and was escorted to the tents prepared for the mission. The scene was splendid and imposing. The public audience given to the British Envoy was attended with very flattering circumstances, singularly contrasted with the cold reception of Prince Menzikoff. The Shah twice pressed the British Envoy to sit.

Mr. Alexander describes the Shah as a very sensible man (except in regard to money-matters); "he is beloved by his subjects, his rule is mild, and he seldom punishes with severity, except unpardonable offences." In respect to money, he is mean to a great degree. His favourite wife, the Taj-i-Dowlah, is a very sensible and superior woman; she was formerly a dancing girl of Ispahan, was noticed by the King for her shrewdness, and has reigned sole queen of the harem for thirty years. The harem contains 1,000 ladies; and his Majesty's children amount to 100. If we may judge from the following anecdote, the latter have no very agreeable matter for contemplation.

The lady of Dr. Macneil, the physician to the mission, was one day in the *zenanah*, when she observed one of the princes, a boy of ten years of age, with a handkerchief tied over his eyes, groping about the apartment. Upon inquiring what he was doing, he said that, as he knew that when the Shah, his father, died, he should have his eyes put out, he was now trying how he could do without them.

After a stay of about three weeks at the royal camp, our traveller left it for Tabreez, on his route to England, in company with Mr. Willock, who was deputed from the Persian Court to solicit the mediation of the British Cabinet in adjusting the differences between Persia and Russia. We must despatch the subsequent portion of the volume in a few words: the party left Tabreez, and crossing the Arras, reached Erivan, where the Surdar refused them admittance into the fort. They had a view of Ararat, and crossing the Harpasus (*hod. Arpachai*), entered Armenia. Crossing the Euphrates, they entered soon after the pachalik of Trebison, and traversing Asia Minor, arrived at Constantinople, where they spent five days in surveying some of the ancient relics of this capital of the Cæsars. They then traversed European Turkey, and travelling through Transylvania, Hungary, Austria, Bavaria, and the Netherlands, at length came in sight of the white cliffs of Albion.

The "Summary of the Causes and Events of the existing War between Russia and Persia," which is given in the Appendix, contains a valuable body of information. We are precluded by our contracted limits from touching upon this part of the work; but we must have recourse to it in an article which we intend for our next number.

The illustrations deserve particular notice. They are beautifully executed. The view of Persepolis we have already commended; that of Shiraz is nearly of equal merit. The Burman group, the trooper of the escort, the Palace of Sultaneah, are all excellent, as well as the maps. A comparison between Lieut. Alexander's prints and the execrable pieces which disfigure Capt. Keppel's book, is highly to the advantage of the former.

La Secchia Rapita; or the Rape of the Bucket: an Heroi-comical Poem in twelve Cantos. Translated from the Italian of Alessandro Tassoni. With Notes. By JAMES ATKINSON, Esq. London. Two vols. 8vo. 1827.

MR. ATKINSON is a resident at Calcutta, where his literary talents are well known. He is the author of the "City of Palaces," and other poems, which have been published at the metropolis of British India, and have met with a favourable reception there. In the present work he has attempted a very arduous undertaking, to which he was perhaps partly impelled by reflecting that failure would be no disgrace, since it might justly be said *magnis tamen excidit ausis*. There is not perhaps a more difficult, we had almost said impossible, task, than to render a burlesque poem out of one language into another, without sacrificing the spirit, the point, the humour, the satire of the original, and substituting flatness and insipidity.

Tassoni is an Italian author celebrated for his satirical vein. The present poem was written by him in 1611, but was not published till 1622. It was thus long antecedent to the *Lutrin* of Boileau and Pope's "Rape of the Lock," and is a very early specimen of the mock heroic style of composition. The title of the poem is derived from a frivolous incident which occurred in the war between the states of Modena and Bologna in 1249, occasioned by the feuds of the Guelph and Ghibelline factions.

The immediate object of the poem is not apparent; some perceive a political design in it; others conclude that Tassoni adopted the ludicrous story of a war, in which a wooden bucket was the only prize, as a convenient vehicle for satirizing his enemies and flattering his friends: though the ground-work of the poem is built on history, the characters are chiefly the author's contemporaries. Mr. Atkinson says of the original:

The poem is written with great felicity of expression, and there are fine examples in it of almost every species of composition. Many of the descriptive passages are exquisitely touched, many passages are extremely grand, and there are many beautiful specimens of the pathetic. Yet humour is the pervading quality. It is mixed up with admirable effect in every Canto, and sparkles through every scene of the amusing story.

It would occupy more space than we are authorized to assign to a work not of an oriental character, were we to examine the translator's labours critically. We dare not say that Mr. Atkinson has succeeded in giving us the exact image of Tassoni's satire, for that is next to impossible; but that he has not been altogether unsuccessful in his translation we think will be inferred from the following stanzas, containing a burlesque description of the heathen deities, which we subjoin as a specimen:

Fame, meanwhile, heavenward flapped her spreading wings,

And bore the wondrous news to Jove's abode;

And to the sovereign told what mighty things

By wayward Fate had from a Bucket flowed;

Jove, who to human kind so loving clings,

And deeply feels their woes, a heavy load;

Orders the bells to ring at all the portals,

To call to solemn council the Immortals.

O'er rolling stars, from heavenly stalls advancing,

The coaches soon were seen, and a long train

Of mules with litters, horses fleet and prancing,

Their trappings all embroidery, nothing plain;

And with fine liveries, in the sun-beams glancing!

More than a hundred servants, rather vain

Of handsome looks, and of their stature tall,

Followed their masters to the Council Hall.

First came the Prince of Delos, Phoebus hight,
 In a gay travelling carriage, fleetly drawn
 By six smart Spanish chestnuts, shining bright,
 Which with their tramping shook the aerial lawn;
 Red was his cloak, three-cocked his hat, and light
 Around his neck the golden fleece was thrown;
 And twenty-four sweet damsels, nectar-sippers,
 Were running near him in their pumps or slippers.
 Pallas, with lovely but disdainful mien,
 Came on a nag of Basignanian race;
 Tight round her leg, and gathered up, was seen
 Her gown half Greek, half Spanish; o'er her face
 Part of her hair hung loose, a natural skreen,
 Part was tied up, and with becoming grace;
 A bunch of feathers on her head she wore,
 And on her saddle-bow her falchion bore.
 The Paphian Queen for her accommodation
 Had two state coaches; richly decorated
 Was that in which she sate in conversation
 With Cupid and the Graces; on them waited
 Pages in habits suited to their station,
 The other coach, with courtiers gay was freighted.
 The chamberlain and tutor, debonnaire,
 And the chief cook, Dan Bacon, too, were there.
 Saturn was old and ill of a catarrh,
 And just had taken physic: therefore rightly
 Came in a litter shut up from the air,
 With vase beneath the cushion, fitting tightly.
 On a fine charger came the God of War
 Capering along, unusually sprightly.
 His boots were scoloped, and his corslet leather,
 And in his hat he wore a scarlet feather.
 But Ceres and the God of Wine appeared
 At once, conversing; and the God of Ocean
 Upon a dolphin's back his form upreared,
 Floating through waves of air with graceful motion;
 Naked, all sea-weed, and with mud besmeared;
 For whom the mother, Rhea, feels emotion,
 Reproaching the proud brother, when she meets him,
 Because so like a fisherman he treats him.
 Diana, the sweet virgin, was not there;
 She had risen early, and o'er woodland green
 Had gone to wash her clothes in fountain fair,
 Upon the Tuscan shore—romantic scene.
 And not returning till the northern star
 Had rolled through dusky air and lost its sheen:
 Her mother made excuses, quite provoking,
 Knitting at the same time a worsted stocking.
 Juno-Lucina did not go, and why?
 She anxious wished to wash her sacred head.
 Menippo, Jove's chief taster, standing by,
 For the disastrous Fates excuses made.
 They had much tow to spin and lint to dry,
 And they were also busy baking bread.
 The cellarman, Silenus, kept away,
 To water the domestics' wine that day.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this society was held on the 1st November, when the Hon. Mr. Harington presided. C. Paton, Esq. was elected a member of the society, and Major-Gen. Walker, an honorary member. Various musical instruments, from Aracan, were presented to the museum by Dr. Tytler; and various objects of natural history, from Tucopia and New Guinea, by Capt. Dillon. With reference to the public communications made by this gentlemen, regarding the loss of La Perouse, the society resolved to submit to the government the expression of the interest felt by them in the probable result of any inquiry that might be instituted to discover the scene of his unfortunate fate.

The communications laid before the meeting were, Notes on various animals in the northern mountains, of which the specimens of the horns were exhibited; and remarks on the snake stone, by Capt. Herbert; the translation of the inscription on the great bell, at Rangoon, with illustrative comments, by the Rev. Mr. Hough; and a Memoir on the Bhote Mehals of Kamaon, by the commissioner Mr. Trail.

The following is the enumeration of the horns submitted to the society, and the animals to which they belong.

No. 1.—Of the *Jurao*, (*Cervus Hipelaphus* of Du Vaucel).—A very good lithographic engraving of this animal was given in the last volume of the *Researches*. It is as common in the lower part of the mountains as it is in Bengal. It is a large sized species, of a dark colour, something between grey and russet, stands about thirteen and a half or fourteen hands high, and is remarkable for the small number of the antlers, which are never more than in the specimen. In one instance, a single horn weighed eight pounds within two ounces. Three individuals of this species are in the possession of Major Young, at Dehra, where they eat from the hand, and are almost perfectly tame.

No. 2.—Of the *Capra Ibez*, now for the first time noticed as an inhabitant of the mountains.—Capt. Herbert has never seen the animal, but understands it to be of a dark colour, and something larger than a common sheep. It abounds in Kanour, where it is called *Sgin* or *Zgin*, and is hunted in common with the musk-deer (*moschus moschiferus*) and the *Ther*.

No. 3.—Horns of the *Ther*, a new species of *Capra*, which might with propriety assume the specific name of *Leonina*, *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. XXIII. No. 137.

the peculiar appearance of the animal consisting in a very fine mane, similar to that of a lion. An inspection of the horns will satisfy any one who knows the character of the chamois, with which it has been confounded, of their specific difference, and they have been pronounced by a gentleman who has seen much of the Alps, and has repeatedly had the horns of the chamois in his possession, to be of a very different character. The animals inhabit the most difficult peaks, keeping always very near the verge of snow, and their pursuit is equally hazardous with that of the musk-deer and the ibex.

No. 4.—Horns of the *Surao*, a species of antelope, apparently a new one. It is of a size rather above the middle, is a heavy sluggish looking animal, and when young, is not very unlike a calf. It is of a black or dark brown colour, with tan on the face, breast, and legs. It also inhabits the higher and colder regions.

No. 5.—Horns of the spotted deer of the northern plain, (*cervus aris*). This animal abounds in the jungles, at the foot of the hills.

No. 6.—Horns of the hill sheep.

The snake stone is well known throughout the East as a supposed antidote against poison, particularly the venom of snakes. It is of two kinds, one of animal, the other of mineral origin: of the former, an analytical examination was published in the thirteenth volume of the *Researches*, by Dr. Davy, with additional remarks by the Secretary. It is to the latter that Capt. Herbert's inquiries have been more particularly directed. Three sorts of the mineral snake stone are procurable in the Himalaya—one is found with detritus, in a cave in Jawahir, leading into the valley of the Setlej; it is of irregular form, smooth surface, and of an olive green colour: from its chemical characters, it seems to be a new mineral, consisting chiefly of silica. The other two kinds were met with in the bazar at Haridwar, and, although differing in external characters, are essentially the same—one is of a bright greenish colour, and the other a dull green; they also vary in specific gravity, but they are both considered by Capt. H. to be varieties of serpentine, a name which has been given to a mineral substance, without any satisfactory reason, and which he thinks, therefore, may be connected with the terms snake stone, pierre de serpent, &c., attached to the zehr moherch of the East, as an antidote against the venom of snakes.

The inscription on the great bell, at
4 Q Rangoon,

Rangoon is in the Burman language and character, and is cut in twelve lines round the circumference of the bell. It records, in the usual strain, the virtues of the granter and the merits of the grant. The bell, from its size, is a curious specimen of the progress made by the Burmans in the art of fusing and casting metal, as it forms a rather unmanageable mass, being declared to weigh 15,555 vis, or about 56,000 pounds. The great bell of St. Paul's weighs but 11,470 pounds; and there are few bells in Europe larger than the Rangoon bell, except the tsar kolokol, or king of bells, of Moscow, which weighs 432,000 pounds.

The Rangoon bell was presented about forty-five years ago, to the temple of Swé-dagon, by Sengku, the grandson of Alaung-phura, whom Europeans call Alompra. In the late war it was removed from the temple, and an attempt was made to put it on board ship, but in so doing it fell into the river, whence, after remaining some months, it was again raised and restored to its former situation. The illustrations accompanying the translation afford much new and accurate information on many points of the Burman religion, and on the history of the celebrated Swé-dagon pagoda, the sanctity of which building is derived from its enshrining the relics of the four last Budhs, the staff of Kauk-ka-than, the water pot of Gau-na-gon, the bathing garment of Ka-tha-pa, and eight hairs from the head of Gautama. We believe these most sacred objects escaped the sacrilegious hands of our soldiery.

The Bhote Mehals are that part of the Himalaya range which constituted the Bhote province of Tibet, and commence on the north from the table land beyond the mountains: they comprise the different passes into Tibet, and some of the loftiest peaks in the Himalaya, and are now attached to the states of Kamaon and Gerhwal. Their population is estimated at 10,000 individuals, of whom nine-tenths are Bhoteas. The greater portion of the surface is above the line of perpetual congelation; but even in such portions as are cultivated, snow lies on the ground during full half the year, or from September to April: an interval of four months without a fall is unusual. The chief crops are buck-wheat and barley, which are sown early in June, and reaped in September; but the crops are not unfrequently injured or destroyed by an early occurrence of frosts or slips of snow beds, the lower deposit of which is pushed from its site on the sides of the mountains, by the weight of a fresh accumulation nearer to their summits. The inhabitants of the country are identifiable in every respect with those of Tibet, and in many of the villages tradition still preserves the

memory of their emigration from that country. Those who are settled at the Darma Ghat, however, are a distinct race, and are said to be the descendants of a body of Mongol Tartars, who were left by Timur to maintain Kamaon in subjection: they themselves do not admit this descent, especially as they have ceased to be Mohammedans; but the tradition is, nevertheless, entitled to credit. The Bhoteas are originally Buddhists, and disciples of the Lama of Tibet, but their subjugation by the Gorkha government has introduced many Hindu doctrines amongst them, and they worship the divinities of both religions, and employ equally as their priests, Brahmans or Lamas. They have properly no distinction of caste; but the difference of tribe prevails amongst them as strongly, and in many instances, those of one village will neither eat nor intermarry with those of another. The Bhoteas enjoy the monopoly of the carrying trade from Hindustan to Tibet, the greater parts of which are in the adjoining province of *Hiun Dés*, (the land of snow, not *Oon Dés*, as originally supposed, or the land of the wool of the shawl goat), and which, besides its central position, is rich in natural produce, in gold dust, borax, salt, and shawl wool, and at the same time, from its own sterility, depends upon the surrounding countries for every article of domestic consumption. The traders from Tibet, Ladakh, Cashmir, Tartary, China, and Hindustan, meet annually at a great fair held at Gertokh, the residence of the Viceroy of Lassa. The intercourse with this state is, however, subjected to the restraints imposed by the Chinese, and a special permission from the government is annually necessary for the traders of *Hiun Dés* and Bhote to open a commercial intercourse. The staple commodity of the Bhoteas is grain, which they collect from the villages of Kamaon and Gerhwal, in exchange chiefly for salt;—other articles suited to the *Hiun Dés* market, and exported to a small extent, are coarse woollen cloths and cottons, coral, pearls, hardware, sugar, spices, dyes, timber, &c. The cost of carriage, and the difficulties thrown in the way of it by the Bhotea carrying monopoly, and the cautious fears of the Gertokh rulers, keep it confined infinitely below its natural level. Of the character of the Bhoteas it may be observed generally, that they are an honest, orderly, and industrious race, good humoured and patient.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of the society was held on the 2d Sept., Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair.

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The following papers were submitted to the meeting :—a case of fungus hæmatodes, by Mr. McPherson of Bhauliah, with a preparation of the tumor ; account of gangrenous ulcer, as it appeared in the 65th N. I. at Pinang, by Mr. Leslie ; and the notice of a specific for cholera, in use at the Cape, communicated by Mr. Chalmers : a letter from the secretary to the Madras Medical Society, with the report of their proceedings, and a description of the native drug, called *gulancha*, by Ram Commol Shen, communicated by the vice-president.

The South African specific for cholera has been discovered, it is said, by the Moravian Missionaries, who keep its preparation a secret, although not unwilling to communicate it hereafter, should the trial of it in India establish its value. In two cases of spasmodic cholera, in the Male Asylum at Madras, it has been administered with the happiest effects. A small supply is on its way to Calcutta, for further investigation.

The *gulancha* is a drug very extensively used in a variety of complaints by the natives, and very frequently with advantage : it is the *menispermum cordifolium* of Willdenow. It is administered in the form of decoction and infusion, and a mucilaginous extract is separated from the stem, which is found serviceable in some cases of membranous inflammation. The decoctions are given in intermittents, and a variety of cutaneous complaints, and are considered to possess active restorative virtues : the taste of the fresh stem is a mild, and not unpleasant bitter.

Dr. Waddle's account of the diseases of Rangoon, and Dr. Sully's treatment of hydrophobia were then read, and made the subjects of remark. The communication of Dr. Waddell was restricted to the diseases of the first twelve months after the occupation of Rangoon, which occurred in the hospital under his charge, comprising details of European and native artillery : his observations on the medical topography of Rangoon are of generally interesting character.

The town stands on the north bank of the Rangoon river, about twenty-eight miles above its debouché into the gulf of Martaban. Its extent along the river is about a mile, and its breadth six or seven hundred yards. It is enclosed with teak timbers and planks ten or twelve feet high, having two gateways on the north face, and one on each of the others : from each of the northern gateways proceeds a good brick road, running over a gently rising ground, and gradually converging till they unite at the distance of two miles and a half, in front of the Sho Dagon pagoda. The space between these roads being tolerably clear of jungle, was selected for the quartering of the troops.

The ground sloped considerably to the west of this triangle, and the lines rested on a thick wood, which closed in to the north and north-east. On the eastern line, particularly on the approach to the pagoda, the ground rose abruptly to an elevation of two hundred feet from the surface of the river, and from the summit of the acclivity an extensive view presented itself over a tract consisting of low rice fields, and intersected by the ramifications of the Rangoon and Syriam rivers. This tract being left uncultivated, became, in the rains, one extensive swamp. The town itself is divided into streets, running, for the most part, parallel, and the transverse lines crossing at right angles. The streets are narrow, but formed of pounded brick, with a rise in the middle to throw off the water ; and when the streets were put in repair, the town itself was sufficiently healthy and commodious. The same cannot be said of the suburbs running east and west of the town, many of the houses of which are constructed on piles within high water mark ; and at low water the exhalations from the mud, from the filth thrown upon the bank from the houses above, and from the putrescent fish which the Burmese use largely in preparing their favourite dish *balachong*, rendered the atmosphere, during the ebb-tide, singularly and disgustingly offensive. The water of the river is turbid, but except in the hot months, when it becomes brackish, is considered sufficiently wholesome. The troops, however, were supplied from wells, the water of which Dr. W. considers to have been perfectly good, although some difference of opinion prevailed upon the subject. The climate offers much analogy to that of Bengal, being similarly divisible into the cold, hot, and rainy seasons. In November, the thermometer ranges from 60 to 86. March and April are the hottest months, and the range of the thermometer is then widest, being sometimes 72, at four or five in the morning, and 101, at two or three in the afternoon of the same day. These variations, however, are not considered hurtful to the health, as the coolness of the night compensates, in some degree, for the heat of the day. The air is dry ; the first showers fall early in May ; the regular rains set in by the first week of June, and cease about the 10th or 15th October. The fall of rain is much more considerable than any known in Hindustan, and in July and August, often continues for several days and nights together. In the intervals, the weather is oppressively close and moist, and during the fall, as uncomfortably chilly, a cold wind accompanying the rain, and bringing down the mercury ten or twelve degrees. In such a climate it was impossible for troops to be engaged in active military operations

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without suffering severely from disease. During the time from June to October, the average monthly admission of sick in the detachment under Dr. W.'s charge was equal to one-third of the whole numerical strength, and in some divisions, the proportion was still more considerable. The deaths amongst the Europeans of the artillery were as one in twelve, and amongst the natives, something less than one in twenty. On the setting in of the cold season, the general sickness began to decline, and from January to July, was comparatively moderate.

The especial object of Dr. Sully's paper on hydrophobia, is to recommend the careful and continued ablution of the wounded part before excision with water poured from some height above the limb. Dr. S. attributes to this practice the successful treatment of a number of cases in the west of England by his father and himself, or altogether twenty-eight, of whom twenty-three escaped from any serious consequences from the bites they had suffered.—[*Ibid.*

With reference to the last subject adverted to in the proceedings of the medical society, we may observe, that a discovery has been recently made, which, if confirmed by experience, will be one of the most important in the history of medical science. Dr. Barry, an English physician settled at Paris, has advanced, that absorption depends upon atmospheric pressure, and that by removing this pressure, poisons applied to wounded parts will not be introduced into the system. Upon the bite of a snake, or any rabid animal, therefore, a cupping-glass should be applied over the bite, which will at least suspend the operation of the virus until surgical aid can be obtained. But Dr. Barry goes still further, and asserts, that by the continued application of the cupping-glass for some time, the absorption of the poison will not only be suspended, but the disposition to take it up be so weakened, that it may be altogether prevented by merely washing the wound. He also maintains, that even after a part of the poison has been absorbed, and has begun to produce its effects upon the system, the application of a cupping-glass will arrest its further influence. These doctrines rest upon a number of experiments, in which arsenic, prussic acid, strychnia, the upas tiente, and the venom of the viper, have been made use of with impunity wherever the glass was applied, and fatally whenever its application was omitted. The results of Dr. Barry's inquiries have been submitted to the academy of medicine, and are the subject of a favourable report by Messrs. Cuvier and Dumeril, to whom his communication had been referred.—[*Ibid.*

A meeting of the society was held on

the 4th Nov., Mr. Wilson, vice-president, in the chair.

Specimens of agates and other minerals from Guzerat, with observations, were presented to the museum by Dr. Kennedy, and specimens of the true West-Indian arrow-root, reared in this country, by W. Leycester, Esq., the president of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society. Cases of the employment of the oxymuriate of mercury, by Mr. Cockerell, a successful case of strangulated hernia, by Mr. Charters, and an essay on public health in India, by Dr. Rankin, were submitted to the meeting, and reserved for future consideration.

Although the *thikur* of this country is a valuable substitute for the *maranta arundinacea*, or arrow-root of the West Indies, it does not preclude the introduction of the latter as a more nutritious vegetable. The specimens submitted on this occasion were reared by Mr. Leycester from tubers, procured by him at the Cape, from the Isle of France, and were brought round on board ship, after being planted in boxes. They were removed thence into the open ground, and have been exposed to the hot winds and the rains: three tubers taken up, were found divisible into fifty parts, each of which comprised a tuber, and would therefore grow. The tubers now produced are not so thick as those of the West Indies, but they will probably become larger.

Of the minerals forwarded by Dr. Kennedy, he observes, that the sites in which they are procured, depend upon the information obtained from Cambay merchants, except the Carnelian mines, which are described in the first volume of the Transactions of the Literary Society of Bombay, from actual observation.

The agates are procured from the district of Kopurwunj, the chief town of which is about forty miles east of Ahmedabad. The jaspers are obtained about eighty miles north of the same place, from the Eder mountains, the marble barriers that divide Marwar from Gugaral. The moss-stone is found in veins, in the bed of the Limree river, in Kattiwar. The collection comprises another variety of mineral, which is considered by Dr. K. to be a marble of the coarsest grain; it is brought from the mountain of Deykerwara, nearly half-way between Ahmedabad and Radanpur, and is termed by the natives, *sengi* herefi, or letter-stone, from the supposed resemblance of its veins to oriental characters. It is obtainable in any quantity, and at the lowest possible cost. The mountains to the north and north-east of Guzerat abound with every variety of marble, and they are of the most easy access, rendering the transport so cheap, that in the surrounding country, in earlier times, this material

material has been lavishly expended, and the mounds enclosing the Dungepur lake, a piece of water of vast extent, are composed of solid blocks of white marble. The tombs and mosques of Ahmedabad afford abundant specimens of marble of the most beautiful description. The great mart for the polished agates, &c. is Cambray, where the material and the labour are both so cheap, that a seal stone of the best sort may be purchased for one rupee, and the most beautiful set of female ornaments that can be selected, does not cost more than fifty—the price of ordinary sets varies from eight rupees to twenty-five.—[*Ibid.*

NEW SOUTH WALES AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this society was held at the Sydney Hotel, 30th August: Sir John Jamison, the president, in the chair.

Several premiums were announced for agricultural stock, to be awarded at the general meeting, on the 5th October.

The following resolutions were agreed to be proposed to the general meeting.

Resolved, that this meeting, viewing with the utmost regret, the languor which appears to have pervaded the members of this society, as exhibited by the paucity of their numbers attendant upon the periodical meetings during the last twelve months, do most earnestly call upon the whole body of subscribers to bestir themselves, and again to unite for promoting their general benefit. The attendance, the suggestions, the example of practical men, can alone keep a society of this nature in existence; and this meeting are convinced, that few agricultural societies can boast of men more capable of affording the so much desired aid, than does that of New South Wales.

Resolved, that for the furtherance of the ends proposed by the formation of this society, and for directing the views of its members to the most legitimate objects for their attention, it is desirable that essays upon the best modes of conducting the farming operations of this colony should be prepared and published at stated periods, for general information.

At a quarterly general meeting, held at Paramatta, Oct. 5, the prizes were distributed, and additional premiums were awarded; amongst which was one to Mrs. Walker, on the exhibition of colonial silk, which that lady had caused to be produced, and afterwards to be manufactured into a shawl in China.

The recommendations of the especial meeting, 30th August, were all adopted unanimously, except one of them relative to Mr. Fraser's cotton; the adoption of this recommendation was merely postponed

till the next meeting, in order to afford Mr. Fraser time to furnish the meeting with a sample of the cotton, and with the report thereon of the Glasgow manufacturer.

(It appears from a Sydney paper, that Mr. Fraser has shipped a small quantity of samples of colonial grown cotton to England; and the colonists express a confident expectation that it will become a staple article of export.)

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Wednesday meetings of this society during the last month have been numerous attended, and the lectures at three o'clock have excited much interest. At three of these meetings, the secretary delivered discourses on the affinities that connect the different groups of ornithology, illustrating the subject by specimens of the most attractive groups in the society's collection. Several ladies of rank were present at these exhibitions. A lecture has also been given by Mr. Brookes, the celebrated anatomist, on the comparative anatomy of the ostrich. A fine opportunity was afforded for illustrating this subject, by a donation from his Majesty of a female ostrich, which lately died in the menagerie at Windsor. Preparations were made of the more interesting parts of this bird, which, with specimens of various parts of the emeu, cassowary, rhea, &c. selected from Mr. Brookes's museum, served to illustrate this very erudite and scientific lecture. A numerous audience of the principal men of science in town was collected on this occasion.

MINERALOGY OF CEYLON.

The following facts relating to the mineral productions of the Tangalle district were laid before the Literary Society of Columbo on the 17th October, by Sir Hardinge Giffard, the chief justice of Ceylon.

Mr. Gisborne, the collector of Tangalle has been for some time past engaged in opening a canal, by which a supply of fresh water may be conveyed to the port of Tangalle from the lake of Kireme; and a large and valuable tract of country, now totally waste, rendered capable of irrigation, and consequent cultivation. The supply of Tangalle alone is an object of great importance to the district, as nothing else is wanting to render that secure, though small harbour, perfectly commodious to shipping.

In digging through a hill covered with old and thick jungle, the workmen, at a depth of fifteen feet, struck upon a large hollow substance, having the appearance of pottery; one of the tools broke a hole into

into it, but the mass was afterwards carefully separated by Mr. Gisborne's direction from the surrounding clay rock. This clay rock is that called cabook in the vernacular language of Ceylon, and is the laterite* of Ainslie.—(*Mat. Med. Hindost.*) The mass, on being examined, appeared on the outside to be rough, and partaking of the appearance of the surrounding rock; the inside was highly glazed, and of a deep black colour; in length it was twenty-two inches, and in breadth fifteen; the shape was more nearly oval than any other, but by no means regular. It appeared to have been perfectly close before it was struck, and the hollow contained only air. The shell or crust, of which a piece is submitted to the society, appears to consist of two or even three distinct layers of striate or fibrous crystallization; the thickness is pretty equal throughout, about half an inch; its specific gravity is about 3.800. Since the first discovery, many other smaller hollow lumps of a globular or reniform shape have been found, varying from eight to four inches in diameter, but all agreeing in other particulars with the first. On a rough analysis of a specimen, this substance was found to be composed of a large portion of iron—a result since verified by Mr. Gisborne having smelted from about sixteen pounds of it, a bar of iron of about one pound weight, a part of which is also, with one of the balls, laid before this meeting. Upon the whole, this substance seems to approach most nearly to the description given by Professor Jamieson (*Intro.* p. 253) and Mr. Phillips (*Mineral.* p. 173) of the "reniform or kidney-shaped brown clay iron ore, found imbedded in iron clay, presenting irregular balls of reniform lenticular or elliptical forms, which are sometimes hollow; these forms (they add) are composed of lamellar concretions;" and the professor adds, that it is "one of the best kinds of iron-stone, and yields excellent iron." Substances of this kind were known to the ancients under the names of *atiles* and *geodes*, and were supposed to possess very extraordinary virtues.

In another part of the line of the canal, it became necessary to blow up a large rock, of which Mr. Gisborne has transmitted a specimen; this fragment presents a glittering appearance, and as far as it has been examined, contains a large

quantity of carbonate of iron intermixed with quartz, and very compactly associated; the specific gravity is about 3.454; a piece of this is also laid before the society.

Mr. Gisborne has also transmitted some bottles of a mineral water found in the course of digging the canal; it is impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, that which is found in Harrowgate water, four ounces of it, subjected by Dr. Collier to galvanic action, deposited a sediment weighing one grain and a half of pure sulphur, about forty-eight grains to a gallon.—[*Ceylon Gaz.*]

THE FLATTENING OF THE EARTH.

At the Academy of Sciences at Paris, a memoir was lately read by Capt. Duperrey, on the experiments made with the invariable pendulum during the voyage of the *Coquille* round the world. He states that various experiments confirmed the fact of the flattening of the terrestrial globe, conjectured by several travellers, who had remarked that the number of oscillations which the pendulum made at certain places differed from what had been observed in the extent of the same parallel. The principal anomalies observed by Capt. Duperrey were at the Isle of France, Mons, Guam, and the Island of Ascension. At the Isle of France the invariable pendulum (as had been remarked by M. Freycinet) made in one day, upon an average, thirteen or fourteen oscillations more than it ought, supposing the depression to be 1.305, according to the lunar theory. At Ascension the acceleration, as noticed by Capt. Sabine, was five or six oscillations, even supposing the depression to be 1.288. At other stations the difference was almost nothing; and in some the motion of the pendulum was retarded. Such differences, Capt. Duperrey remarks, between the results of experiment and those given by theory, cannot be attributed to errors of observation. He is disposed to refer the cause of the phenomena, with Capt. Sabine, to the want of homogeneity in the earth considered as a mass, or to the mere variations of density in the superficial strata. What tends to confirm this hypothesis, he says, is that all observations shew that an acceleration of the pendulum generally takes place on volcanic ground, and a retardation on such as is sandy and argillaceous.

A very important question to ascertain is whether the flattening is exactly the same in both hemispheres. From the observations of Capts. Duperrey and Freycinet, it appears that in the southern hemisphere it is 1.291, and in the northern, 1.288; that is to say, it is sensibly the same, or 1.290, in each.

THE

* This is a term given by Dr. F. Buchanan to a substance (distinct from the mineral so named by Mr. Kirwan) found in Southern India, which is an indurated clay found in large masses, from whence the natives obtain their iron, but which is very commonly used as bricks for building, whence its name. It is soft when in the mass, and becomes hard by exposure to the air. See a full account of the mineral, and process of smelting the ore, in Buchanan's *Journey*, vol. II. c. xii.—*Ed.*

THE PALI LANGUAGE.

In the *Calcutta Government Gazette* appears the following notice of a work on the Pali, or sacred language of the Buddhists, which has been lately published at Ceylon:—

The original materials of this work, which comprises a grammar and vocabulary of the language, and a list of roots, were, in great part, the labour of the late Mr. Tolfrey, of Ceylon: upon his death, they came into the possession of the Rev. Mr. Clough, by whom they have been completed and published.

The author of the Pali Grammar has not entered very fully into the history of the language, and that remains to be elicited from the study of its literature; but he has prefixed a few observations that throw some light upon its actual condition. The term *Pali*, as the designation of the language, he derives from *Pela*, a row or range, and is expressive of the regularity of its construction. Mr. Clough, however, agrees with all who have written on the subject, that it is most generally termed Magadhi, from Magadh, or South Behar, which is uniformly asserted to be its native country.

The grammar of Mr. Clough is printed in the Cingalese character, which it may be conceded is constructed upon the Devanagari. The only character in which Pali is exclusively written, is the square character common in the lacquered and gilded books of the Burmans. This alphabet would appear to have originated amongst the countries to the eastward, as it is not known in Ceylon, although the language and religion of the Buddhas passed, there is little doubt, from India through Ceylon to the eastward. We believe the square Pali is little used in Siam, and seems to be almost confined to Ava.

The author of the grammar confirms the general impression, that whatever may be the variety of character in which it is written, the Pali is every where the same, and that the books in this language are equally intelligible in Ava and Ceylon. He also establishes its identity with Sanscrit, and considers it as a derivative from that language, every essential part of it, he observes, being found in Sanscrit. The vocabularies of its nouns and of its verbal roots are nearly the same. The grammar also is formed on the same model, but is much more simple, and bears the most undoubted marks of being much more modern. The conclusion which he draws is, therefore, that it is not a primitive, but a derived language, and one of the most ancient and perfect scions of the Sanscrit stem. We have no doubt of the accuracy of this conclusion, but it is by no means clear whether the offspring was a natural or artificial product, whether the Pali, Magadhi, or Prakrit (for they

are all the same) was the gradual softening and simplification of the spoken dialects from a more elaborate form of speech, like Italian from Latin; or whether it was the ingenious adaptation of some vernacular peculiarities to the modification of Sanscrit, in order to form a new characteristic language. The Magadhi is not merely a religious language, but is familiar to Brahmanical writers as the dialect of women and servants in their dramas, which looks as if it had been a spoken tongue, when the custom was first introduced: at the same time, the rules are so completely devised for the alteration, that it is easily made at any time, and writers of very modern date write Prakrit as fluently as Sanscrit, which is in favour of its artificial construction. The question is of some importance in the history of both languages; as, if Pali was a vernacular tongue, originating from Sanscrit by the slow progress of insensible change, and serving to pave the way for other forms of speech, by which it has been finally supplanted, a much more considerable period must have intervened since it and its prototype were current in India, than if it had been evolved by ingenious writers from its parent source. There is nothing in its construction unfavourable to its familiar use; and Mr. Clough mentions, that amongst the Bauddha priests it is a common medium of intercourse. The facilities afforded to the study by the publication of this grammar, and the favourable opportunities to be found, both to the eastward and in Ceylon, will, we trust, soon render us acquainted with the peculiarities of the language, and the value of its literature.

STRENGTH OF INDIAN TIMBER.

In the *British Indian Military Repository* of Calcutta, there is a tabular view of the relative strength of the different Indian woods, given from experiments made at the Cossipore gun-carriage manufactory.

The strength of the different woods is nearly as their specific gravities. That which bore the greatest load was the Bengal soondry, seasoned. The specimens of this wood cut of a length (72 inches) so as to allow a space of 60 inches between the supports, bore a weight of 1,384½ lbs. before breaking. The deflexion in the centre before yielding was 4½ inches. The next is the seasoned saul, which ranged from 1,319 to 1,226. The proportions being the same, with an inflexion of from 4½ to 2½ of an inch. Of the seasoned teaks, the Burmese seems to be the highest, the weight carried by it being in similar circumstances 1,040½, with a deflexion at breaking of 3½. The Bombay teak is stated as varying from 880 to 820, with a deflexion of from 3½ to 3 inches:

inches: one kind of it is indeed given as low as 591, with $2\frac{1}{2}$ deflexion. Seasoned Norway pine, tried in like manner, broke under a load of 578, suffering at the same time a deflexion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. American ash gave 483, with a deflexion of $4\frac{1}{2}$. The experiments appear to have been made with a good deal of care, three specimens of each wood being subjected to trial. The seasoned woods seem to have given a higher result than those which were green. This appears to be rather at variance with some of Buffon's results, in the extensive set of experiments performed by him on oak wood, for the French government. He found green oak to be strongest, and that it invariably lost some of its strength by drying.

SINGULAR PROPERTY OF BISMUTH AND ANTIMONY.

At a meeting of the Société Philomatique of Paris, March 31, M. Becquerel stated the result of some experiments with an instrument invented by M. Lebaillif, for improving the magnetic needle. This instrument consists of two magnetic needles placed at two extremities of a straw suspended from the middle by an untwisted silk thread, the two poles of the needles being placed so as to render the action of the earth nearly nil. The smallest quantity of magnetism is by means of this instrument rendered sensible. The use of it has discovered a very singular property in bismuth and antimony; when these two metals approach the poles of the needle of M. Lebaillif, they exert upon it a very remarkable repulsion, as well upon one pole as upon the other. "It was not," says M. Becquerel, "till after an attentive observation, that I could prevail upon myself to credit such a strange phenomenon." This double repulsive property has never yet been perceived in any other metal.—[*Le Globe*.

VISIT OF SPANIARDS TO OTAHEITE IN 1774.

At the last visit paid by Capt. Cook to Otaheite, or Tahiti, as it is now more properly written, he found that two vessels had been at the island in 1774, which the natives, he said, told him came from *Reema*; that they left four persons behind them, one of whom was named *Mateema*; that they afterwards returned and took away the people they had left; that the commodore of the two ships, whose name the natives called *Oreede*, died and was buried at the island, &c. The few particulars our celebrated navigator could glean from the natives, and the discovery of a wooden cross, on which was cut "*Christus vincit*," and "*Carolus imperat*, 1774," led him to conclude that the visitors were Spaniards, and that the vessels

came from Lima in South America. He, however, expresses some curiosity about the fact, and respecting the design of the Spaniards who remained behind.

The Editor of the *Calcutta Government Gazette* of October 26 gives an account of a manuscript journal recently inspected by him, of a Spaniard of Lima, named Maximo Rodriguez, which contains the particulars of this identical voyage. It appears that the writer of the journal, the Mateema of the Tahitians, was an officer who, having picked up some acquaintance with the language of Tahiti, accompanied, as interpreter, a mission from Callao, to this and other islands in the South Sea, the object of which was to convert the natives to Christianity, by the aid of some natives of the Society Islands, who had been converted at Lima. Two friars formed part of the mission, which sailed from Callao on the 20 Sept. 1774, in the frigate *Aquila* and the schooner *Jupiter*, and arrived at Tahiti on the 15 November. With the concurrence of the chiefs named Bijiutua and Otu (the Waheidoos and Otoo of Cook) the Spaniards built a house at Ojatutira (Oheitepeha), and the cross discovered by Cook was elevated before it. The commander of the frigate, who died, was named Don Domingo Bonechia, not very like *Oreede*. The vessels sailed from the island January 28, leaving the two missionaries, Padres Geronimo and Narciso, and Maximo Rodriguez, with an attendant. The missionaries made little effort to convert the natives to Christianity, and had still less success. Rodriguez accuses them of want of humanity and kindness. They seem, indeed, very soon to have grown heartily sick of their situation, and to have become morose and ill-tempered. The journal of Maximo shews that he incurred their frequent displeasure, in consequence of which, probably, he seems to have been of little use as an interpreter, spending his time mostly with the natives, and wandering about from one part of the island to another. He was, he says, but twenty years of age, and his youth and vivacity, and his knowledge of their language, made him, as Cook observes, exceedingly popular. He does not seem to have been a man of any science; and, although an intelligent, not a very profound observer.

On the return of the vessels, to ascertain the condition and progress of the mission, the fathers wished to withdraw, and accordingly left the island and returned to Callao, February 18, 1776.

The journal of Rodriguez, from whence this account is taken, has never been printed, but remained in the possession of his family, and a copy was procured by Capt. Dillon, who has been already mentioned, from his widow at Valparaiso.

ASIANIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

OFF-RECKONING FUND.

Fort William, Sept. 29, 1826. — The Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to direct, that the following extract of a general letter from the Hon. the Court of Directors in the Military Department, under date the 19th April 1826, be published in General Orders.

Par. 10. "We concur with you in opinion that a participation in the Off-Reckoning Fund should not be continued to officers in command of irregular corps. The exceptions proposed by you to this rule we think reasonable and judicious.

11. "We therefore direct, that regimental lieutenant-colonels, who shall be compelled by ill-health to become invalided, and shall be appointed to the command of invalid or provincial battalions, be allowed to receive the full surplus off-reckonings of their respective corps, and that regimental majors compelled to become invalided under similar circumstances, shall, if appointed to the command of invalid or provincial battalions, be allowed to receive a share of surplus off-reckonings proportioned to the established strength of their respective corps, not exceeding in any case 4,000 rupees per annum.

12. "The clothing agents who shall be appointed to the charge of such office, subsequently to the receipt of the present order, shall, in lieu of all other emoluments, receive from the Off-Reckoning Fund a share equal to that received by officers succeeding to the command of regiments after 1st May 1826, but such officers as stand appointed to the situation of clothing agent are to continue in receipt of a full share so long as they hold their appointments.

13. "With these exceptions, no officer who shall be appointed to the command of an irregular corps subsequently to the receipt of this despatch, shall be allowed to share in the surplus off-reckonings."

Invalid lieutenant-colonels entitled to off-reckonings, shall receive, agreeably to the foregoing resolutions of the Hon. the Court of Directors, the full surplus off-reckonings of their respective corps from the 1st proximo.

REDUCTIONS IN THE ARTILLERY.

Fort William, Nov. 4, 1826. — The Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to direct, that on the return to the Fort of the artillery now em-

ployed at Penang and its dependencies, the 6th or Golundaz battalion of artillery shall be reduced to sixteen companies.

Nov. 4.—The three separate companies of gun-lascars, formed by the Commander-in-chief under authority of G. O. of the 17th June 1824, to meet urgent, though temporary, demands of the service, consequent to the then deficiency in the numerical strength of the European artillery, being no longer required, the Right Hon. the Vice-President in council is pleased to order that they be immediately reduced, and incorporated with the gun-lascar details attached to troops and companies.

OFFICERS' WIDOWS.

Fort William, Nov. 17, 1826. — The Vice President in Council is pleased to notify, under instructions from the Hon. the Court of Directors, in a general letter, dated 24th May 1826, that in future no widows of military or medical officers of their army, left destitute by the death of their husbands, will be allowed passage money to England; the Orphan Fund entitling children of officers who may die in distressed circumstances to an allowance as passage-money to England, and subscription to the Military Fund, affording sufficient means for the return of widows.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Judicial Department.

Nov. 9. Mr. J. Shaw, register of Dinapore and joint magistrate stationed at Maldah.

Mr. A. Heyland, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Beerbhoom.

Mr. H. Armstrong, ditto ditto of Sarun.

Mr. G. F. Thompson, ditto ditto of Bareilly.

Territorial Department.

Nov. 9. Mr. H. Swetnam, to be collector of Shahjehanpore.

Mr. J. Dunamure, ditto of Suheswan.

Mr. J. T. Reade, ditto of Seharunpoor.

Mr. H. Frazer, to be principal assistant in northern division of Delhee territory.

Mr. H. S. Boulderson, to be secretary to Board of Revenue in Western Provinces.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Nov. 3. Rev. H. S. Fisher, joint district chaplain at Meerut.

Rev. W. Frazer, district chaplain at Bareilly.

Rev. J. Irwing, ditto at Futtehgurh.

Rev. H. Parish, ditto at Agra.

Rev. T. Proctor, chaplain to garrison of Fort William.

Rev. J. J. Tucker, chaplain at station of Patna.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Oct. 30, 1826. — Cadets admitted.

Mr. C. E. Mills to artillery, and prom. to 2d-Lieut.

4 R

—Monsr.

—Messrs. W. Master, G. R. Budd, T. F. B. Beaton, Jas. Gordon, J. D. Macnaghten, and G. Scott, to cavalry, and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. C. Steele, G. Durant, H. Apperley, L. C. Fagan, H. S. Grimes, G. M. Hill, J. C. Scott, W. Cox, J. S. Alston, T. W. Morgan, T. Biddulph, W. H. Lomer, C. D. Bailey, T. T. Wheeler, J. H. W. Mayow, J. E. Mackay, P. Gordon, N. G. Mein, W. C. Hollings, Hon. J. O. Murray, J. R. B. Andrews, and G. Holloway, to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.

Assist. surg. admitted. Messrs. W. Dollard, A. C. Gordon, I. Davidson, J. V. Leese, H. Roe, W. Warlow, Jas. Goss, Jas. Carnie, and C. T. Woodhouse.

Lieut. T. Prinsep, corps of engineers, to be superintendent of canals, with a salary of 1,000 rupees per mensem, exclusive of his military pay.

Nov. 2.—Lieut. R. B. Brittridge, 13th N.I., to have rank of capt. by brevet.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 26, 1826.—Ens. J. C. Cooper removed from 3d to 49th N.I.

Oct. 27.—Ens. Nugent, of 30th N.I., and Ens. Laurance, of 66th do., permitted to exch. corps.

Oct. 28.—Lieut. Worsley, 6th extra regt., to officiate as aid-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Dick.

Assist. surg. C. Finch, app. to 13th N.I. in Assam.

Oct. 30.—*Postings and Removals.* Lieut. Col. Com. A. Richards (new prom.) posted to 51st N.I.; Lieut. Col. Blackney removed from 35th to 5th do.; Lieut. Col. F. A. Weston, removed from 5th to 35th do.; Lieut. Col. Jas. Tod (new prom.) posted to 51st do.; Lieut. Col. John Smith (new prom.) posted to 19th do.; Lieut. Col. Huthwaite removed from 19th to 84th do.; Lieut. Col. Com. Sir Thos. Remy removed from 28th to 16th do.; Lieut. Col. Com. T. D. Broughton removed from 16th to 28th do.

Oct. 31.—*Offic. Assist. surg.* Barber to have charge of Station Hospital at Barrackpore.

Fort William, Nov. 4.—3d L.C. Cornet G. A. Brownlow to be lieut. from 14th Oct., v. Dildin dec.

49th N.I. Ens. Jas. Peers to be lieut., from 14th Oct., v. Willie dec.

4th Extra N.I. Br. Capt. and Lieut. N. Stewart to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. T. G. Dundas to be lieut., from 19th Oct., v. Bradley dec.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. G. C. Crispin and W. B. Wemyss to cav., and prom. to cornets.—Messrs. R. St. J. Lucas, W. Blackwood, T. M. Bremer, Wm. Lindsay, and W. H. Massie, to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. H. P. Bell as an assist. surg.

Infantry. Lieut. Col. S. Nation to be lieut. col. com., v. Haldane dec.

Maj. J. Ward to be lieut. col., v. Nation prom., and Maj. E. Wyatt to be lieut. col., v. J. C. Grant dec.

16th N.I. Capt. W. Hertram to be major; Lieut. L. N. Hull to be capt. of a comp.; and Ens. G. F. Tytler to be lieut., v. Wyatt prom.

21st N.I. Capt. E. R. Broughton to be maj.; Brev. Capt. and Lieut. N. Campbell to be capt. of a company; and Ens. J. Nunn to be lieut., v. Ward prom.

39th N.I. Lieut. H. Monke to be capt. of a company; and Ens. E. A. Monro to be lieut., from 30th Oct. 1826, in suc. to Orr dec.

40th N.I. Ens. H. H. Hill to be lieut. from 27th March 1826, v. Symes dec.

N.B.—By the death of Major Gen. Haldane, Lieut. Colonels Com. J. M. Johnson and C. Baldoek become entitled to benefits of Off-Reckoning Fund.

Cadet R. S. Tickell admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Nov. 10. *Artillery.* 2d Lieut. J. Fordyce to be 1st lieut., from 20th Sept. 1826, v. Wakefield dec.

56th N.I. Ens. J. Sutherland to be lieut., from 19th Oct. 1826, v. Nelson dec.

2d Extra N.I. Ens. D. T. Caddy to be lieut., from 4th June 1826, v. Home dec.

Assist. surg. H. Roe, to perform medical duties of civil station of Mymensing.

Capt. J. Davies, 3d Extra N.I., to be fort adj. of Fort William, v. Broughton prom.

Cadet Wm. Lydlard admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Capt. R. Tickell, of engineers, to perform duties of superintending engineer in Department of Public Works, South-West Provinces, v. Paton proceeding to Europe.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 4.—Lieut. E. S. Hawkins, 38th N.I., to be a member of Arsenal Committee in Fort William, v. Craigie app. to a staff situation.

Removals of Lieut. Cols. Swettenham from 8th to 9th L.C. Hawtrey from 9th to 8th do. Dickson from 7th to 10th do. Thomson from 10th to 7th do. W. H. Wood from 36th to 68th N.I. J. L. Stuart, from 68th to 67th do. Garnham from 67th to 36th do.

Nov. 6.—*Assist. surg. appointed to do duty.* A. Macleod with 2d, and W. Dollard with 5th bat. artil. at Dum Dum; A. C. Gordon with H.M.'s 47th regt.

Nov. 7.—Lieut. Faithfull, 43d N.I., directed to return to pioneer corps.

Lieut. Arabin, 7th N.I., app. to pioneers, and ordered to join 7th or Hill Company.

Nov. 9.—Lieut. A. Grant, of 1st Europ. Regt., and Lieut. F. G. Nicolay, of 36th N.I., permitted to exch. corps.

Cornets posted to Regts. Jas. Gordon to 3d L.C., proceeding to Keltah; G. C. Crispin, 2d do., proceeding to Muttra; W. B. Wemyss, 9th do., at Cawnpore.

Ensigns posted to Regts. John Anderson to 44th N.I., at Dacca. T. Wallace, 3d do., Lucknow. H. D. Maitland, 4th Extra do., Allahabad. C. F. Whitelocke, 13th N.I., Asam. G. W. Williams, 40th do., Dinapore. R. E. T. Richardson, 63d do., Benares. T. Biddulph, 45th do., Baitol. R. Evans, 21st do., Bhurtpure. J. K. Spicer, 28th do., Barrackpore. R. S. Tickell, 4th Extra do., Allahabad. T. T. Wheeler, 56th N.I., Nusseerabad. J. French, 57th do., Pertautgah (Oude). W. H. Massie, 39th do., proceeding to Guarawarra. Jas. R. B. Andrews, 16th do., Bhurtpure. Hon. J. O. Murray, 44th do., Dacca. G. Holloway, 68th do., Barrackpore. W. C. Hollings, 53d do., Bareilly. R. St. J. Lucas, 9th do., Secotra. T. W. Morgan, 14th do., Lucknow.

Cornets appointed to do duty. W. Master with 1st L.C., Sultanpore (Benares). G. R. Budd, 9th do., Cawnpore. T. F. B. Beaton, 1st do., Sultanpore (Benares). J. D. Macnaghten, 9th do., Cawnpore. G. Scott, 1st do., Sultanpore (Benares).

Ensigns appointed to do duty. C. Steele with 40th N.I., Dinapore. G. Durant, 46th do., Dinapore. H. Apperley, 28th do., Barrackpore. L. C. Fagan, 7th do., Berhampore. H. S. Grimes, 33d do., Keltah. G. M. Hill, 2d Extra do., Futteghur. J. C. Scott, 20th N.I., Barrackpore. W. Cox, 60th do., Meerut. J. S. Alston, 40th do., Dinapore. W. H. Lomer, 67th do., proceeding to Dinapore. C. D. Bailey, 25th do., Barrackpore. J. H. W. Mayow, 14th do., Lucknow. En. J. Mackay, 42d do., Cawnpore. W. Blackwood, 54th do., Allahabad.

Nov. 11.—*Assist. surg.* And. Walker to have med. charge of 1st troop 1st horse brig. of artil.

Fort William, Nov. 10.—Lieut. F. Abbot, corps of engineers, to assist Lieut. Warlow in executive duties of 7th or Cawnpore div. of departm. of Public Works.

Nov. 17.—11th N.I. Ens. A. Mackenzie to be lieut. from 9th Nov., v. Fleming dec.

Capt. J. J. Hamilton, 23d N.I., to be an assist. adj. gen., from 9th Nov., v. Aplin proceeded to Europe.

Assist. surg. R. Loughton to perform medical duties of civil station of Futtehpore.

Lieut. S. Mallock, corps of engineers, to be surveyor to Sunderbund commissioner, in room of Lieut. T. Prinsep.

Capt. P. Jeremie, inv. estab., to be an assist. to opium agent in Behar, with a salary of 500 rupees per mensem, in addition to his military pay and allowances.

Lieut.

Lieut. W. Brown, 1st Extra N.I., to be revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Lieut. A. Hodges, 29th N.I., to be an assist. revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Lieut. G. J. Fraser, 1st L.C., to be an assist. revenue surveyor at Seharunpore.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 11.—Brigadier Sleight to inspect whole of cavalry regts. on this estab. during present season.

Nov. 13.—*Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty.* I. Davidson, with H.M.'s 47th regt.; Furnell, with 44th N.I.; Grahame, at General Hospital; C. T. Woodhouse, with H.M.'s 47th regt.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Oct. 30. Lieut. Col. W. C. Baddeley, 16th N.I., on private affairs.—Nov. 4. Lieut. Col. Com. P. Byres, 28th N.I., for health.—10. Lieut. H. Hunter, 58th N.I., for health.—Assist. surg. W. Glass, for health.—2d-Lieut. G. T. Graham, regt. of artilly., for one year, on private affairs.—17. Capt. J. E. Watson, 55th N.I., for health.

To Ceylon.—Nov. 2. Ens. D. F. Evans, 16th N.I., for six months, on private affairs.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Oct. 30. Capt. Stones, 13th L.Dr., for health.—Brev. Capt. Mackenzie, Royal Regt., for health.—Nov. 6. Veter. Surg. Percival, 11th L.Dr., for health.—Lieut. Col. Smelt, 41st F., on private affairs.—10. Brev. Majors Rogers and Thompson, 6th F., for purpose of retiring on half-pay.—Lieut. Holyoake, 6th F., for health.

Cancelled.—Nov. 10. Maj. Smith, 11th L.Dr., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT.

The charge delivered by the Chief Justice to the Grand Jury, at the opening of the court, October 26, was greatly misrepresented in the *Bengal Hurkaru** (as we stated) from whence we were obliged to take our report. The Chief Justice thought it necessary to advert in strong terms to the grossness of the misrepresentation, on a subsequent day. As the subjects referred to in the charge are important, we subjoin an accurate report of what fell from the Judge, respecting the Act 7 Geo. iv. c. 37, from the *Government Gazette*, which, it is declared, may be depended upon.

"I do not think I ought to omit to mention to you, that I received last night the Act of Parliament, which has recently made a material alteration as to the juries of the court. It is very short, and provides only that, whereas, hitherto British subjects only have sat on juries, hereafter, under regulations to be made by the court, all good and sufficient persons resident in Calcutta, and not being the subjects of any foreign state, shall be qualified and liable to serve on juries: with two exceptions, namely, that Grand Juries must be composed entirely of persons professing the Christian religion, and so must all

Petit Juries for the trial of Christian persons. Two purposes seem to be attained by the act:—First, it removes, as to the natives in Calcutta, a part of that distinction which has prevailed between British and Indian subjects, and is a declaration that the latter, though they have not been included under the term "British subjects," as it is used in the statutes relating to India, yet are no less the subjects of the British crown than persons born in the United Kingdom. Vague ideas have prevailed both here and at home on this point, but no judge who has acted under the letters-patent, by which this court was constituted, can ever have entertained any doubt, as to persons born within the territories possessed by the Hon. Company in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. They are unquestionably as much subjects of the King as if they were born in Windsor Park. It is another effect of this act, that it marks the willingness of the imperial Legislature to impart to the Indian subjects such British institutions as they are qualified and prepared to use beneficially. This is neither the time nor place for expressing any opinion, whether it would be now, or ever will be, desirable or practicable to introduce juries beyond the limits of the seats of government, nor do I possess such a knowledge of the interior of India as would authorize me to speak with any positiveness upon the question. But I must observe, that in imparting this privilege to the Indian subjects within Calcutta (or imposing this duty on them, if it ought so to be termed), the Legislature has not been in any hurry. As far back as 1783, forty-three years ago, in a Report of a Committee of the House of Commons, which I believe was drawn up by Mr. Burke, it is said, that 'your committee, on full inquiry, are of opinion that the use of juries is neither impracticable nor dangerous in Bengal.'

"Upon the value of the institution of trial by jury it cannot be necessary that I should say any thing to you, who are English gentlemen. The advantage to a people, that questions of fact affecting property and life should be decided by persons drawn from their own class of society, and conversant with such facts as they are called upon to consider, instead of the matter being left entirely to officers appointed by the government, must be obvious to every reasonable being. It is also obvious that trial by jury, though fitted also for the most refined states of society, has subsisted amongst the most rude. It was in vigour amongst our Saxon ancestors, and is still in its prime amongst ourselves. With a difference of form only, it was a favourite mode of trial under the Hindoo law, and is recommended for adoption, in the present state

* The numerous mistakes and mis-statements in this paper, from which we are sometimes constrained to take our information, are very embarrassing to us.

of India, by some of the ablest of those who conduct its government. I need only refer to the published opinions of Mr. Elphinstone, the present governor of Bombay. These considerations, I hope, will have their effect in recommending the institution to the Hindoo and Mahomedan residents of Calcutta; but they need not have any apprehensions of being prematurely forced into an adoption of it. There are many difficulties which stand in the way of our admitting even those who are willing. The first is, their imperfect knowledge of the English language. Many of the proceedings of the court are not interpreted in the usual course of the trials: some of them could not be interpreted. The observations of the judges, perhaps, fall under the first head: the speeches of counsel, under the second. The importance of these last would be much increased, if we should ever have the assistance of juries in civil cases; and as to the first, I would ask you to consider, as an illustration, the difficulty which there would be in explaining in English to a Hindoo or Mahomedan, the nice distinctions upon which it may depend whether an act be murder or manslaughter. There are other difficulties arising from prejudices, which we are bound to respect as far as we can: a Hindoo juror of caste, would feel religious scruples in taking any kind of food, or even a glass of water, in the court-house, though he were fainting. A further difficulty arises from the character of the oath which is usually administered here. We have for some time been employed in inquiries on this subject, and we are still carrying them on, but there are some doubts remaining. Our object is to learn what form of oath would be considered, by a Hindoo of sound sense and of an honest mind, to be most binding on his conscience; and we shall endeavour to make such provisions as will not exclude from serving on juries any Hindoo whose scruples have a foundation.

"Gentlemen, I have thus stated to you some of the purposes of the statute, some of the benefits of which it affords a hope, and some of the difficulties by which its introduction is opposed, and I trust that, in any conversation you may have with intelligent natives, you will assist them in coming to an understanding of the institution which is offered to them, and of the advantages which they may derive from it; in this way you have the means of doing much good, and whatever private opinions any of us may entertain, I need hardly say, that as the Legislature has made the enactment, it is the duty of us all to give it effect.

"The task is left to the court of preparing rules for that purpose. We shall direct our attention to this object without

delay, and probably shall take for our model, as far as it is applicable to this country, the act which was framed by Mr. Peel in 1825, for the consolidation of the jury laws at home; but until these rules are completed, we shall be glad to receive any suggestions from those who are qualified to give them, and especially from the gentlemen of whom the grand juries of the court are composed."

November 17.

The King, on the pros. of Ramtonoo Mundul, Rhobanud Jait, Anund Jait and Choiturn Paul, v. Radamohun Ghose.

This was an indictment for perjury, committed in order to bring a fictitious action against the prosecutors, charging them with a debt of 2,061 rupees for indigo alleged to have been sold and delivered. The particulars of the case may be found in our present volume, p. 265.

The prisoner, in his defence, said that Ramgovind Mundul was his master, and he indorsed an account over to him, and he brought the action: he could not tell himself whether the debt was just or not.

Sir John Franks summed up the evidence, and the Jury, without retiring, returned a verdict of *Guilty*.

November 18.

Sentence was this day passed on the criminals convicted at the sessions.

Wm. E. Hall (see p. 524) was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Radamohun Ghose was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and a fine of 2,000 rupees. The Chief Justice, in passing sentence, observed, "We are not anxious to introduce any novel punishment, but if such an act is repeated, we shall have recourse to what is used in England—a public exposure."

In the case of Robert D'Rozario, convicted of forgery, the Advocate-general moved for a new trial, on the grounds that the prisoner had not had sufficient time, but was suddenly brought to trial; and that one or two witnesses were absent at the time, who would probably be in Calcutta by next term.

The court read the affidavits; and (next day) the Chief Justice stated, that he did not see any satisfactory reason to comply with the request, and sentenced the prisoner to be transported to Prince of Wales' Island for the term of seven years.

The court complained of the inconvenience arising from the non-attendance of petit jurors, and fined some of the absentees 100 rupees, and others 50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

In our last report we left Lord Amherst and

and his suite at Benares. They left that city on the 17th October, and anchored a little above Chunar on the 18th. The fleet arrived at Allahabad on the 26th, and on the following day the Governor-General, Lord Amherst, &c. took possession of General Marley's quarters: they were in good health. On the morning of the 28th his Lordship inspected the fort, and held a levee; and her Ladyship held a drawing-room in the evening. The native chiefs flocked in every direction, with immense trains of followers, in order to attend the *darbar*.

On the 2d of November the Governor-General gave audience in his tents to his Highness Binayak Rao, and to Nawab Zulfikar Ali Khan, of Banda, who came from their respective places of residence in Bundelkhand to wait upon his Lordship. A deputation was also received from his Majesty the King of Oude. His Highness Binayak Rao was saluted with seventeen guns on his arrival and departure, and honorary dresses were conferred upon the officers of the king of Oude. Several *zemindars* and respectable inhabitants of Allahabad were then introduced to the Governor-General. On the 3d, his Lordship returned the visit of Binayak Rao. The party marched from Allahabad on the morning of the 6th, and reached Kurrah on the 8th, after a pleasant journey.

The Governor-General reached Futteh-pore on the 11th. On the following day his Lordship held a *darbar* in his tents, and received four chiefs of Bundelkhand, the Raja of Oorcha, the *Soubadar* of Jansi, the hereditary ruler of Jalown, and the Raja of Churkerree. Presents and *khelats* were distributed, and these semi-barbarous chieftains, who had never before crossed the Jumna, departed well pleased.

The Governor-General and suite entered the lines of Cawnpore on the 16th November, and were received by General Shuldham and the troops of the station, who were drawn out on parade to salute his Lordship.

The Governor-General held a levee on the forenoon of the 17th; and Lady Amherst a drawing-room on the evening of the 18th.

On the morning of the 19th a royal salute announced the arrival of the King of Oude, with the principal part of his court, on the usual encamping ground opposite to Cawnpore, to pay the Governor-General the established compliment of *istakbal*, on his Lordship's first arrival in the Western Provinces. A deputation from the Governor-General waited on his Majesty with a complimentary message, and an invitation to breakfast the following morning.

The King crossed the Ganges on the morning of the 20th, upon a fine temporary bridge of boats, conducted by a

deputation from his Lordship's family. The whole of the troops were drawn out on parade. Lord Amherst advanced on his elephant, with his suite and body guard, to meet the King; and on the elephant's approach, his Majesty was lifted on a *Tuklit Rowan*, from his own splendid *howrah*, into the Governor-General's, and the party returned to the state tents. The breakfast-table was spread for about eighty persons. After the repast, presents were distributed amongst his Majesty's court; and his Lordship, with his own hands, placed a costly diamond ring on the King's finger. A superb *khelat* was conferred upon the minister of Oude, Nawab Mutuamed-ud-Dowlah. After *utr* and *paun*, the King took leave, highly gratified with the attentions paid him, and returned to his camp on the opposite bank of the Ganges.

The next morning his Lordship returned the visit, accompanied by Lady Amherst, the ladies of the family, with the staff and suite, on fifty elephants, escorted by the 18th Light Dragoons and the body guard. The King met the Governor-General at the end of the bridge, when his Lordship stepped into his Majesty's *howrah*. Nothing could surpass the splendour of the scene, which equalled the highest expectations of those who witnessed for the first time the magnificent pageantry of an eastern court.

The Governor-General was first conducted into a large tent of red cloth, where three chairs were placed, one in the centre for the Governor-General, one on the right for the King, and one on the left for Lady Amherst; seats were also prepared for the suite. On a signal, the *purdahs* on the side fronting his Lordship were drawn up suddenly, and discovered a long and spacious saloon, where breakfast was prepared for about a hundred persons. On taking leave, trays of presents were brought in, and the King girded a valuable sword round his Lordship's waist.

On the 22d the Governor-General held a *darbar*, at which several Bundelkhand chiefs were introduced (*viz.* the Rajas of Duttee, Sumpther, Punna, Ajjgurh, and Bijawer), and other native gentlemen.

The Governor-General marched from Cawnpore on the 24th, and proceeded to Lucknow, which he was expected to enter on the 28th, and where he proposes to stay a week.

DR. ABEL.

Dr. Clarke Abel, physician to the Governor-General, died on the 24th November, at Cawnpore, in attendance upon his Lordship. The immediate cause of his death was a fever. His constitution was naturally more feeble than robust, and he had been ill for some time. He was a zealous

zealous and ardent cultivator of natural science; and in experimental research his industry and application were great. In private society (says the writer from whom we take this notice) few have been more conspicuous for the display of those social qualities, which serve to render agreeable the course of this world's pilgrimage.

JAYPORE.

Extract of a Letter, dated Oct. 20.—“The only news that I can at present give you in regard to this principality is, that the durbar is thronged by the principal chiefs of the state, who are assembled to give their opinion on the ancient usages of this Raj. The young Raja, who till now had been confined in the zunana, is to make his appearance in public, for the purpose of ascending the guddee or musnud. Sir Charles Metcalfe, who superintends the Rajpootana agencies, will arrive here in about three days, and it is expected that a total change in the administration of the state will take place. The reins of the government, up to the present time, were held by the Ranees (mother of the young Raja); and it is not yet settled whether, after the young Raja's release from the trammels of the zunana, the Ranees is still to govern the state, or that a more appropriate regent will be appointed for the purpose.”—*Beng. Chron.* Nov. 24.

THE PRESS.

The following announcement appears in the *Bengal Chronicle* of the 12th Dec.

“The readers of the *Bengal Chronicle* were informed in our last publication that this paper had fallen under the displeasure of Government, but that a representation had been made by the proprietor, with a view to avert the threatened punishment—deprivation of the license. It affords us pleasure to add, that this appeal to the Vice-president in council has been effectual, and that his Lordship has been pleased to permit the continuance of the paper under a new editor.”

The cause of complaint against the *Chronicle* was the tenor of some indecorous comments, published in that paper, on the subject of a letter addressed by the Supreme Government to the Court of Directors, under date the 23d Dec. 1825, respecting a plan for enabling civil servants to pay off their debts, and which were considered to be in direct violation of the press regulations.

THE COLLEGE.

It is rumoured that the college here either has been or will be immediately done away with; and that the writers' buildings will be converted into public offices. The writers henceforth are not to be appointed till the age of seventeen, and

on their arrival in this country will immediately be ordered to proceed to a station and commence the duties of the service.—*Beng. Chron.* Nov. 4.

JUDICIAL OATHS AMONGST THE HINDUS.

Much discussion is going forward at Calcutta, respecting a dispensation of the form of swearing by the Gungahjul, or Ganges water, so terrible to a Hindu, and the substitution of some less objectionable, but equally binding form. The Editor of the Calcutta *John Bull* asserted that Hindus might be safely sworn by the Butchuns of Mittachora; and he recommended witnesses at Calcutta and in the Mofussil being subjected to the same form of oath; but subsequently the same writer made the following recantation:

“Since we endeavoured to direct public attention to the present system of swearing witnesses and parties in the Supreme Court, we have had opportunities of ascertaining the opinion of a number of native merchants in this city on the subject; and one and all of them agree that there is no oath by which an ordinary Hindu can be bound except the Gungahjul. They also agreed in saying that unless sworn by it, that a native would more probably tell untruths than truths. When we mentioned that to swear any Hindu by repeating in him the Butchuns of Mittachora, would be an oath binding on his conscience, we supposed the fact to be so from the nature of the evidence we had before us—the opinion of natives learned in the laws. The opinion, however, we find, of the native merchants and men of business is very different. They say you may swear a Hindu by repeating to him the Butchuns, but he must have his hand at the same time in the Gungahjul, otherwise the Hindu would not consider himself under an oath, and they would not believe him. In short, the practical men are in this, as on many other questions, directly opposed to the learned men, or the theorists. We acknowledge that the information we have received in answer to our inquiries on this subject has materially altered our opinion. We now doubt very much the propriety of abolishing the oath by the Gungahjul; and are consequently compelled to retract that part of our observations, which recommended the adoption of one uniform oath, applicable to all classes of Hindus. Of course, as long as the oath by the Gungahjul is permitted, the oath cannot be made applicable to all classes.

STEAM NAVIGATION.

Steam boats have now started on the Hooghly, which convey passengers up the river at eight rupees a head. The *Comet* runs regularly between Calcutta and Chinsurah; the *Firefly* also starts one day and returns

returns the next. The *Emulous** is expected to ply in a similar manner. The *India Gazette* contains a project for surveying the Indus from its mouth to its source, in steam gun-vessels. A discovery has been made of a stratum of coal, in digging a well at Jubbulpore, which is not likely to be confined to an isolated spot. A reward to Capt. Johnston, out of the fund subscribed at Calcutta for the encouragement of steam-vessels, is talked of.

NATIVE MATTERS.

Kabul.—In consequence of the continued hostilities between Azim Allah Khan and Purdil Khan, the chief of the Afghans having thought it necessary to interfere, their interference has proved successful. They reminded the contending parties, that they were two out of fourteen brothers, of whom Yar Mohammed Khan was at Peshawer, and Yar Mohammed at Kabul, and five or six others in different places, whilst the legitimate prince, Sultan Shooja, had been obliged to take refuge at Ludhiana, and they represented that it was much wiser for them to be reconciled, and to unite their strength against any foreign enemy. The princes were moved by these counsels to lay aside their animosity, and have sworn a reconciliation on the koran; an interview was to take place between them after the Mohurrem.—[*Jami Jehan Numa*.

Maharaja Runjit Singh.—On the 30th of September his Highness visited the temple of the Akalis, where he distributed 500 rupees in sweetmeats, and declared, that he was about to undertake an expedition, from which, if he returned victorious, he would present an offering of 5,000 rupees. On the 1st October Kherg Singh was ordered to hold his troops in readiness to march.—[*Ibid*.

A Brahman of Kumarhatta, Kisora Nyaya Vayisa, aged eighty, having died, his wife, seventy-seven years of age, determined to burn herself with him. After a delay of two days, during which the chief men of the village, of the caste of the deceased, to whom he had acted as family priest, repaired to the judge of the district, and permission was obtained. When on the point of mounting the pile, two officers landed, and endeavoured to dissuade the widow from her purpose, but in vain, and with a smiling countenance she ascended the pile to proceed to heaven. After a few moments, observing the pile agitated, four Brahmins placed two bamboos across it, which incensed the officers exceedingly,

* This beautiful vessel, which left Falmouth 13th May, reached Calcutta September 15th. She did not use steam at all during the passage, which she performed in eighteen weeks. She is a three-masted schooner; her burthen 250 tons; the power of her engines 100 horse.

and they began to beat the assistants with their canes. The family of the deceased intreated them to desist, but to no purpose, and at last, the patience of the bystanders being exhausted, they fell upon the officers with sticks, and compelled them to make a precipitate retreat to their boats. [*Samachar Chandrika*.

THE DURGA PUJA.

As far as we can judge, the Durga Puja continues to be celebrated with undiminished pageantry and expenditure, notwithstanding the diffusion of liberal ideas, amongst those especially of the more opulent classes, by whom it is observed. It is, however, a very heterogeneous sort of business, and the performances of Mohammedan singers and dancers, with the appendages of cold beef and beer for the grosser entertainment of European guests, are little compatible with the adoration of Devi. We confess we do not think the sort of association that takes place at this season, creditable to any of the parties. We have no objection to the contemplation of the religious rites of the Hindus, for the gratification of liberal curiosity, nor to a participation in their amusements, either if they yield real entertainment, or courtesy giving them accessory zest; but the vague and undefined mobbing of the Durga Puja can yield, we should fancy, neither information nor diversion, and the noise and confusion that prevail allow those who are involved in them to hear and see but little, and to understand still less. In the case of the refreshments, the natives have certainly found out our weak side, although we imagine they are not likely to respect us the more from contemplating what must be, in their estimation, the indecorous indulgence of voracious appetite. As to our native friends themselves, they are much mistaken if they think they gain any respectability by throwing their doors open to a promiscuous mob, and by lavishing their money for the entertainment of those, who either repay their politeness with contemptuous indifference, or who sometimes acknowledge their hospitality by making their mansions the scene of vulgar riot. They had much better dispense with European society, until they can offer it something more worthy of acceptance than profusion and antics; and Europeans had better decline that of the native community, until both parties have something mutually instructive or interesting. There need be no great delay, for many of the native gentlemen who lend themselves to the public celebration of the Durga Puja, are far from being deficient, either in the intelligence, or information, or command of the English language, requisite to a free and friendly intercourse with their guests at a more propitious season, and under

under more favourable circumstances.—*[Gov. Gaz., Oct. 12.]*

[We observe an account from a native newspaper of a Durga festival celebrated at Chinsurah, which furnishes a lamentable proof of the besotted folly of the respectable natives even in the vicinity of Calcutta.—*Ed.*]

IMPROVEMENT OF CALCUTTA.

An English architect (Mr. Ives) has suggested various new buildings in Calcutta; among other plans, he has purposed an establishment similar to the Albany in London, for which a subscription to the amount of 30,000 rupees has already been raised amongst individuals and the principal houses of agency.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.

On the 1st October, a party consisting of Mr. A. Pereira, his wife and infant child, Mr. and Mrs. Burn, Mrs. Chick and her son, with Mr. Chamier and an Ayah, proceeding to Barrackpore, entered a ferry boat to cross the river, at about ten at night; the boat got athwart the cable of a vessel in the middle of the stream, near Howrah, was upset, and sank. Mr. Chamier saved himself by clinging to a bar on one side the passway (ferry boat), till he was rescued; Master Chick jumped into a boat just before the accident happened; the Ayah was also saved. The others perished. Mr. Burn was carried down by the violence of the current, crying for assistance.

HINDU CEREMONY.

The native part of the town was brilliantly illuminated on Monday evening, on the occasion of the new moon of Kartik, when lamps are lighted in honour of departed ancestors. The ceremony extends indeed throughout the month, lamps being presented every day by the followers of Vishnu, to Vishnu and Lakshmi, and by those of Siva, to that divinity or his spouse Kali; but it is most especially observed at the Amavasya, or day of conjunction. The hour of presentation is that of sunset. The illumination was particularly brilliant at Sulkea, several tiers of lamps lining the banks of the river, for a considerable distance; the offerings, we understand, of the crews of the coasting vessels or dhoneys. Besides lamps, bundles of the straw of the flax plant are set on fire, in honour of the manes of those who have died in battle, or in a foreign land.—*[Cal. Gov. Gaz., Nov. 2.]*

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

The performance at the Chowringhee Theatre last Friday evening passed off with great *éclat*. The house was fuller even than on the former occasion, which

we trust is a tolerably conclusive sign that the taste for theatrical amusements, whatever it may be elsewhere, is not on the decline in Calcutta. The pieces represented were the *Iron Chest*, and *Monsieur Tonson*, and both were most successful. Thespian efforts, there being not a single instance of failure, and all appearing perfect in their parts. *Sir Edward Mortimer* was one of the ablest performances we have ever seen by the same amateur; the points of the part were very effectively given, and the tragic interest of the character was finely kept up throughout. The part of *Wilford* was by an amateur evidently quite at home on the boards, and was sustained with great ability. Of *Hinterlinton* we need say nothing: the character is well known here as a standard one of the father of our Drury, and to dilate upon the excellencies of the representation would be superfluous; it was, in a few words, a most felicitous, or rather entirely perfect personation of the octogenarian. It appeared as if some portrait of an old garrulous steward, such as we read of in some of our best old romances, had become animated and trod the boards. We have no time to dwell particularly on the other characters. They comprised great excellence; and among them we were glad to see one or two debutants. *Sampson* was a very lively and pleasing performance, and sung a song which was much applauded.

Monsieur Tonson called forth continual plaudits and bursts of laughter from the audience. We cannot imagine a possibly better effort of dramatic comic talent than *Mortbleu*. In dress, movement, gesture, language, looks, every thing, he was quite above all praise. What can we add to this, save the expression of our gratitude for one of the most delightful treats that we ever experienced within the walls of any theatre. *Tom King*, was without exception, we think, the best dramatic essay yet exhibited on our boards by the amateur who represented the part. It was a gay, elegant and spirited performance, full of that *virida vis animi*, which we should naturally look for in a "fine young fellow about town."

The other characters were capitally supported, and the ladies of the piece acquitted themselves, in this as well as the preceding one, to the highest advantage.—*[India Gaz. Nov. 20.]*

EARTHQUAKE IN NEPAL.

On the 29th October, at 2 A. M., the valley of Nepal was convulsed by an earthquake. The first great shock was followed by eight lesser vibrations. The former was a sudden vertical jolt (which stopped the locks and watches) not an undulation; its direction could not, therefore, be ascert-

ascertained. The smaller shocks were from S. to N. The weather had been unsettled till within twenty-four hours of the occurrence, when it became singularly fine. Six houses were destroyed in Catmandoo, also a temple near the city, and the residency, a mile distant. Seven lives were lost there. At Pātun fourteen houses fell, but no person was killed. Smaller shocks, attended by considerable noise, occurred in the night of 29th and on the 30th.

NEW ZEALAND PRINCE.

Amongst the curiosities imported into Calcutta by Capt. Dillon of the *St. Patrick*, is a New Zealand prince, who calls himself, or is called, Brian Boromibe, and who is attended by a *nobleman*, named Morgan McMurroch. How these individuals acquired such ridiculous designations does not appear. The prince is sixteen years of age, about five feet ten inches high, robust and well-proportioned. His complexion is dark, but not black, and his face tattooed in part only. His dress is described as a kind of kilt, with a wide mantle made of bemp. The objects of his visit are stated to be to "improve himself by travel," and to procure from the government of Bengal a supply of arms, to protect his people from a hostile tribe that dwell near the Bay of Islands. On Sunday, September 10th, the prince visited Barrackpore, and was received by Lord Combermere with great attention. His Lordship presented him with a handsome sword, sash, and medal, bearing the likeness of our King, which the prince wore round his neck suspended by a blue ribbon. He felt deeply impressed with the affability of the Vice-president, and grateful for the kind attentions shewn him at Calcutta. One of his attendants was roughly handled by some chokeydars, who took him for a *Burmese spy*.

SETTLEMENTS TO THE EASTWARD.

We understand that the commerce of the settlements to the eastward, or Prince of Wales's Island, Singapore, and Malacca, has been taken into consideration by the Court of Directors, and that orders have been addressed accordingly to the several local authorities. The principle that these different ports should be placed on the same footing, in regard to duties, privileges, and immunities, has been fully recognised, and the intention of the instructions communicated has been, we we learn, to assimilate them exactly in these respects. The principal object of these settlements being to promote the trade of Great Britain, and commerce flourishing most when least burthened, it has been determined to give the fullest efficacy to the facilities which the several establishments offer, for contributing to

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the commercial prosperity of the empire, by throwing them equally open to mercantile resort. Such import and export duties, therefore, as have been hitherto levied at Prince of Wales' Island and Malacca, will be, we understand, forthwith suspended, and they are to be made free ports like Singapore.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Oct. 2.

CORRECTION OF THE LONGITUDES IN THE HOOGHLY.

The following Memorandum, containing the observations of the Marine Surveyor-General, respecting the longitudes of some of the principal places about the entrance of the River Hooghly, is published for general information:—

Memorandum.

After reducing the observations I have made in Calcutta, to the meridian of the flag staff of Fort William, I make its longitude $88^{\circ} 21' 9''$ East from Greenwich; and the undermentioned longitudes, which I have deduced from it, will be found a closer approximation to the truth than those given in the published chart of the navigation about the entrance of this river.

	Instead of		
Kedgerree Light-House, in	$87^{\circ} 59' 38''$	$88^{\circ} 4' 0''$	E.
Large Trees near Middleton Point on Saugor	88 5 24	88 11 0	
The Reef Buoy	88 10 39	88 16 15	
Floating Light	88 19 44	88 25 20	
Light House on Point Palmyras	87 5 53	87 12 0	
False Point	86 53 07	87 0 0	

The differences of longitude originate in Captain Court having allowed his first meridian (the flag-staff), a greater Eastern longitude than it appears to have, and not from any incorrectness of the relative distances of places in his survey.

(Signed) DAN. ROSS,

Marine Surveyor General.

J. TROTTER, Secretary.

Marine Board, Sept. 20, 1826.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Nov. 10. *Herrules*, Vaughan, from London.—12. *Gilmoro*, Laws, from Penang.—16. *Ganges*, Lloyd, from Singapore, &c.—20. *John*, Dawson, from London; *Mary Ann*, Spottiswood, from ditto; *Cornwall*, Younghuaband, from ditto; *John Taylor*, Pearce, from Liverpool; and *Donna Carmelita*, Wylie, from Mexico.—23. *Symmetry*, Smith, from London.—25. *Lady Kennaway*, Sturges, from London.—26. *Ganges*, Miffden, from Liverpool, and *Frances*, Heard, from London.—30. *Berwick*, Ellbeck, from Bombay.—Dec. 2. *Reaper*, Broad, from London.—5. *Madras*, Beach, from London.—6. *Coromandel*, Boyes, from London.—14. *Rockingham*, Fotheringham, from London.—*Lady Flora*, Fayer, from ditto; and *Esportier*, Bullen, from Hamburg and London.—15. *Atlas*, Hunt, and *Laburnum*, Tate, both London.—16. *John Hayes*, Worthington, and *Perseverance*, Brown, both from Liverpool.

Departures from Calcutta.

Nov. 8. *Resolution*, Binney, for South America.
 —9. *Eliza*, Cuthbertson, for Muscat.—12. *Rival*, Wallace, for London.—14. *Mermaid*, Yates, for London.—16. *City of Edinburgh*, Milne, for London, via Cape.—Dec. 1. *Hope*, Flint, for Madras and London.—4. *Ganges*, Boulbee, and *Moira*, Hornblow, both for London.—8. *Fairlie*, Short, for London.—9. *Tinamorta*, Wray, and *Britannia*, Lamb, both for London.—17. *Malcolm*, Eyles, for Madras and London.—18. *Lady Kennaway*, Surflen, for Ceylon and London.—19. *Aurora*, Earl, for Madras and London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 26. At Futteghur, Mrs. M. A. Scott, of a daughter.
 Aug. 12. At Keltah, the lady of Capt. F. Steer, of a son.
 Oct. 1. At Cuttack, the lady of W. F. Pennington, Esq., superintendent of northern division of Juggurnauth road, of a daughter.
 23. At Futteghur, the lady of J. W. Jacob, Esq., of a son and heir.
 26. At Patna, the lady of J. W. Templer, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 — At Cawnpore, Mrs. W. Gee, of a daughter.
 28. At Nudjuff Ghur, near Cawnpore, the lady of Alex. Orr, Esq., of a daughter.
 — At Dacca, the lady of F. Law, Esq., civil service, of a son.
 31. The lady of the Rev. T. Proctor, of a son.
 Nov. 1. The lady of G. Mackillop, Esq., of a son.
 — Mrs. J. Picachy, of a daughter.
 2. At Bankpore, Patna, the lady of F. Gouldsbury, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 — At Banda, the lady of R. Walker, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 — The lady of G. F. Thompson, Esq., of a son.
 3. At Kidderpore, Mrs. J. R. Aitken, of a daughter.
 4. At Allahabad, Mrs. A. D'Cruz, of a son.
 6. Mrs. M. McKenzie, of a daughter.
 7. The lady of R. Winter, Esq., of a son.
 — At Chinsurah, the lady of J. D. Herklots, Esq., of a daughter.
 9. Mrs. John D'Rozario, of a son.
 11. At Allahabad, the lady of Maj. Fendall, of a daughter.
 12. At Barrackpore, the lady of Lieut. Lennox, 43d N.I., of a daughter.
 — Mrs. J. W. Ricketts, of a son.
 — At Tumlook, the lady of C. W. Welchman, Esq., M.D., of a daughter.
 13. Mrs. Arrowsmith, wife of Mr. R. Arrowsmith, H.C.'s marine, of a daughter.
 14. Mrs. E. Billon, of a daughter.
 — At Banjilte, Moorahetabad, the lady of A. C. Maclean, Esq., of a son.
 15. At Coxially, the lady of E. W. Hudson, Esq., of a son.
 — Mrs. M. A. Roch, of a daughter.
 16. At Rutnagery, the lady of G. Elliot, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 17. The wife of Mr. G. Rebello, of the Custom House, of a daughter.
 18. Mrs. R. Jacob, of a daughter.
 19. In Russel Street, Chowringhee, the lady of G. Wood, Esq., of a son.
 20. The lady of Lieut. John Tritton, H.M.'s 11th Lt. Drago., of a son.
 Dec. 12. Mrs. C. H. Johnson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

June 26. At Almora, Capt. T. R. Fell, major of brigade at Dacca, to Martha Ann, second daughter of Lieut. Col. W. C. Faithfull, Bengal establishment.
 July 20. At Almora, Lieut. J. D. D. Bean, interp. and qu. mast, 23d N.I., to Maria, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. W. C. Faithfull, Bengal establishment.
 Nov. 1. At Noacolly, W. H. Steer, Esq., to Miss Susanne E. Cardew.
 4. Capt. Geo. Moore, 59th regt., to Miss S. Catell.

7. At Lucknow, Lieut. G. N. Prole, 38th regt. N.I., to Margaret, daughter of the late B. Ferguson, Esq.
 11. Geo. Thorp, Esq., of the firm of Hamilton and Co., to Miss M. R. Remfy.
 — Mr. L. Peters, of Saugor, in Bundelcud, to Mrs. Ellen Abraham, widow of the late Mr. J. Abraham, apothecary in H.C.'s service.
 — Mr. W. Reed to Mrs. Mary Browne, widow of the late Mr. Wm. Browne.
 13. Mr. J. Clements to Miss T. C. Almond.
 15. Mr. D. George, indigo planter, Jessore, to Miss Jean Fleeming.
 Dec. 6. Mr. Jas. Barber, surgeon and officiating assist surg. H.C.'s service, to Mary, daughter-in-law of Capt. Hutchinson, H.M.'s 87th Foot.
 12. John Dempster, Esq., M.D., H.M.'s 38th regt., to Agnes, fourth daughter of the late A. Colquhoun, Esq.

DEATHS.

June 18. At sea, on board the *Catherine Frances*, the infant daughter of Lieut. Col. Raper.
 Sept. 27. At Benares, Mrs. John Collins, aged 47.
 Oct. 19. At Nusseerabad, Lieut. Nelson, 56th regt. N.I.
 24. At Hansic, Lieut. Rich. Grueber, 2d in command, 1st Local Horse.
 28. At Allahabad, Mary, wife of Mr. Asist. Com. Bachman, aged 38.
 30. Mrs. Eliz. Williams, aged 55.
 — At the General Hospital, Mr. R. Ure, free merchant, son of John Ure, Esq., comptroller of government customs, Leith.
 Nov. 1. At Point Palmira, Mr. W. Blair, assistant at the light-house there, aged 45.
 2. Capt. Fred. Mouat, formerly commander of the *Morning Star*.
 — Mr. P. S. D'Cruz, of the Calcutta Baptist Mission Press, aged 52.
 6. At Ghazepore, the lady of John Hunter, Esq., civil service; also her infant daughter.
 16. At Intally, Mr. H. White, son of the late Colonel White, and nephew of the late Gen. Sir Henry White, K.C.B., aged 38.
 17. D. D. Jameson, Esq., aged 27.
 19. Lieut. B. J. Fleming, 11th N.I., aged 24.
 20. Mr. F. E. Jacobi, aged 42.
 — Mr. C. Moller, aged 35.
 22. Mr. N. G. Draine, aged 23.
 24. At Cawnpore, Dr. Clarke Abel, late physician to the Governor-general, and formerly apothecary to the Hon. Company.
 Dec. 7. Mr. Officiating Asist. Surg. J. H. Tunington, aged 24.

Madras.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

TREASURE ESCORTS.

Head-Quarters, Aug. 5, 1826.—Under the sanction of Government, his Exc. the Commander-in-chief is pleased to direct, that officers commanding treasure escorts shall not hereafter be held responsible for the contents of such packages of treasure as may be delivered over to them. The collector making the remittance, and his servants, are answerable for the contents of such packages, and the officer receiving charge will alone be required to pass his receipt for a certain number of packages, contents unknown, and to see that the same are delivered unbroken and unopened. Officers commanding treasure escorts are consequently exonerated from the duty of seeing the treasure either packed or unpacked.

unpacked, and escorts are not to be required until the treasure has been packed up, and are to be dispensed with as soon as the packages have been duly delivered, and before their contents are counted out.

The G. O. C. C. of the 26th Jan. 1821 is hereby cancelled.

STRENGTH OF NATIVE REGIMENTS.

Fort St. George, Aug. 26, 1826.—The Hon. the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that a regiment of native infantry, including the light infantry and extra regiments, be fixed at (800) eight hundred rank and file, except the regiments noted in the margin* employed on foreign service, which are to remain as at present, (960) nine hundred and sixty rank and file each.

The privates in regiments of infantry respectively in excess to the establishments now ordered, are to be returned as "supernumeraries," until vacancies occur to bring them on the effective strength of corps.

UNIFORM OF THE NEW REGIMENTS.

Fort St. George, Sept. 27.—The uniforms established by G. O. of the 7th Feb. 1826 for the 1st and 2d Extra Regiments, are established as the fixed uniforms of the 51st and 52d regiments N. I. respectively; and the 1st and 2d Extra Regiments will continue to wear the uniform established by the same G. O. for the 3d and 4th Extra Regiments respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Governor and party ascended the Neilgherries as far as Cotagherry on the 25th Sept., and on the 27th proceeded to Mr. Sullivan's residence at Ootacomun, where they were to remain until the 30th, on which day they proposed to descend on the Mysore side of the mountains. The tents and baggage had been sent round by the Guzelhutti Pass. Every anticipation relative to the fineness of the climate and the beauty of the scenery on the Neilgherries, had been most fully realized—indeed, a person could scarcely form an adequate idea of this beautiful part of the country without going over it.—*Madras Gov. Gaz. Oct. 5.*

The camp of the Governor had left Bangalore, and on the 14th October was near Colar, all well; the probable day of arrival at the presidency was not then known, but it was expected they would descend into the Carnatic at Sautgur, on the 19th.—*Ibid., Oct. 19.*

Letters from Madras mention, that while in the neighbourhood of Trichinopoly, the tent of the Hon. the Governor

1st Regt. N. I.; 33d do.; 36th do.

was entered by thieves and robbed of the whole of its contents, not even excepting his Excellency's wearing apparel.—*Cal. John Bull.*

ROBBERIES.

We hear that the neighbourhood of Madras, and particularly the road between this and Wallajahbad, is greatly infested with gangs of robbers. The baggage of several officers has been plundered lately by these daring depredators, and one officer we hear was attacked in his palankeen, and was wounded before he got clear of the rascals.—*Mad. Cour. Sept. 1.*

HURRICANE AT MASULIPATAM.

Letters have been received from Masulipatam, which state that the most violent hurricane ever remembered was experienced there on the 16th and 17th of last month: fortunately there was no ship in the harbour, but the swell rose to such a height, and dashed with such violence on the shore, that a great part of the fort was washed down. We have not heard whether much damage was otherwise sustained.—*Beng. Hurk., Nov. 8.*

THE WEATHER.

The rains still hold off, and colds and fevers are unusually prevalent. The holders of grain have already taken advantage of the dry weather to raise the price of the great staff of life, which is occasioning much distress to the unfortunate poor.—*Mad. Cour., Oct. 31.*

MASSACRE ON BOARD THE "TANJA."

The *Madras Gazette* of Nov. 2 contains the following account:—"On the 2d September as the schooner *Tanja*, late of the H. C. Flotilla, lay in the mouth of the Irawuddi, whence she was to have proceeded on a trading voyage down the river, two Malay lascars of the crew rose upon the rest, between 2 or 3 o'clock of the morning of the day before-mentioned, and commenced an immediate work of death; they having already set to rest the troubles of a few of their fellow-sailors, attacked the captain (Langley), who, after having received one or two stabs, jumped overboard. The current being too strong, he could not make the shore, but returned to the schooner, and implored most earnestly to be taken on board. As an inducement, the drowning captain offered to discover where all the money on board was stowed away, provided they (the Malays) would send him ashore. The wretches, to make their work secure, obstinately refused to allow him to come on board. After vain solicitations the captain left the schooner, and in his attempt to swim ashore, perished. Six of the crew

crew were murdered on board the schooner, and two escaped wounded and bleeding : these reached the shore, and made known the murders which had taken place. The villains have been secured and brought to trial, the result of which was not correctly ascertained when our correspondent closed his letter.

THE MADRAS APPRENTICING SOCIETY.

The first report of this society has been published. The result is favourable ; though it appears that there is a reluctance on the part of parents to placing their children out to mechanical trades, by means of the society. The report refers to the Indo-British community in the following terms :

" To estimate the utility of the Madras Apprenticing Society, it is only necessary to consider the present state of the Eurasian community. The situations of writers and clerks are almost the only occupations that have hitherto afforded them employment, and the depreciation which those sources naturally sustain, by the competition arising from the rapid increase of candidates, both among them and the natives, is attended with the consequence of such low wages as are scarcely equal, in many instances, to secure the bare necessities of life. The importance therefore of directing the attention of this class of people to other occupations, and of assisting them in their acquirement, becomes obvious.

" It is a fact also amply borne out by experience, that to whatever pursuit the attention and abilities of Eurasians have been properly directed, and suitably encouraged, they have not failed to realize every expectation in their favour. Indeed there are fortunately now existing examples of successful enterprise among this class of persons, which it is hoped will operate as powerful inducements to stimulate the young to acquire a proficiency in mechanical trades and occupations, as opening to them the road to such distinction and wealth as the situation of a writer can seldom afford."

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Oct. 16. *Hercules*, Vaughan, from London.—Nov. 3. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, from London.—7. *Cambridge*, Barber, from London.—10. *Atlas*, Hunt, from London.—28. *James Sibbald*, Forbes, from London.—Dec. 8. *Mermaid*, Yates, from Calcutta.—4. *Castle Forbes*, Ord, from London.

Departure.

Oct. 18. *Hercules*, Vaughan, for Calcutta.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 26. At Kamptee, near Nagpore, the lady of Lieut. Col. Bowdler, commanding 41st regt., of a son.

30. At Cuddapah, the lady of J. Haig, Esq., of daughter.

Oct. 2. At Cuddalore, Mrs. M. D'Vax, of a daughter.

5. At the Nellcherries, the lady of John Sullivan, Esq., of a daughter.

9. At Bangalore, the lady of the Rev. T. W. Masse, Mysore Mission College, of a son.

10. The lady of G. Tod, Esq., of a daughter.

— Mrs. Jesse Blacker, of a daughter.

— Mrs. C. Ellis, of a daughter.

16. At Coimbatore, the lady of J. Morton, Esq., assist. surgeon, of a daughter.

18. At Vellore, the lady of O. F. Sturt, Esq., Madras N.I., of a son.

— The lady of the Rev. F. Spring, A.M., of a still-born child.

— Mrs. E. MacDowell, of a daughter.

23. The lady of J. A. Hudleston, Esq., of a son.

Nov. 1. The lady of the Hon. H. S. Graeme, Esq., member of council, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 15. At Wallajahbad, Mr. T. Rives to Mrs. Louisa Campbell, widow of the late Mr. John Muffin.

21. At Vepery, Mr. Matthew Skillern to Miss Magdalene Thacker.

23. Mr. G. Francis to Miss S. Rogers.

26. At Palamcottah, J. Caswall, Esq., to Mrs. Fullerton, widow of the late Capt. Fullerton, of the engineers.

Nov. 2. At Bangalore, Lieut. Amsinck, qu. mast and interp. to 2d brig. horse artil., to Eliza Emma Juliana, second daughter of the late Colonel Greene, Bengal establishment.

DEATHS.

Aug. 24. Near Rajahmundry, Capt. Richard Cocke, 25th Regt. N.I.

27. At Arcot, Lieut. Chas. Thwaites, 1st L.C.

Sept. 30. At Cuddapah, Mary, wife of J. Haig, Esq., aged 30.

Oct. 8. At Pondicherry, Mary Stuart Celestine, daughter of Capt. N. I. Bergeon, half-pay of H.M.'s Meuton Regt.

10. At Tranquebar, Amadis Morrell, youngest son of Mr. J. Morrell.

— Alice, the wife of Mr. J. Gabell.

16. At the presidency, Lieut. T. M. Simkins, H.M.'s 46th Regt.

20. At Secunderabad, Lieut. G. W. Thompson, H.M.'s 30th Regt.

22. At Arcot, Charles Edward Ricketts, only son of Lieut. E. A. Langley, 3d L.C.

Bombay.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDER.

SOLDIERS' DISCHARGES.

Bombay Castle, Sept. 2, 1826.—The General Order of the 25th Oct. 1824, fixing the sum of Rupees 320 for the discharge of a soldier, is rescinded, and the sum of £80, or Rupees 711. 0. 44 is fixed as the sum to be in future required for that indulgence.

COURT-MARTIAL.

LIEUT. M'KENZIE, H.M.'s 2d FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Oct. 19, 1826.

At a general court-martial held at Poonah, on the 4th July 1826, and continued by adjournments, Lieut. George McKenzie, of the 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment

of

of Foot, was arraigned on the undermentioned charges:

1st. "For persevering in an undue intercourse with the late private William Cooke, when a sergeant in the regiment, and subsequently (between the months of June and Dec. 1825), although cautioned on the subject, and ordered repeatedly to discontinue such conduct, by desire of the commanding officer, and more particularly after having pledged his word to the adjutant of the regiment, on or about the 20th July 1825, that such intercourse should cease; such conduct being highly subversive of military discipline, and giving rise to reports highly disgraceful and prejudicial to him (Lieut. McKenzie) amongst the officers and men of the 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, from which he never attempted to clear himself.

2d. "For having neglected to report to the commanding officer of H.M.'s 20th regt., that he (Lieut. McKenzie) had caused to be confined private Charles McHugh of that regiment, for having been found out of his barracks and in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) quarters, on or about 11 o'clock on the night of the 5th May last.

3d. In having neglected the requisition of the commanding officer of H.M.'s 20th regt. to attend as prosecutor, or as an evidence at the trial of the said private Charles McHugh, before a regimental court-martial held on or about the 8th May 1826, on the following charge, viz. For unsoldier-like conduct in being out of his barracks after hours, and found secreted in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) bed on the night of the 5th inst. (May), and of which charge the said private Charles McHugh was found guilty; and in having neglected to take any measures in order to explain the extraordinary circumstances stated in the said charge, that the said soldier, Charles McHugh, had been found concealed in his (Lieut. McKenzie's) bed, thereby exposing his own character to the most disgraceful reports, and highly discreditable to his Majesty's service.

4th. "For having repeatedly employed soldiers as servants without leave from his commanding officer, more particularly in the instance of private James Turner, of the light company Queen's Royals, who was so employed from about the 25th day of January to about the 5th day of May last, and for allowing the said soldier to sleep within his (the prisoner's) bungalow or quarters, in direct disobedience of the regimental order of the 30th of June 1825.

5th. "In having repeatedly entertained sergeants of the regiment at his (Lieut. McKenzie's) quarters, or permitted them to be so entertained at his expense, after tattoo beating, during the months of March

and April last, and in particular Sergeants Turner and Macdonald, on the night of the 14th March; and also Sergeants Turner, Graham, and Curneen, on the night of the 17th March 1826; thereby countenancing great irregularity on the part of those non-commissioned officers, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

Additional Charge.

"For highly unofficerlike and insubordinate conduct, subversive of military discipline, in having addressed to his immediate commanding officer, Lieut. col. J. Williams, two extremely disrespectful letters, under the dates of the 27th May and 1st June 1826, and in having resorted, as intimated by him in the last-mentioned of those letters, to other means for obtaining redress for certain alleged wrongs than those which are pointed out in the 12th section of the Articles of War, although he well knew that a memorial or representation on the subject, dated 15th May 1826, which he had himself transmitted, was then under reference to superior authority, and that no decision had taken place with respect to granting or refusing the redress which he had therein requested."

Upon which charges the court came to the following decision:

Finding.—"The court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution on the original charges preferred against Lieut. George McKenzie, of H.M.'s 2d or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, are of opinion that the prisoner, Lieut. George McKenzie, is not guilty of the 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th charges, and they do therefore most fully and honourably acquit him of all and every part of the said charges.

"The court are further of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty of the first part of the 4th charge, of which therefore they acquit him; but that he is guilty of having employed private James Turner as his servant, without having previously obtained the leave of the commanding officer, and having allowed the said private to sleep in his quarters, contrary to a regimental order, and they do in consequence adjudge him, the said Lieut. Geo. McKenzie, to be admonished by his Excellency the Commander-in-chief. But with respect to the employment of private Thomas Foy, as it appears that the prisoner has been already censured on this account by his commanding officer, the court have not thought it necessary to take this instance into their consideration, in awarding the preceding punishment.

"The court are further of opinion, that the 1st and 3d charges (with exception of the first part of the latter, which they consider to be frivolous) are vexatious calumnies,

nies, and totally unfounded; and the court cannot therefore but regret that the prosecutor should have so far forgotten the justice due to the prisoner as to bring into public discussion, without any previous inquiry, reports of so defamatory and injurious a nature, on the bare surmises of some officers of his regiment, who have not been able to depose, during these proceedings, to a single circumstance which could in the slightest degree sanction or justify such surmises.

"The court are further of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of all and every part of the Additional Charge, except the word "highly," preferred against him, in breach of the Articles of War in such cases made and provided, and they do therefore adjudge him, the said Lieut. Geo. McKenzie, to lose five steps in his regiment, and to be placed next below Lieut. R. Carruthers."

Confirmed,

(Signed) T. BRADFORD, *Lieut. Gen.*

Remarks by the Commander-in-chief:

"The Commander-in-chief, after a careful consideration of the proceedings, approves of the finding and judgment of the court upon the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, and additional charges, with the exception of terming the first part of the third charge "frivolous;" for, although Lieut McKenzie was in the sick list, he is proved to have been out when equally so the morning previous to private McHugh's trial, and late the evening some distance from his bungalow; and when spoken to by two other officers regarding the prosecuting of McHugh, he told them in express terms he did not think that it was necessary to attend this court-martial: the inference to be drawn from these circumstances was, that he had no intention of doing that which is expected from every officer in support of discipline, whether the delinquency passing under his notice is committed by a man of his own regiment or another.

"If his Excellency is to understand, by the court's acquittal of Lieut. McKenzie upon the 2d charge, they considered that officer had done his duty, in merely directing the serjeant of the guard to make out the crime against private McHugh, deeming it sufficient that the circumstances of this man's misconduct should reach the commanding officer through the medium of the Guard Report alone, without any more direct report being made by himself, the Commander-in-chief cannot agree in opinion with them, as it was the imperative duty of Lieut. McKenzie to have made a communication to the commanding officer upon the subject, at the same time furnishing such a crime himself against the prisoner as was calculated to meet the offence. In making these ob-

servations upon the 2d charge, the Commander-in-chief thinks it necessary to express his regret, that the regimental court-martial accompanying these proceedings by which private McHugh was tried, had not adjourned to Lieut. McKenzie's quarters, or until such time as he could appear to give his evidence; by this means much light might have been thrown upon the circumstance stated in the charge, which was not entered into by Serjeant Russel or the other evidence; and a great deal of misconception regarding the situation in which that soldier was found in Lieut. McKenzie's bungalow might have been avoided.

"The Commander-in-chief has a painful duty now to perform, in finding occasion to comment severely upon the conduct of the prosecutor, and expressing his most marked disapprobation of Lieut. Col. Williams having, under any circumstances, assembled his officers, and rendered them a deliberative body, to form illiberal and heedless suspicion into positive and grave offences. Lieut. Colonel Williams having slid into this error, excluded every other means of intermediate investigation which could render sufficient justice to the prisoner or the service, and the result would now justly recoil upon the commanding officer, if the Commander-in-chief did not find an excuse in Lieut. Col. Williams' inexperience; in his ardent, though mistaken zeal in this instance, and in the high sense of honour for the credit of the regiment which appears to have hurried him, and his officers alike, to magnify and believe a mass of unfounded prejudices against one of their members, who has now been declared honourably innocent.

"The Commander-in-chief is sensible that the painful reflections which this rash conduct must produce in the officers of the Queen's Royals, will also bring salutary impressions of the injustice they have committed, while he commands his expectations to be fully understood by them, that Lieut. McKenzie shall be admitted into their society free of all heart-burning, in the cheerful confidence which his full and honourable acquittal commands, and entitles him to. On the part of Lieut. McKenzie, his acquittal has been so complete, and every suspicion which could be attached to the character of that officer so fully removed, the Commander-in-chief anticipates as well as enjoins, he will abstain from every vindictive feeling. For having employed private James Turner as his servant, without previously obtaining the leave of his commanding officer, and having allowed the said private to sleep in his bungalow, contrary to regimental orders, upon which Lieut. McKenzie has been found guilty, the Commander-in-chief admonishes him; and

and as his Excellency concurs in the commendation of the court, and remits the degradation of rank awarded against Lieut. McKenzie on his being found guilty of the additional charge, he directs Lieut. McKenzie to be released from his arrest and return to his duty.—The Commander-in-chief cannot conclude his remarks upon this court-martial without noticing the disadvantage of allowing their proceedings to be encumbered with a great deal of matter, much of it apparently for the purpose of either gratifying talent for composition, or less worthy feelings, and observations as indiscreet as irrelevant and inconsistent with good taste. Nothing can be more unmilitary, or further from the object of plain and prompt justice, than the unnecessary introduction of matter, and displays of the kind alluded to, which every court-martial should timely control and check."

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order book, and read at the head of every regiment in his Majesty's service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,

A. MACDONALD,

Adj. Gen. of H.M.'s Forces in India.

ECCLIESIASTICAL APPOINTMENT.

Oct. 6. The Rev. James Gray to be chaplain in Cutch.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Oct. 5, 1836.—Cadets A. Morrison, G. H. Bellasis, J. E. Fackney, and A. Thomas, admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.—Mr. W. Rowland admitted as an assist. surg.

Cornets posted to Regts. P. G. Dallas to 2d L.C.; R. H. Rickards, 3d do.; C. F. Jackson, 3d do.; Thos. Eyre, 3d do.

Ensigns posted to Regts. G. W. Walker to 33d N.I.; J. R. Hibbert, 7th do.; A. Meadows, 18th do.; W. G. Duncan, 34th do.; C. S. Mant, 8th do.

Lieut. Col. Com. Leighton appointed to general staff of army on allowance of a maj. gen., and to relieve Lieut. Col. Com. Hessman, in command of Surat div. of army.

Maj. J. W. Aitchison, dep. adj. gen., to be acting adj. gen. of army until further orders.

Oct. 12.—Ena. L. M. McIntyre, of 19th N.I., and Ena. W. B. Salmon, of 2d Europ. Regt., permitted to exch. corps.

Oct. 13.—24th N.I. Ena. A. Shephard to be lieut., v. W. Stewart dec.

Oct. 16.—Assist. surg. Straker, 6th N.I., to accompany Hon. the Governor on his approaching tour from Poona.

Oct. 19.—Mr. J. P. Malcolmson, surg. of ship *Boyne*, admitted as an acting assist. surg. on establishment for such period only as his services may be required.

Assist. Adj. Gen. Capt. Leighton, to act as dep. adj. gen. of army.

Capt. F. M. Iredell, 16th N.I., to act as assist. adj. gen. to Gulcower Subsid. Force during absence of Capt. Leighton.

Oct. 23.—15th N.I. Lieut. T. Mitchell, interp. in Marhatta language, to be interp. also in Hindoostanee and qu. mast., v. Jones app. adj.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

5th N.I. Lieut. C. Prescott to be adj., v. Spencer transf.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

15th N.I. Lieut. C. R. W. Jones to be adj., v. McMahon transf.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

Pioneer Bat. Lieut. J. B. Levery to be adj., v. Laing prom.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

Oct. 24.—1st Gr. N.I. Lieut. F. Clibborn to be adj., v. Teasdale transf.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

Oct. 27.—15th N.I. Ena. A. Hamerton to be lieut., v. C. R. U. Jones dec.; date 17th Oct. 1836.

18th N.I. Lieut. A. F. Bartlett to be adj., v. Luyken prom.; date 16th Sept. 1836.

Nov. 3.—Acting Assist. surg. Malcolmson to have med. charge of H.C.'s cruiser *Nautilus*.

Nov. 4.—15th N.I. Lieut. J. Dawes to be adj., v. Jones dec.; date 17th Oct. 1836.

Mr. W. B. Goodfellow admitted to engineers, and prom. to 2d lieut.

Nov. 7.—1st L.C. Lieut. S. Poole to be adj., v. Conyngham resigned; date 24th Oct. 1836.

2d L.C. Lieut. W. J. Ottley to be qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee; date 1st Nov. 1836.

Regt. of Artill. Lieut. T. Cleather to be qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee to Golundause bat.; date 1st Nov. 1836; Lieut. E. Prother to be qu. mast. and interp. to 1st bat.; do.

2d Europ. Inf. Lieut. W. C. Bell to be interp. in Hindoostanee; date 1st Nov. 1836.

Ensigns posted to Regts. J. E. Falkney to 15th N.I.; G. H. Bellasis, 24th do.; A. Thomas, 8th do.; A. Morrison, 3d do.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Oct. 5. Lieut. R. Foster, of engineers, for health.—12. Lieut. Col. T. Burford, 3d N.I., agreeably to regulations.—Ena. W. T. C. Scriven, 5th N.I., for health.—30. Lieut. Col. Com. W. Turner, 1st L.C., agreeably to regulations.—Nov. 4. Maj. J. B. Dunsterville, 1st or Gr. N.I., ditto.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Nov. 3. Maj. R. Barnewell, 26th N.I., for health.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PIRACY.

We understand that, just before the commencement of the rains, two or three acts of piracy were committed in the neighbourhood of the Gulf of Cutch, by a party of twenty or thirty men under Jusso Laruk, who had come down from Scinde and seized a boat somewhere near Tooneak, a place in the Gulf. It appears that the pirates took advantage of the government armed boat having been despatched to another quarter from the cruising ground, and in the first instance seized four trading boats, but being laden with grain, they obtained little booty. After this they proceeded to the opposite side of the Gulf, where they abandoned their own vessel and which was taken to Mandavie, and claimed by the owners. Another act of a more serious nature than the above was committed about the same time, by six men supposed to belong to Bombay, where it is said the principal of the gang purchased a boat, and proceeding with the rest to sea, fell in with a battellah, bound to Surat, off Serrapoor, where they plundered her of every thing portable, and took the goods to a place near Mandavie: in conveying which to some place in the interior, one of the men was seized, and

whose

whose deposition being taken, may perhaps lead to a discovery of the rest of the gang. The principal escaped, but as there is reason to suppose the crew of the plundered boat were made away with, it is to be hoped this fellow with his accomplices may be secured, and meet the punishment they deserve.

In addition to the above, it is reported that a boat, having on board a considerable sum in dollars, was plundered off Nowanuggur, and the property taken across the Runn by the robbers, as they were traced for a considerable distance along its southern edge; and where the bodies of two unfortunate travellers were found murdered, supposed to have been done by these miscreants, in order to prevent information being given.

Effectual means, we understand, have been taken by government to prevent the commission of the like acts, and to give security to vessels trading in the gulf of Cutch and its vicinity.—[*Bombay Gaz.*, Oct. 4.

THE KING OF JOHANNA.

We congratulate the community of Bombay on the arrival of the King of Johanna (in the brig *Kourvat* from Johanna), whose hospitality and kindness are so well known to all who have ever touched there on their way to India; we have had the honour of being introduced to his Majesty by his prime minister, Admiral Rodney, and from the short conversation we had with him, we were satisfied that he is possessed of a very quick discernment, and a ready apprehension of all that is passing around him. His Majesty, we should suppose, is not above thirty years of age, has only been three years upon the throne, and now visits Bombay for the first time. We are happy to add that the visits paid to His Majesty since his arrival have been most numerous and respectable, and that government, with their usual liberality, are to pay his expenses during his stay at Bombay.—[*Bom. Gaz.* Oct. 25.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Oct. 22. *Runnemede*, Kemp, from Calcutta.—28. *Royal George*, Ellerby, from London.—Nov. 1. H.M.S. *Boadicea*, Carroll, from Madras.—15. *Carson*, M'Carthy, from Calcutta.

Departures.

Oct. 12. *Atalanta*, Johnson, for London.—18. *Moro Castle*, Smith, for Liverpool.—24. *Hannah*, Shepherd, for China.—29. *Cornwallis*, Hardie, for China.—Nov. 1. *Boyne*, Miller, for Tellicherry, Cape, and London.—16. *James Scott*, Richards, for China.—Dec. 1. *Dorothy*, Garnock, for Liverpool, and *Providence*, Wauchope, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 29. At Dapoolle, the lady of Doctor Young, of a son.

5. At Satara, the lady of Capt. H. Adams, of a son.
9. At Deesa, the lady of Lieut. Col. Whitehill, 3d L.C., of a daughter.
10. Mrs. R. Baxter, of a daughter.
12. The lady of E. C. Harrison, Esq., garrison surgeon, of a son.
- At Bhooj, the lady of Capt. Holland, sub-assist. com. general, of a son.
13. The lady of the Rev. W. Mitchell, of the Church Missionary Society, of a daughter.
14. At Hurmee, the lady of the Rev. John Stevenson, of a son.
16. At Bhooj, the lady of Lieut. H. Correllis, of a son.
- At Rutnagiry, the lady of Geo. Elliot, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
22. At Bhooj, the lady of Capt. Soppitt, 26th regt., of a daughter.
- Nov. 1. Mrs. E. Walpole, of a daughter.
12. The lady of the Ven. Archdeacon Hawtayne, of a son and heir.
15. The wife of Mr. Gabriel Sarakes, of twins, a son and daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- Oct. 19. The Rev. Joseph Knight, church missionary of Jaffnapatam, in the island of Ceylon, to Mrs. Nichols, widow of the late Rev. John Nichols, of Tannah.
24. At Poonah, R. D. Luard, Esq., of the civil service, fourth son of John Luard, Esq., of Beeleigh Cottage, Maldon, Essex, to Mary Anne, second daughter of Maj. Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B.
- Nov. 13. B. Hutt, Esq., of the civil service, to Eliza Maria, eldest daughter of P. Free, Esq.

DEATHS.

- Oct. 1. At Poona, Francis R. Lopes, writer in the pay-office.
2. At Poona, Lieut. Walter Stewart, 24th regt. N.I., aged 22.
5. At Kaira, Robert Anderson, Esq., of the civil service.
8. At Poona, Capt. Jas. O'Hara Johnston, of his Highness the Nizam's service.
16. At Baroda, Lieut. C. R. U. Jones, 15th regt. N.I.
27. At Bycullah, the lady of Dr. Chas. Ducat, civil surgeon, Poonah.
- Nov. 1. Mrs. Steward, lady of the Rev. J. Steward, of the Church Missionary Society, Bombay.
8. At Cambay, Capt. J. Finlay, 4th regt. N.I.
13. Mrs. Jane Wilson, mistress of the Girls' Central School, aged 37.

Ceylon.

LAW.

On the 16th September, the session for the provinces of Manaar, Jaffnapatam, Mulletivoe, Batticaloa, and Trincomalie, was opened at Jaffnapatam, before the Hon. Sir Richard Outley; on which occasion the pious justice delivered a suitable address to the magistrates, expressing his satisfaction at the reduction in the number of cases compared with the calendar of last year, and that by their vigilance the principal gang of robbers had been apprehended and brought to justice. The number of cases in the calendar of last year amounts to fifty-eight and 157 prisoners, and that of this year to thirty-six cases and 101 prisoners; of which seventeen cases were tried, and the prisoners convicted, ten acquitted, five discharged without prosecution, three pleaded guilty, and one postponed, the prisoner being still insane.—[*Ceylon Gaz.* Oct. 14.

BIRTHS.

BIRTH.

Oct. 10. At Colombo, the lady of J. Boustead, Esq., paymast. Ceylon Regt., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

Sept. 29. At Colombo, Mr. J. H. Demmer, aged 68.

Oct. 4. At Colombo, Capt. Thomson, late of H.M.'s 83d regt.

Penang.

TREACHERY OF THE ACHEENESE.

The native ship *Futleh Ellajah*, of Bombay, came into the harbour on Monday last under charge of the gunner, who gives the following narrative of a most daring and atrocious attempt to cut off that vessel by one of the chiefs on the Coast of Pedier, which is a farther proof, (if such was necessary) of the treacherous conduct of the Acheeneese.

It appears that the Nacodah of the vessel had been trading with the chief at Syrang, and had taken on board a quantity of betel nut; a balance being to be settled, the chief went on board in a large boat manned with seventeen men, on pretence of settling accounts. The Nacodah of the vessel not suspecting any treachery from the good understanding which existed between them in the whole of their transactions, admitted the chief with his followers on board. On being seated and pretending to enter upon business, the Acheeneese Chief suddenly stabbed the Nacodah and killed him on the spot, and then turned upon the supercargo, or kraney of the vessel, whom he also stabbed in several parts of his body, of which wounds he died a few days after; five others were also wounded before they could recover themselves from the sudden panic. The Syrang, however, fortunately rallied the crew and turned a gun, which had been kept loaded with grape, a precaution they generally take on that coast, upon the assailants, and fired it off, which killed several of the chief's party, who immediately jumped into their boat and made off; but the Syrang and crew continued to fire upon them with the guns of the vessel, loaded with grape, and only five of the assailants, from the accounts they afterwards heard, landed from the boat. The Syrang immediately after cut his cable and made sail.

It would appear that it was a preconcerted thing, as the beach was lined with people who were ready with boats to afford assistance. Two other native vessels also cut their cables and made sail, apprehending an attack from their boats.

—[Penang Gaz. Oct. 28.

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PRESENT STATE OF THE ISLAND.

It would appear from our letters from Pinang, that Prince of Wales' Island has become so overgrown with jungle, to the very doors of George-Town, that a free and proper circulation of air cannot be expected, while the generating of vapours of the most noxious quality is a natural result of neglecting to clear the ground. The present Governor has the credit of cutting down and clearing, wherever he can; but nothing short of some act from home, empowering the abatement of nuisances with a greater plenitude of authority, will make Prince of Wales' Island what it was in respect of healthiness. In point of political importance it is rising, or fancies it is, from the accession of territory and authority lately bestowed on it, or rather about to be; for the charter annexing Singapore and Malacca to Pinang has not yet reached Prince of Wales' Island. In point of commercial importance the island has certainly, of late, fallen off. It is understood, however, to be so fully settled, that the appointment of the resident councillors at Malacca and Singapore had actually been made at home, and the delay in the signing of the charter is ascribed to his Majesty's illness—as also the delay in sending out the commission to the new judge at Pinang, who is there at present without his credentials. The authorities at home, when they annexed Malacca and Singapore to the southward to Pinang, were not aware of the acquisition of territory which this government had obtained to the northward in Mergui and the coast of Tennasserim; otherwise it is problematical how far they would have stretched the other arm to the extent they have done. We mentioned the other day that Captain Burney had been able to do little or nothing with that power, who it seems is determined not to give up its new acquisitions on the Queda side. The measure of handing over Singapore to Pinang is of course strongly reprobated at the former place; and the fine dreams in which people were indulging as to a grand eastern emporium of trade arising at that settlement, have vanished. We have not heard how the Honourable Court intended to have disposed of the late resident at Singapore, removed of course by the new arrangements from his appointment; but it is fortunate that other events have rendered the knowledge and services of Mr. Crawford available, in a department to which he had devoted so much attention, and already acquired so well-earned a reputation.—[Cal. John Bull, Oct. 30.

MARRIAGE.

Sept. 19. N. McA. McIntyre, Esq., to Jane, eldest daughter of Capt. Andrew Glass, late commander of the *Fort William*.

Malacca.

The arrival of Mr. Lewis from Penang, who we understand has been deputed by the hon. the Governor to inspect the state of Malacca, and the agricultural advantages it possesses, has revived the hopes of the few merchants resident here, and gives them a proof that this settlement is not altogether forgotten by him. We are assured that Mr. Fullerton takes a great interest in the place, and have ourselves heard him express it as his opinion that, in the course of time, Malacca, from its local advantages, might or would surpass either of its neighbours, Penang and Singapore. In a commercial point of view, Singapore is likely to retain its present superiority; but in an agricultural, the same cannot be said. Now is the time for the inhabitants of Malacca to rouse themselves; let them second the efforts and good wishes of the Governor by active exertions, and let them not allow indolence or carelessness, or even despair, to retard their own interests, and the fruits of perseverance and energy. We congratulate them on the improvements already made by the worthy resident in mending "our ways," and clearing the streets of old nuisances; and although the road-mending is not exactly on Mr. McAdam's plan, yet it shews that something is doing for the good of the place.

On Saturday the 23d inst. a meeting was held at the house of Thomas Williamson, Esq. for the purpose of drawing up a memorial to the hon. the Governor in Council, of several necessary improvements to be made in Malacca, and the removal of a few grievances established under the Dutch government. Mr. Williamson being called to the chair, several articles were resolved upon, and the outline of the memorial drawn out.—[*Malacca Observer*, Sept. 29.]

BIRTH.

Sept. 13. The lady of W. G. Mackenzie, Esq., late resident at this settlement, of a son.

Singapore.

AMERICAN TRADE WITH CHINA.

The *Singapore Chronicle* of Nov. 9th, contains a statement of the trade of America with China. The total amount of the trade, being 8,919,562 Spanish dollars, approximates very nearly to that of the preceding year. In that branch of the trade conducted with the South American states, &c. there appears a large increase, that of the present year being Drs. 416,768 which is nearly double what appears in our last statement under the same head. This is a very important circumstance as regards the commercial resources of these states, for we have good reason to know

that shipments to at least an equal amount have been made in the course of the season from Canton, for the same destination, under other flags.

The total amount of the several heads is as follows:—Imports, 7,776,301 Spanish dollars, including 5,725,200 in specie. Exports, viz. to the United States, 7,650,938 Spanish dollars; to Europe, 684,856 Spanish dollars; to South America, Manilla and the Sandwich islands, 416,768 Spanish dollars.

Total Exports .. Sp. Drs. 8,752,562
Total Imports..... 7,776,301

Balance Sp. Drs..... 976,261

The proportion of tea to the articles of export is large: the quantity exported to the United States was 3,957,408 Spanish dollars; to Europe, 509,784 Spanish dollars; to South America, &c., 18,596 Spanish dollars.*

ENTERTAINMENT TO MRS. CRAWFORD.

On the 27th October a ball and supper was given by the European inhabitants of the settlement in honour of Mrs. Crawford, the lady of our late resident, on the occasion of the family's departure for Bengal. The place chosen for the entertainment was the esplanade, where a temporary house was built for the purpose; and notwithstanding the shortness of the period for preparation, it was got up in a style of splendour never before exhibited at this place. The decorations of the apartments were selected and combined with much taste, and the rustic colonnades and arches, entwined with various plants and flowers, and hung with numerous flags, gave the whole house so novel and rural an aspect, that it seemed as if the treasures of some fairy mansion had been transported thither for the purpose. Contrast and variety were studied throughout with much success, and the dancing hall was illuminated with a glory of lights which for variety might have vied with a Siamese palace; and the musical performances of a full Javanese band, which played at intervals during the evening, had a most pleasing effect.—[*Sing. Chron.*, Nov. 9.]

RIGHT OF AMERICANS TO TRADE WITH SINGAPORE.

The American ship *Eliza*, Capt. Grow, touched here lately on her passage from Manilla. This vessel we believe came to this quarter for the purpose of purchasing a cargo at Singapore, if it should be considered safe, after the example of the *Geveynor Endicott* brig, which was seized by H.M.S. *Larne*.—Some doubt, however, appears

* We are not responsible for the errors in the above.—Ed.

appears to exist as to the legality of Americans trading at this port, even now, when it is incorporated as a presidency; and the commander of the *Eliza* being unwilling to run the risk of being seized, declined trading and sailed for Batavia. We trust that if it is not legal for Americans to trade here at present, the subject may attract the attention of the authorities in England, who will no doubt put the port on the same footing in this respect as the neighbouring island of Penang, which enjoys the advantages of a trade with the United States.—[*Ibid.* Nov. 23.

ECLIPSE.

The eclipse of the moon which took place last week having been foretold by the Chinese astrologers, great preparations were made for making a noise upon the occasion, and thus frightening away the monsters who would "eat up the glorious luminary." In this *laudable undertaking* all classes of natives joined, and with the aid of a few pieces of artillery, accompanied by loud shouting, beating of gongs, drums, &c. an unceasing clamour was kept up during the whole period of the moon's obscurity. The noise was so great that it resembled the din of a battle, and was heard distinctly at the distance of several miles, by some vessels which were approaching the island.—[*Ibid.*

TIN.

Large quantities of tin have lately been imported here from the ports of the peninsula to the north of Malacca, particularly from Sungy Lingi, a small river which forms the boundary between the Malacca territory and the possessions of the Salengore Rajah. The mines of that district are at present wrought with much spirit, and the produce of them this year is very considerable. It is almost all brought to Singapore, and during last week 450 piculs were imported by prahus belonging to the place. The mines are situated about thirty miles up the river, and are all upon the Salengore bank. The Rajah does not interfere much with the operations of the miners, but levies a duty upon all the tin that is exported.

The quality of the Straits tin, generally, has suffered much deterioration lately by the practice of mixing it with other metals, such as Tonquin lead, and spelter, which can be purchased here at a very cheap rate. Some of the shipments to China, in particular, proved so bad this season, that what cost 21 dollars per picul here, was sold for 16 dollars at Canton. The fraud, we believe, is practised chiefly by the Chinese.—[*Ibid.*

STICKLAC.

This article has not been imported by

any of the Siamese junks which have arrived this season. It is said that the supply has entirely failed, and that there is not more collected than is sufficient for the consumption of the country. The price had risen at Bankok to upwards of twenty tikals per picul.—[*Ibid.*

BIRTHS.

- Sept. 1. The lady of Lieut. H. Lloyd, 36th regt. N.I., of a son.
Nov. 2. The lady of Capt. C. E. Davis, garrison staff, of a daughter.

DEATH.

- Nov. 3. Mrs. Anna Napier, wife of David Skene Napier, Esq., merchant of this settlement.

Mauritius.

SEIZURE OF A PORTUGUESE VESSEL.

By accounts received lately from Mauritius, we learn that a Portuguese ship has been seized by Commodore Christian, the naval commander on that station, for trading contrary to Act of Parliament. The vessel, it appears, had come from Macao with a full cargo, and had obtained permission from the Governor to trade. The cargo was accordingly landed and another cargo purchased, with which the ship was about to depart, when she was seized by the man of war. It is said that the Commodore offered afterwards to release the vessel if the Governor would promise not to admit foreign vessels to trade in future: this was however refused, as the Governor considered that he was fully authorized to grant permission to the vessels of all foreign nations who admitted British vessels at their ports with cargoes from the Mauritius. It was expected at the Mauritius that the vessel will be condemned as a prize.—[*Sing. Chron.* Nov. 9.

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

Retrenchments.—The Commissioner continues to pursue his system of retrenchment. The following offices have been entirely abolished:—administration of finance, water staat, forest, salt, superintendent of the post-office, and roads and bridges; verwisseling kantore (or exchange-office, a place where you might literally be said to whistle for silver in exchange for paper); the superintendent of stamps (as a separate department), and the circuit judges; all master-attendants, except at Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya and Rhoio; the residencies of Buitenzorg and Crawang are incorporated with Batavia; Grissi with Sourabaya, and Bagnio Wangie with Besukie. Great reductions have been

been made in the number and pay of the civilians at the other stations. The clergy have had their allowances reduced 400 f. per month. Orders have been received from Europe to abolish the *entrepôts*; the commissioner, however, thinking it might be attended with injurious consequences, had communicated with the merchants, through the director of customs, whose very able report had induced his Excellency to suspend the execution of his Majesty's orders until a reply to the reference which had been made can be received. When the *entrepôt* regulations were promulgated they were hailed as the commencement of a return to liberal principles, although doubts were entertained by many of their stability; these doubts are now but too likely to be speedily realized.

The Dutch Company have got the monopoly of the opium farms in Java and Madura (which have not as usual been exposed for sale) at a lower rate, it is said, than had been offered for them by others. It seems to be the prevailing opinion in Java that they will ere long get a monopoly of the tin, spices, and copper, and every thing else that is worth having. It is doubted whether the sacrifices thus made at the expense of the government, great as the profits which accrue to the Company may be, will counterbalance their losses in those departments of trade where they are exposed to fair and open competition, independent of the heavy expense which all their cumbersome establishments involve; while the expense of governing the country (which will infallibly be greatly augmented for the benefit of the Company) may prove too onerous for the mother country to support.—[*Sing. Chron.*, Nov. 9.

Coronation of the restored Sultan.—Extract of a letter from Batavia, dated 3d October:—"On the 12th ult. the old man was crowned at Salatiga with considerable pomp, General De Kock acting as king-maker, assisted by Messrs. Englehard and Muntinghe. I was present at the ceremony, and much pleased to observe the ease and dignity with which the old Sultan took up his royalty again. Immediately after being proclaimed, he received the congratulations of about sixty or seventy Javanese chiefs; his highness looking all the while majestic itself, and occasionally filling his royal mouth with *slrix* out of the royal box. The *ratie* (queen) is a sensible clever woman, and I believe the Dutch calculate on more assistance from her than from the Sultan. The latter having only just arrived at Djocjocarta, it is impossible to say as yet what effect his re-establishment on the throne there will have. I am inclined to think favourably of the measure, and that

the war will shortly be brought to a termination, though the peace of the country may from time to time be a little disturbed by petty insurrections in the remote districts of Banyamas and Brankelan."—[*John Bull*, Nov. 23.

Tax on Official Persons.—Letters from Batavia say that the commissioner-general issued a decree at Tjanjor on the 19th November, announcing that all public officers entitled to certain monthly payments were, from the 1st of Dec. to receive half in ready money, and the rest in bonds, to "be afterwards paid," in order to strengthen the resources of the country, and to afford means to provide for the wants of the army.—*Dutch paper*.

The Insurrection.—The war with the insurgent natives appears to go on more favourably for the Netherlands than heretofore. Gen. Van Geen drove the insurgents from Djatinom on 14th Nov.; they were in great force. The Pangerang Noto Koesomo, who had advanced from Sangung, joined the Netherlands troops in this expedition; in his absence his post was attacked by the insurgents, who were repulsed by the troops of Solo. The notorious Toommoongong Tetjo Negoro, or Ngarpah, died of his wounds received at Djatinom.

The insurgents remain in the district of Minoreh, where they levy contributions. They had abandoned that of Probolinggo on the approach of Col. Cleeren's force, but it appears they returned. A column, under Major Duperron, advanced against them. In the neighbourhood of the Dessa of Goensong Gono the enemy was found posted in considerable force, drawn up in order of battle, and commenced a heavy fire of musketry on the Netherlands troops. The insurgents were in the end routed, with the loss of thirty-eight killed, and the Toommoongong Kerto Negoro mortally wounded. The insurgents again quitted Probolinggo. Dipo Negoro was in the vicinity of Bedojo at the last advices from Djocjocarta, 28th Nov.

Dutch papers contain extracts from the *Batavia Courant* of the 18th Dec., whence it appears that Mangkoe di Ningrat, an insurgent chief, had made his submission, and that much advantage was expected to result from this example. Some small detachments of the insurgents had appeared near Solo, and Gen. Van Geen had proceeded in that direction.

Persia.

Russian official reports from the Persian frontier state that Prince Madatoff undertook, on the 18th of January, another excursion towards Ahar, and after delivering several

several Nomade families, whom the Persians had carried off from Shirvan and Karabagh, returned on the 26th to the Araxes, without opposition.

advantage of the present unfortunate situation of his adversary.—*Bombay Courier*, Oct. 14.

The Persian Gulf.

The war between the Imaum of Muscat and the Sheik of Bushire has been terminated by a skilful stratagem of the former. The Sheik had gone to Mecca on a pilgrimage, and the Imaum, having watched his return, has made him prisoner, and has transferred him to one of his ships of war, which, by the last accounts, was off Kishm. From all we have heard, the quarrel was not political, but a business of gallantry, in which a Persian princess was concerned; and as such, we trust that the Imaum will treat his prisoner with that courtesy which is the grace of knighthood and all honourable men. In fact, from the Imaum's high character for justice and liberality, which is widely known and expressed on the western shores of India, we are assured that he will take no undue

China.

Accounts from Canton to the 28th October had reached Singapore. According to the last papers, the opium market was very unsettled. Patna had suffered great depression; the quotations are 1,040 drs. per chest. The inferiority of the opium from the 3d and 4th Calcutta sales has alarmed the dealers, and rendered them timid in touching Patna. Benares has been purchased at an advance of 200 drs. per chest on the price given for Patna. Malwa opium was in animated demand at 900 drs. to 920 drs. per chest. Turkey dull at 560 per picul. Too large a supply of Bombay cotton has reduced the prices. Bengal is quoted at 11 to 13 taels per picul; Bombay 9 to 12 taels.

No further intelligence has reached us respecting the political convulsions in the empire, which were adverted to in our last number.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

Private advices from Ava, dated 4th October, have reached Calcutta, which state that Mr. Crawford had arrived at Ava in the end of September; had been extremely well received; had seen the chief ministers, and that the King had appointed an early day for an audience.

Shortly after the public promulgation of the approaching departure of the British, the Burman deputies waited on Sir A. Campbell, with instructions from the

Viceroy to request that he would not leave the country until they should have assembled a force sufficient to prevent the insurrection of the Taliens, which they were not ready to encounter. There is reason to believe that the payment of the supposed balance of the second instalment was kept back on this account.

A Burman chief was expected at Kemmendine from Ava, to be put in possession of the country.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Dec. 12, 1826.

Government Securities.

Buy.] Rs. As.	Rs. As. [Sell
Prem. 96 0 Remittable Loan 6 per ct. 25 0 Prem.	
Disc. 1 4 Five per ct. Loan 1 12 Disc.	
Par. 0 4 New 5 per cent. Loan . . . 0 12 Disc.	

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight, to buy 1s. 10½d. to 1s. 11d.—to sell 2s. per Sicca Rupee.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 98 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,300 to 5,400.

Madras, Nov. 15, 1826.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 360
Madras Rs., per 336 Sa. Rs. 28½ Prem.
At a Rate prevailing among Merchants

and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 26½ Prem.

Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 350 Madras Rs., per 336 Sa. Rs. ½ Prem.

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Rs., per 100 Sa. Rs. 2½ Disc.

Bombay, Nov. 18, 1826.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 102 Bom. Rs. per 100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 99 Bom. Rs. per 100 Madras Rs.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

April 7, 1827.—The General Meeting of the Society was held this day at the usual hour, Sir Alexander Johnston, Knt., Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the Anniversary Meeting, March 15th, were read and confirmed. The following donations were presented:

From Dr. Wallich, of Calcutta, a portrait of Dr. Voysey; from Dr. B. G. Babington, Secretary, the New Testament in Malabar, Madras, 1772; a Burmese MS. in the square Pali character, on two sheets of copper; a Burmese MS. in the round Pali character, on one sheet of palm leaf; a Burmese MS. in the round Pali character; a Coorg knife, presented to Dr. B. by the Raja of Coorg; an Arab jambir, silver mounted; a ditto, common; from M. Klaproth, his *Lettre sur les Hieroglyphes Acrologiques*, Paris, 1827; from M. Junius Faber, his *Synghosse oder grundsätze des Sprachforschung*, Karlsruhe, 1827; from Major M. H. Court, his Relations of the British Government with Palembang, and Remarks on Titles; from M. Von Hammer, his *Geschichte des Osmanischen Reiches*; from H. Willock, Esq., two works printed in Persia, viz. Hosseineah, A.H. 1239, and Mohret il Kelcob, fol. A. H. 1239; from the Society of Arts, Vol. 44 of its *Transactions*.

Thanks were returned to the respective donors.

His Excellency Baron Maltzahn, Prussian ambassador, was elected a Foreign Member. James Alston, Esq. was elected a Resident Member.

The reading of Mr. Colebrooke's Fourth Essay upon the Philosophy of the Hindus was commenced.

The treatise is devoted to a succinct account of the *Brahmá mímánsá*; which is termed *uttara*, or later, in contradistinction to the *Carma-mímánsá*, which is stiled *púrva*, or prior, and which was treated of in a former essay, read before the Society, which will appear in the forthcoming part of the Society's *Transactions*. The later *mímánsá* is an investigation of proofs deducible from the *Vedas*, in regard to *theology*, as the former with respect to works and their merit. Together, consequently, they comprise the whole system of interpretation of the precepts and doctrine of the *Vedas*, theological and practical. The logic of the two *mímánsás* Mr. C. considers to merit a more full examination than the limits of the present essay would permit; and he, therefore, intends to make it the subject of a future communication.

The meeting then adjourned (in consequence of the Easter holidays) to Saturday, May 5th.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, *March 30.*

Appeals from India.—The Marquess of Lansdown moved for a copy of all appeals sent to this country from the Cape of Good Hope, the Isle of France, Ceylon, the three presidencies in India, Prince of Wales' Island, &c., and of all decisions upon them, with a variety of other documents connected with the subject, from 1800 up to the present time. His Lordship complained of the vast number of appeals from India, remaining not only undecided, but without steps being taken to bring them to a decision. He referred particularly to one from Ramnad, in which the property of a whole district of 1,500 square miles was in a state of jeopardy pending a question on which there was an appeal to this country, yet no proceedings had yet taken place to bring it to a determination. If the evil, he observed, was to be charged on the forma-

tion of the Privy Council here, and its want of local information, that difficulty might be easily removed by procuring the advice of many able individuals who, having filled important situations in India, were now living on pensions in this country, and might act as assessors or counsel if it were thought proper. If the difficulty began at the other end, in India itself, the parties should be put into possession of some mode to have their case set in a course of adjudication. The best means probably would be to call over all the appeals which had not been proceeded in, and to dismiss them altogether; it would release an immense mass of property, which had been kept for twelve or twenty years either locked up or in a most unsettled state.

The Earl of Harrowby agreed with the Noble Marquess that the subject was one which deserved attention. With respect to the appeals sent to the Privy Council, the court knew nothing of any causes,

till they were brought forward in a shape fit for trial. Sending a case from India gave the Privy Council no clue at all. The native counsel knew that unless they appointed an agent to transact the business, and to settle the payment of fees, which went not to individuals but to the public, they did not place the Privy Council in a situation to take any notice whatever of the cases which they had forwarded. There had been no unnecessary delay in the proceedings of that Council, and there were not at present more than four appeals ready for hearing before it. The motion was then agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

Nothing has yet been resolved on respecting the appointment of a Governor General for India. The impediments arising from the state of the ministry, combined with other causes, have, in fact, rendered the period when the determination may take place so extremely uncertain, that a request has, we understand, been sent out to Lord Amherst to delay his relinquishment of office beyond the time which his Lordship originally fixed (we believe the end of the present year), in order that the necessary arrangements for the appointment of his successor may be completed without inconvenience. The coincidence of the three presidencies being vacant at the same time, and the possible injury to the public service from the appointment simultaneously of three individuals new to office, is supposed to have furnished another inducement for postponing the appointment to the chief presidency.—*Times.*

NEW GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

A Court of Directors was held at the East-India House, April 4, when Stephen Rumbold Lushington, Esq. took the usual oath on being appointed Governor of Fort St. George. Mr. Lushington afterwards dined with the Directors at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. There were present several of his Majesty's Ministers and many other distinguished characters.

BOMBAY MARINE.

We understand that it is intended to place the Bombay Marine on a new footing, under the command of a Captain of the Royal Navy, who is to be selected by the Court of Directors. Many officers are candidates for this appointment. Among others, Sir J. Phillimore, Sir B. C. Doyle, and Captains Barrie, Shirreff, and Hart.—*London Paper.*

M. MARTUCCI.

The following appears in a Roman paper:—"We announce with the truest pleasure the return of our fellow-citizen, Onorato Martucci to Rome. He returns to his country, after having travelled for a period of thirty-six years in Asia and in China; in the latter he resided a long time. This learned and indefatigable traveller brings a valuable collection of curiosities of every kind."

MARRIAGES OF ASIATICS WITH RUSSIAN SUBJECTS.

The Emperor of Russia has sanctioned (March 21) the following resolutions of his council respecting marriages contracted by Asiatics with Russian subjects.

Asiatics (except Bucharians) who visit Russia, and contract marriages with Russian subjects, are allowed to return to their own countries, but their wives and children must remain to Russia.

Marriages on the part of Mahometans and others, not Christians, of Asia, with Christian women who are Russian subjects, of the Russo-Greek, or of the Roman Catholic religion, are absolutely prohibited.

If these Asiatics remove beyond the limits of the Russian empire, and with the intention of returning, leave of absence for two years shall be granted them. The local authorities of the place in which they reside must require them, before their departure, to give securities, by which they engage to support their wives and children during their absence. If they do not return to Russia at the expiration of the two years, the marriages they have contracted here are to be considered as dissolved.

Bucharians visiting Russia shall be allowed to marry Russian females, of the Mahometan faith, and to return to Asia with them and their families, if the parents of their wives consent, according to the ninth article of the convention concluded in 1816 with the Bucharian ambassador, Dewan Beg Ainschan Mamanschakow.

NEW BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.

The Rev. J. T. James, M. A. (formerly student of Christ Church, Oxon., and son of the late Dr. James, Prebendary of Worcester), Rector of Flitton, Beds., is appointed Bishop of Calcutta.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, March 24.—The Rev. Mr. Thomason, of Calcutta, is appointed Minister of Trinity Church, Cheltenham.

The Rev. James Edgar is nominated Chaplain at the Cape of Good Hope, in

connection with the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Cambridge, March 23. Just Henry Alt, M.A., of Catherine Hall, late professor of Bishop's College, Calcutta, has been elected into the Fourth Grammar Mastership of Christ Hospital.

BURMESE COLLECTION.

Capt. Marryat, R.N. has presented to the Royal Asiatic Society an extensive collection of literary and other curiosities from Ava, made during his command there.

THE LATE BISHOP HEBER.

At a meeting at All Souls College, Oxford, of the personal friends of the late Bishop of Calcutta, assembled to testify by some public act their respect to the memory of one so distinguished in the university of Oxford, so virtuous and amiable in private life, and so strongly devoted to the great cause in which his life was lost; it was resolved, that a subscription should be opened to defray the expense of a monument, to perpetuate those feelings of admiration and esteem towards him, known to prevail in the kingdom at large, and to transmit to posterity a record of his eminent services in the propagation of christianity in India.

MUTINY ON BOARD AN INDIAMAN.

We have seen the full particulars of the mutiny on board the *Sarah*, free-trader, bound to Bombay (referred to in p. 589), given by an officer in the Company's army, who was a passenger. It appears that the boatswain having made use of highly insubordinate and insolent language, was put in irons, and, agreeably to the unanimous opinion of the officers and passengers of the ship, Capt. Tucker determined to flog him. The crew threatened a rescue, and the passengers came armed on deck to support the captain's authority. On the first lash being inflicted, the crew made a rush towards the officers and passengers. Captain Tucker drew a line, and warned the crew not to pass it on pain of being fired upon. The men, however, passed the line, became decidedly mutinous, disregarded firing over their heads, and at length assaulted the passengers; when several pistols were fired, by which one man was killed and three others wounded. This took place on the 12th Nov. The ship then stood for Rio Janeiro, where the British naval commander furnished a guard of marines to accompany the ship to Bombay.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

At the annual election at the East In-

dia House, 11th April 1827, the following Directors went out of office by rotation: Henry Alexander, Esq. M.P.; Wm. Stanley Clarke, Esq.; Rich. Chicheley Plowden, Esq.; George Raikes, Esq.; Sir Geo. Abercrombie Robinson, Bart.; and John Thornhill, Esq. Their places were supplied by the following gentlemen: Geo. Smith, Esq. M.P.; Sweny Toone, Esq.; Wm. Astell, Esq. M.P.; Campbell Marjoribanks, Esq.; Chas. Elton Prescott, Esq.; and John Masterman, Esq. The Hon. Hugh Lindsay, M.P., was elected Chairman, and James Pattison, Esq. Deputy Chairman, for the year ensuing.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L.Dr. T. Lloyd to be corn. by purch., v. Henley app. to 5th Dr. Gu. (15 Mar.)

11th L.Dr. Lieut. E. Arnold, from h.p. 1st Dr., to be lieut., v. Maxwell dec. (29 Mar.)

16th L.Dr. E. H. Donnithorne to be corn. by purch., v. Blood prom. (22 Mar.); Corn. C. Cotton to be lieut. by purch., v. J. Douglass prom. (29 Mar.); Lieut. J. Vincent to be adj., v. Hilton who resigns adjcy. only (16 June 26).

1st Foot. Lieut. N. Maclean to be capt., v. Wetherall prom. (29 Mar.)

3d Foot. Lieut. T. Chatterton, from h.p. 60th F., to be lieut., v. G. H. Moore, who exch. (15 Mar.)

6th Foot. Ens. G. A. Malcolm, from h.p., to be ens., v. Shaw, app. to 5th F. (21 Mar.)

13th Foot. Ens. H. Moorhouse to be lieut. by purch., v. Blood prom., and Z. Edwards to be ens., v. Hayes dec. (both 22 Mar.)

20th Foot. Maj. J. S. Simcocks, from 5th F., to be maj., v. Barrington, who exch. (22 Mar.)

40th Foot. Capt. E. S. Boscowen, from h.p., to be capt., v. Elliott prom. (29 Mar.)

45th Foot. Assist. surg. J. Campbell, from 30th F., to be assist. surg., v. Tower dec. (15 Mar.); Capt. J. Cole to be maj., v. Stapcoole dec. (26 June 26); Lieut. J. Reid to be capt. by purch., v. Cole (26 do.); Capt. E. C. Archer, from h.p., to be capt., v. J. Grant, who exch. (29 Mar. 27); Ens. E. W. Lascelles to be lieut., v. Forbes dec. (18 May 26); J. P. Meik to be ens. by purch., v. Armstrong who res. (26 June 26).

48th Foot. Ens. T. Edgar, from 56th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Roberts prom. (22 Mar.)

54th Foot. Lieut. J. Lawless to be capt., v. Evanson dec.; and Ens. G. Mann to be lieut., v. Lawless (both 15 Mar.); E. Wheatstone to be ens., v. Man prom. (22 Mar.); Assist. surg. R. Russell, from 1st F., to be assist. surg., v. Macdonald who res. (29 Mar.)

59th Foot. Ens. W. Jesse to be lieut., v. M. C. Pitman dead of his wounds (23 Feb. 26).

78th Foot. Hosp. Assist. A. Wood to be assist. surg., v. Duncan dec. (19 Nov. 26).

87th Foot. J. Ralph to be ens., v. Herbert prom. (1 Jan. 26); Lieut. J. Kennedy to be capt., v. C. L. Bell, prom. in 41st F. (29 Mar.); Ens. T. M. Creagh to be lieut., v. Masterson prom. (6 Mar. 26); Ens. C. F. M'Mahon from 2d F., to be ens., v. Creagh (6 do.)

Ceylon Regt. Lieut. G. A. Tranchell to be capt., v. Driberg dec. (9 Oct. 26); 2d-Lieut. R. Jefferson to be 1st-lieut., v. Woodward dec. (1 Sept. 26); Lieut. O. Delancy, from h.p., to be 1st-lieut., v. Nason, whose app. has not taken place (29 Mar. 27); Ens. W. J. M'Carthy, from h.p. 40th F., to be 2d-lieut., v. E. A. Turnour, who exch. (29 do.)

East-India Volunteers. S. J. Smith to be ens. (24 Mar.)

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, March 21.

(Continued from page 582.)

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

The *Chairman* observed, that the next subject for discussion had been proposed by an hon. proprietor (Mr. Poynder) whom he saw in his place. He then directed the motion to be read, as follows :—

“ That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives.”

Mr. Poynder said, he hoped he would be acquitted of all idea of presumption, in offering himself to the court, on a subject of a nature so difficult and delicate as the present, when he assured the proprietors, that it was not from any fault of his own that the question had not been placed in much abler hands. He spoke in the presence of some gentlemen, who knew that he was not forward in introducing the subject of this discussion to the court. Much rather would he have acted in a very subordinate capacity on this occasion, than that in which he appeared. It had, however, so happened, that one friend who was deeply interested in this question had been removed by death, and another was employed on a distant service; thus it was that the subject happened to be committed to his unworthy and inadequate abilities. Under these circumstances, he threw himself on the indulgence of the court; and he felt that he should be obliged most earnestly to request that indulgence, because, to bring the subject before the court with any chance of success, he would be obliged to refer to such voluminous documents, as would render the subject less interesting than it otherwise would be. He should take the liberty, in the outset, of adverting to an observation, relative to this question, which had been laid before the public some years since, when a gentleman in the Company's service brought before them a statement relative to the burning of an aged female near Calcutta. There was nothing very remarkable or out of the common course in this transaction: but it was asked, in a pamphlet written at the time, who were guilty of the blood of this woman? The government abroad answered, that they were not to blame, as they had received no orders from the Court of Directors on the

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subject; and it was ultimately agreed that the proprietors, who must have heard of those suttees, were censurable, inasmuch as they sanctioned all the proceedings of the Court of Directors, and they had not instructed that body to send out orders for the purpose of checking the system. Now he, as a proprietor, was not disposed to plead guilty to this charge of inadvertence or neglect; because at that time they were not in possession of the information which they had since received; they had then nothing official before them. That time had, however, passed away; and six sets of parliamentary papers on this subject were now laid before them. From these documents he had made extracts, in order that he might not occupy unnecessarily any portion of their time. The first four documents contained full details of the annual returns presented to the Indian governments, and transmitted to the Court of Directors on this subject, from 1815 to 1823. The fifth number contained exclusively an account of infanticides; and the sixth was a summary of the number of widows burned from 1815 to 1823 inclusive. Though that document was last in order, he would advert to it in the first instance. From this return it appeared, that in 1815, 378 widows were sacrificed on the funeral piles of their husbands, in the presidency of Bengal; in 1816, 442; in 1817, 707; in 1818, 839; in 1819, 650; in 1820, 597; in 1821, 654; in 1822, 583; in 1823, 575; making a gross total, in nine years, of 5,425 individuals who had thus perished; and taking into the account those who had been burned at Fort St. George and Bombay, the number would be nearly 6,000. The children, of various ages, who were left in an orphan and destitute state, in consequence of these sacrifices, in Bengal alone, amounted in these nine years to 5,128. In arguing this question there were two positions, to establish which all his observations would be directed; and which, for the greater clearness, he would state in the outset of his remarks. The first point he should seek to prove was, that enough had not been done by the government, abroad or at home, on this important question; the second point was, that more might now be done with perfect safety to the government of India. He begged gentlemen, so far as it was practicable, to bear these two points in their recollection; because it was only as he might be found to establish these propositions, that he would feel himself entitled to call on any individual for his vote. The hon. gent. then proceeded to read the accounts

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of many suttees from the parliamentary papers.* The first was contained in a letter from the resident at Poona, which stated that a widow possessed of 2,000 rupees and a number of jewels, which were given to the Brahmins (a circumstance that perhaps would account for their anxiety on the occasion) was led to the funeral pile. She approached it with her hands clasped, and her eyes raised to heaven. She stopped for a while, then ascended the pile, and laid herself down by her deceased husband. The victim was immediately covered from view by bundles of straw. Some of the persons present rent the air with loud "hurrahs," whilst others rushed forward to apply the flaming torch to the pile. Such a sacrifice as this must remind every one (said Mr. Poynder) of those rites described by Milton as being paid to Moloch of old :—

"First Moloch, horrid king, besmeared with blood
Of human sacrifice, and parents' tears;
Though, for the noise of drums and timbrels loud,
The children's cries unheard, that passed through
To his grim idol." [fire]

The case to which he had just referred was, he believed, before the government in 1817. The next case to which he called the attention of the court was one which was attended with circumstances of violence, and which ought therefore to have been prevented. The hon. proprietor proceeded to detail a variety of instances in which females were sacrificed in the most cruel manner, while their friends and relatives looked on with the most shocking indifference. He knew it was impossible for gentlemen not to feel the deepest disgust at these details: still it was necessary that he should enter into them; and he called on the court to recollect the excellent maxim of Mr. Fox, that "true humanity consists not in a squeamish ear, but in listening to sufferings, for the purpose of relieving them." The chief point to which he wished to direct the attention of the court in this part of his observations was, that enough had not been done by the Indian government, or by the executive at home for the abolition of these suttees. He would, in the second branch of his remarks, be able to shew that much might be done towards that object—that in fact the practice might be altogether abolished, without any detriment to the Company's interests in India. He would first call the attention of the court to what had taken place in 1805, under the government of the Marquess Wellesley. In February of that year, it was discussed by the Governor-General in council (there being present, as members of the council, Lord Lake, Sir George Barnwall, and Mr. Udney),

* These details were so exceedingly voluminous, that we have not space for their publication; we have therefore only given an abstract of them.

how far it might be proper to check the custom of sacrificing Hindoo widows. As the result of that discussion, a proclamation was issued by the Governor-General, in which it was stated to be the intention of government to consult even the prejudices of the natives in their religious opinions, as far as they were consistent with humanity and morality. It was added, that it was desirable to ascertain how far the suttees could be abolished altogether, provided they did not form an essential part of the religion of the country; but if it appeared that they did form an essential part of the religion under some circumstances, they were to be permitted only in those circumstances, and that the abuse of them was in all cases to be abolished. The principle, of the noble Lord's letter was that of the immortal Locke, who observed that every religion ought to receive free toleration, where its practice was not inconsistent with morality. Upon this principle the government continued to act for several years, taking care that the practice of suttee should be restricted as much as possible by throwing every objection in its way without directly decreeing its abolition. Lord Wellesley, with a view of ascertaining how far even that might be done, took the opinions of several learned pundits, as to the question whether or not suttee was enjoined as a religious duty by the Shaster. These pundits, who were of different castes, all concurred in the opinion that the practice was no where enjoined, but that it was permitted, and deemed meritorious. There were, however, certain cases in which even the Shaster considered the practice unlawful; but in no part was it deemed indispensably necessary to the happiness of the wife in a future state. In support of this, the opinion of Menu was quoted, who held that a virtuous wife, who lived in the practice of moral conduct after the death of her husband, would thereby be deemed worthy to ascend and join him in heaven. The government after this, finding that it was not enjoined as a religious duty, but only permitted as a meritorious action, though unwilling to go the whole length of decreeing its abolition, felt it necessary to throw every impediment in its way; and in some cases it was totally prohibited, as those of non-age or the pregnancy of the widow; and in every case the act must be voluntary on the widow's part, otherwise the parties using force would be liable to the severest punishment. This principle continued to direct the policy of our Indian government until the year 1812; in the September of that year a memorial was addressed to government on the subject; Lord Minto being then president, and Sir George Hewitt, Mr. Lumsden, and others being members of the council—in fact, of all the members

of the council of 1805, not one then remained in authority. Lord Minto published a declaration, in which it was stated, that every toleration would be given to the religion of the natives, but he omitted the important provision of the proclamation of Lord Wellesley, that it should not be inconsistent with humanity or morality. The only thing done was to adopt the former regulation, that it should not be allowed in case of non-age and pregnancy. A hope was expressed in the time of Lord Wellesley, that it might be abolished within a reasonable time: what might be considered a reasonable time he (Mr. Poynder) was not prepared to state, but more than twenty years had now elapsed, and still the practice was in existence. The learned proprietor then proceeded to quote several documents, for the purpose of proving that very little of what might have been done had been done for its abolition. Amongst other things he read an extract from the opinions of Sir Wm. Jones, in which it was stated, that little reliance could be placed upon the opinions of the pundits, in any matter in which their own interest was in any degree affected; that they differed among themselves as to what was the law, and gave out their own interpretation of it just as they pleased. From the documents which he had read to the court, it would appear that no penalties were imposed to enforce even such prohibitions as did exist, and that infractions of those prohibitions were made daily with impunity. The measures that were taken were principally entrusted to the native police, but there was in most instances such a difficulty of getting information as to the suttees, that the police were seldom aware of them in sufficient time for their prevention. The learned gentleman then proceeded to read other documents describing the regulations made by government with respect to suttees, and contended that, so far from those regulations tending to prevent, they were directly calculated to encourage the horrid practice. The police it was said were required to attend; but so far from this shewing any discouragement, it gave to the whole ceremony the apparent sanction of the government. The exceptions, too, made by government in certain cases, were taken as an admission of the general principle. He would read for the court the opinions of several magistrates, and others in authority in India, who had abundant opportunities of information on the subject, to shew that all our exertions would be insufficient to put an end to the practice, unless its abolition were positively decreed by the government. Any interference short of this, any half measures, would be found wholly inefficient. From the letters of Mr. Ward, of a gentleman who had been long a chaplain in

the service (long extracts from which were read by the hon. gentleman), it appeared that all the efforts of amiable and benevolent individuals, to put an end to this practice by kind and persuasive means, were, and would continue to be altogether frustrated by the conduct of government. Many attempts of this kind were met by the remark, "your government sanctions it; we act under the authority of a license from the local magistrate, and against that license you have no authority to act." Here again the learned gentleman read a vast number of extracts, to shew the dreadful extent to which these practices were carried, and that in many cases, so far from the suttee being a voluntary act of the widow, it was the result of the most barbarous force. He added, that were he to lay before the court the many cases contained in the returns, he

"Could a tale unfold, whose lightest word
Would harrow up the soul!"

There were, however, some cases, the notice of which he could not altogether omit. [The hon. proprietor again referred to the documents before the court, long extracts from which he read, but with such rapidity, that some of the cases we lost altogether, and of others we are only able to give a mere outline.] A case occurred at Nagpore, of a widow not fifteen years old, who was persuaded to sacrifice herself on the funeral pile of her deceased husband. The young creature laid herself upon it with much agitation, but no sooner had the flames touched her body than she burst from them, and endeavoured to make her escape; she was pursued by her relations and brought back, and was induced, partly by threats partly by persuasion, once more to mount the fatal pile, where she was no sooner placed, than huge logs of wood were heaped upon her in order to keep her down; again, however, she threw herself from the flames and sought her safety in flight. She threw herself into an adjacent stream; she was followed by her uncle, to whose intreaties that she might return she gave a most earnest negative; she said the act was wholly forced, that she had no wish to sacrifice herself, and she most earnestly implored that she might be allowed to live; adding, that she would beg for the remainder of her life to prevent her becoming a dependent on her friends. While she thus spoke she appeared to suffer the extreme of agony, as well from the wounds which the fire inflicted, as from the fear that her relations would oblige her to finish the dreadful sacrifice. Her uncle now spread a large cloth on the ground, told her to place herself upon it, and that she should be conveyed back to her friends. She at first appeared to doubt the sincerity of this proposition and refused to go, but her uncle swore by the Ganges that no

injury should be done to her, and that as soon as she placed herself on the cloth she should be carried home. Relying on this solemn assurance, the unhappy creature did place herself on the cloth: but no sooner had she seated herself, than it was quickly rolled and tied round her, and thus bound up, she was again cast into the flames. Once more, however, she tried to escape, and had succeeded in releasing herself from the pile, when her uncle approached her, and in a savage fury struck her on the head with his sword, and in a moment put an end to her sufferings; the body was then thrown back on the pile and consumed. There could be no doubt that this was a case of deliberate murder.— (*Hear, hear, hear!*) It was clearly against the consent of the unfortunate woman; and the parties thus instrumental to her death were, according to the existing law of India, guilty of murder. Five of them were tried for that offence, but though the judge who presided had declared it to be decidedly murder, they were only sentenced as for a homicide; one of them was sentenced to five years' hard labour; another to three years' imprisonment, and the others to one year's imprisonment without hard labour. The ground on which this mitigated punishment was awarded was, that every allowance was to be made for the superstitions of the natives. In 1821 another case occurred, in which a woman jumped off the pile, and positively refused again to place herself upon; she was, however, thrown back, logs heaped upon her, and thus forcibly pressed down, she was burned to ashes: for this, one or two of the parties concerned were tried, and though the facts were distinctly proved and admitted on all hands, the men were acquitted, on the ground that their intention was not to commit murder, but to observe a religious ceremony. There were also cases tried of members of the Rajpoots, who were proved to have burned some of their own caste alive, but no conviction took place, on similar grounds. In another case, four widows out of twenty-one belonging to the same deceased Brahmin were burned, and no inquiry whatever made on the subject, though it was believed that some of them were burned without their consent. [The learned gentleman then went through a variety of other cases of suttees, in some of which the women did not exceed the age of nine years, in others eleven; in other cases the son lit the pile where his mother was to be consumed.] All these cases had been allowed to go without inquiry, or the result of the inquiry had been the acquittal of the parties. He begged to observe, that many of the cases to which he referred came down as late as the summer of 1826: but these later ones rested on the authority of private informa-

tion; the cases in the official communications did not come down lower than 1823. One of those he could not avoid mentioning: it was that of the widow of a Brahmin eleven years and eight months old, in whose behalf application was made to the local magistrate to grant the license for the suttee. The gentleman happened to be going to dinner at the time, and without making the proper inquiries, he granted the license, the woman was burned, and it afterwards appeared that the sacrifice had been altogether involuntary on her part. In the explanation of his conduct, the magistrate gave rather a curious reason for giving his consent: he said he had understood that the woman had remained so long abstinent from food (as was usual on those occasions), that he was afraid she would be starved to death; so that, in fact, to prevent her being starved to death, he gave his consent that she should be burned alive. In another case, in the papers before the court, mention was made of a young man who was tried for having put his mother-in-law to death by having buried her alive. The circumstance of his superstition being taken into consideration, the only result of the trial was his acquittal and dismissal, with a caution not to do the same thing again; by which he (Mr. Poynder) supposed was meant that he should not again bury his mother-in-law alive. (*Hear, hear!*) After citing several other cases, Mr. Poynder called the attention of the court to a memorial which had been presented to the Indian government, calling it's attention to the frequency of those suttees, and the means which might be adopted for their suppression. To that memorial the government paid no attention, or rather only such attention as was calculated to discourage the exertions of its officers for the abolition of the practice. He then called the attention of the court to the case of a widow who was under age, whose husband had died under age, and between whom the marriage had never been consummated; yet in this case no inquiry had been instituted, though it was decidedly opposed to the regulations which the government had laid down. A case was mentioned in the *Bombay Courier* in June 1823, which he thought deserved the particular attention of the court: it was that of a woman who consented to place herself on the pile of her deceased husband; as the fire approached her but very slowly her resolution began to fail, and when at length it began to affect her body, she threw herself from it, and by the assistance of an English gentleman who was present, was enabled to get into the river Ganges. Being in some slight degree relieved by immersion in the cold stream, she declared that she had no objection to offer herself as a sacrifice, but that

that the fire was too slow, and she was unwilling to endure the protracted torture; but added, that if the fire were so arranged as to put an end speedily to her sufferings, she would place herself again speedily upon it. The fire was quickened, and in a few moments the flames burst forth with great fury, so much so that she became alarmed as she approached, her courage again failed, and she refused to advance. Her friends, who should have attended to her wish in this respect, immediately surrounded her, and seizing her by the head and heels, cast her with violence upon the burning heap; again, however, she escaped, and, unassisted by any person, once more plunged into the river. Thither she was followed by her relations, who endeavoured to deprive her of life by holding her down under the water; by her great struggles she released herself from their hands, came again on dry land, and throwing herself into the arms of a gentleman present, implored for mercy and protection. The appearance which she presented at this moment was too terrible for description: the skin hung in loose pieces, black and almost detached, from every part of her body; the flesh was burned from her legs, thighs, and arms. Altogether her appearance presented a spectacle which human nature could not contemplate without horror. The unfortunate victim was then removed to an hospital, where, after lingering for twenty hours in indescribable torture, death put a period to her misery. Now for this gross outrage upon the laws of humanity, and the laws of the country, and of God and nature, no punishment had been inflicted. Now what he contended for was, that if the Indian government exercised that authority with which it was invested by the executive at home, prompt and decisive measures would have been taken to inflict just punishment, in all cases where it appeared that violence had been used to enforce that barbarous practice. It was clear that the Shaster in no place enjoined the suttee as a duty, though it spoke of its performance as a meritorious act. From the manner in which the doctrines of the Shaster were expounded by the Pundits and Brahmins the people in some places were led to view the observations of the Shaster in the light of positive commands, and he (Mr. Poynder) regretted that the Indian government had done very little to enlighten them on this subject. The government at home, he thought, was also somewhat to blame for not interfering in this matter. As a proof of this, he begged to read an extract of a letter from the Court of Directors (Judicial Department) to the Governor-General in Council, dated June 1823.

The *Chairman* suggested that it might

be as well to have the whole of the letter read. The letter was then read by the officer of the court, as follows:

"We have had before us your proceedings, with the various documents recorded and referred to in your consultations of the 30th of July 1819, relating to suttees. You are aware that the attention of Parliament and the public has lately been called to this subject. We are disposed to give you a large discretion in regard to the prevention of suttee, because we are persuaded that no general rule can be laid down with either safety or efficiency; and that the adaptation of particular measures to local peculiarities can only be effected by the Indian governments.

"After an attentive consideration of all that has been lately received from the several presidencies on this subject, and the various opinions concerning suttee which have been received from the public officers, it appears that the practice varies very much in different parts of India, both as to the extent to which it prevails and the enthusiasm by which it is upheld. The necessity, therefore, as well as the policy and probable effect of strong measures of repression, must vary with the varying circumstances of the district.

"The line of distinction which you have drawn in the Circular Orders of 1817, between the different cases of suttee, proceeds upon a more general principle.

"It is undoubtedly the policy of our Government to abstain from interference with the religious opinions and prejudices of the natives; and it is therefore upon an intelligible ground that you have adopted the rule which permits the sacrifice, when it is clearly voluntary and conformable to the Hindoo religion, and authoritatively prevents it in all other cases.

"To us, however, it appears very doubtful (and we are confirmed in this doubt by respectable authority) whether the measures which have been already taken in pursuance of this principle, have not tended rather to increase than diminish the frequency of the practice. Such a tendency is at least not unnaturally ascribed to a regulation which, prohibiting a practice only in certain cases, appears to sanction it in all others; and it is to be apprehended that where the people have not previously a very enthusiastic attachment to the custom, a law which shall explain to them the cases in which it ought not to be followed, may be taken as a direction for adopting it in all others. Indeed, in a district where the practice, if ever known, has fallen into disuse, any public mention of it whatever would appear impolitic, although it would be highly desirable to resist any attempt to revive it.

"It is moreover with much reluctance that we can consent to make the British Government, by a specific permission of the suttee, an ostensible party to the sacrifice; we are averse also to the practice of making British courts expounders and vindicators of the Hindoo religion, when it leads to acts, which, not less as legislators than as Christians, we abominate.

"This reasoning we will at present push no farther than to enjoin you, for this as well as for other considerations, to interfere as little as possible. We will not forbid you to act upon the regulation to which we have referred, if you really find that its application diminishes the evil. We wish, however, that neither this plan of discriminating and qualified permission, nor any plan of repression, should be positively and generally prescribed to the magistrates; there should in no case be more than a license, to be used according to the discretion of those who are acquainted with local circumstances. In a matter so delicate, the same regulation may be safe or wise, or dangerous and impolitic, according to the character of the officer by whom it is to be executed. We know of instances in which a magistrate, having acquired by praiseworthy methods an influence among the natives, has been readily obeyed in a positive prohibition of the sacrifice of a widow. It may be true that where this occurred the prejudice was not deeply rooted, but still, much was unquestionably owing to the judicious conduct and experience of the magistrate; and an attempt to imitate him by a person not possessing the same qualifications, might be more than unsuccessful.

"Instances of this nature therefore would not warrant us to authorize a general prohibition; but connected

connected with the opinions expressed by many intelligent men, that the practice of suttee is not a tenet of religion to which the people are enthusiastically attached, but rather an abuse fostered by interested priests or relations: these instances of partial success do lead us to regard the notion of prohibition (modified according to circumstances) of this barbarous custom with rather less of apprehension than it has generally produced. We say this without hesitation, because we are not at all afraid that you will act imprudently upon our declaration. You will take it as it is meant, for an encouragement to you seriously to consider the subject, and an assurance of our disposition to co-operate in such measures, as your superior means of estimating consequences may suggest to you. Assuredly the most acceptable form of success would be that which could be brought about by such an increase of intelligence among the people, as should show them the wickedness and absurdity of the practice; next to this, we should rejoice to see the abolition effected by influence, and the co-operation of the higher order of natives.

"It is hardly necessary to add, that measures for protecting the females from violence, and punishing those who administer intoxicating drugs, will have our approbation."

Mr. Poynder now requested that a letter of Lord Amherst to the Directors, dated the 3d December 1824, and contained in vol. iv. page 6, of the papers before the court, should be read. The document was read by the clerk accordingly, as follows:—

"Honourable Sirs: We have the honour to transmit to your Honourable Court an extract from our proceedings, containing the reports of suttees for the years 1822 and 1823, received from the Court of Nizamut Adawlut, together with various other documents connected with the same subject; and a copy of the resolutions which we have this day passed on an anxious consideration of the important question which they involve.

"We take the present opportunity of acknowledging your Honourable Court's letter upon this subject, under date the 17th of June 1823, and of expressing the gratification which we have derived from the confidence reposed in us by your Honourable Court, in leaving to our discretion the adoption or suspension of measures directed to the abolition of the barbarous practice of suttee.

"We entirely participate with your Honourable Court in the feelings of detestation with which you view the rite, and in your earnest desire to have it suppressed; and we beg to assure you that nothing but the apprehension of evils infinitely greater than those arising from the existence of the practice, could induce us to tolerate it for a single day.

"Although, as is remarked by your Honourable Court, the practice varies very much in different parts of the country, both as to the extent to which it prevails, and the enthusiasm by which it is upheld, yet it cannot be doubted but that it is sufficiently general to have a strong hold on the feelings of the native population throughout the greater part of our possessions.

"In fact, the whole difficulty of the question consists in determining the amount of the influence of this fanatical spirit, and it is only upon a sober and careful consideration of the native modes of thinking upon this subject, that any safe attempt at legislation can be founded.

"The difficulty of arriving at any sound practical conclusions, in legislating on subjects connected with religious prejudice, is sufficiently obvious in any country; and the peculiar disadvantages under which your servants here must conduct their inquiries on such subjects, have been so frequently and so clearly stated, that it seems unnecessary to repeat them in this place.

"We have reason however to believe, that in the eyes of the natives, the great redeeming point in our government, the circumstance which reconciles them above all others to the manifest inconveniences of foreign rule, is the scrupulous regard we have paid to their customs and prejudices. It would be with extreme reluctance that we adopted any measures tending to unsettle the confidence thus reposed in us. In native opi-

nion, the voluntary nature of the act of suttee diminishes the right of the Government to interfere, and it must be remembered that the safety and expediency of suppressing the practice must be judged by reference chiefly to native, and not to European habits of thinking.

"Were we to be guided by the sentiments which we happen to know exist generally among the higher classes of natives, at the place most favourable for ascertaining their real sentiments (we mean the presidency), we should indeed almost despair of ever seeing the suppression of the practice. The well-meant and zealous attempts of Europeans to dissuade from, and to discourage the performance of the rite, would appear to have been almost uniformly unsuccessful, and prove but too strongly, that even the best informed classes of the Hindoo population are not yet sufficiently enlightened to recognize the propriety of abolishing the rite.

"Your Honourable Court will be gratified by perceiving from the returns now submitted, that in the interior of the country the practice has been slowly, but gradually decreasing.

"These statements do not promise the early cessation of the practice, under the operation of existing causes; but we shall anxiously look to the future returns to ascertain if they exhibit a continued diminution.

"We do not affect to conceal that such a result would be peculiarly acceptable to us. The whole course of our proceedings has been in conformity with the principle enjoined by your Honourable Court, to interfere as little as possible; and in a subject so beset with difficulty, and in which the risk of advancing appears to us so considerable, it would be gratifying to find that the safest and most moderate course was also likely to prove an effectual one.

"For the reasons assigned in our resolutions of this date, we are decidedly of opinion, that the adoption of any new measures of importance is particularly inexpedient at the present moment, and we hope that the additional information obtained may eventually enable us to proceed with more confidence.

"Your Honourable Court have been already apprised of the plans for the encouragement of native education recently adopted under the orders of Government. These measures depend in no small degree for success on the scrupulous exclusion of all religious subjects; and it would be injudicious to render our first interference with a religious rite simultaneous with the introduction of a system of general education.

"We entirely concur with your Honourable Court, in considering that success arising from increased intelligence among the people (which can be effected, we conceive, only by improved education), would be the most acceptable form in which the cessation of the practice could be exhibited.

"In the mean time, your Honourable Court will remark, that we have been preparing, should we deem it expedient at a favourable moment, to adopt in particular places those measures of partial prevention which you have recommended to our consideration.

"Something we hope has been effected. We have safely and quietly ascertained the extent of the practice, and have guarded against violence being offered to the victims of it; and considering that the practice is the growth of many hundreds of years, and that it was disregarded by ourselves for the first half-century during which we held the government of the country, we think the progress made in nine years, in a matter of such extreme delicacy, is not altogether unsatisfactory.

"We do not wish to pledge ourselves for the future, even by sketching any specific plan for the approbation of your Honourable Court. We hope we have satisfied your Honourable Court that we anxiously desire to see the abolition of the practice—that reasonable doubts may be entertained of the safety of suppressing it—that the present moment is particularly unsuitable to such an attempt—that something has been effected by us—that the subject continues to receive its full share of our attention, and that we shall keep our minds open to avail ourselves of favourable circumstances, or useful information. Further than this we are not at present prepared to go, and we have the gratification to believe that these senti-

timents are conformable to those expressed in the despatch of your Honourable Court to which we are replying.

(Signed) "AMHERST,
"EDW. PAGETT,
"JOHN FENDALL."

"Fort-William, Dec. 3, 1824."

Mr. Poynder then went on to observe, that the letter was in some respects by no means satisfactory, and that the letter of the Court of Directors, to which it was an answer, by no means gave that latitude of which Lord Amherst's communication mentioned.

The *Chairman* observed that he differed from the hon. member, and read that passage of the letter from the Court of Directors, in which a large discretion was allowed to the Indian government, because no general rule could be laid down.

Mr. Poynder said, he was unwilling to reply to the court; but, with the utmost deference for the opinion of the Chair, he must retain the opinion he had already formed; he then went on to observe, that the letter was unsatisfactory in other respects, as it did not shew that any reasonable hope could be entertained of any speedy suppression of this abominable practice. He would now come to the second head of his argument, and be able to shew, from the opinions of several magistrates, judges, and other officers belonging to the Company, that the complete abolition of the practice was perfectly attainable without the slightest injury to the interests of the Company in India. In support of this opinion, he read a variety of extracts from documents which had been laid before Parliament, and were then before that court. From these it appeared, that in many cases suttee was prevented by the positive refusal of the magistrates to grant the license; in others, by persuasion; in some, by open force, and in others, again, by the influence which the character of the local magistrates had upon the natives. But in all these cases, the suttee was prevented without any commotion amongst the people, or any thing like a disposition to adhere to their native customs, in defiance of the authority of government. In one instance it was prevented by the prudence of a magistrate, who, before he would grant the license for the suttee, required that the woman should burn off her finger by way of experiment, which having tried, she was disposed to go no farther, and contented herself with that sacrifice to the memory of her deceased husband. In another instance the destruction of the woman had been prevented by the timely and spirited interference of two English ladies, who had succeeded in driving the Brahmins away, and rescuing their intended victim. The learned proprietor then went on to shew, from the opinions of several local magistrates, which he read

to the court, that this practice was by no means general, nor was it so deeply rooted in the prejudices of the people as not to be eradicated provided the proper means were adopted. Taking the population, which was much below the fact, under our government in India at fifty millions of souls, and the annual deaths at one in thirty-three, the number of men who died annually leaving widows could not be taken at much less than 250,000: yet out of this immense number it no where appeared that the number of suttees in any year exceeded six hundred. The learned gentleman was proceeding, when

Mr. R. Jackson rose to order. It was not, he assured the hon. and learned gentleman, from any wish to restrict him in the course of his remarks that he now addressed the court, but on a subject of such grave and serious importance it was absolutely necessary that they should have the fullest time for its discussion. After the great and valuable body of evidence which the learned gentleman had collected on this subject, and as it was likely that he still might have many other documents to submit to the Court, he thought that the fullest time should be allowed him to conclude his remarks; he therefore suggested that the discussion should be adjourned to a future day. This was a question to which the attention of Parliament would in a short time be called; and before any parliamentary investigation, it might be important to have the opinion of that court upon the subject. Another reason for wishing to postpone the further discussion of the question was, that there had been four volumes of papers submitted to the court on the subject, and he would venture to say that not one proprietor in a hundred had yet been able to make himself acquainted with even a small portion of their contents.

Colonel Stanhope suggested that it might be better to allow Mr. Poynder to proceed; that it was probable he might be able to conclude in a quarter of an hour.

The *Chairman* said he believed the gallant colonel would find himself much mistaken in such a calculation; and added, that it might be as well to adjourn the court till to-morrow, or to adjourn this discussion for the present, and go on with the other matters which stood before the court.

Mr. R. Jackson said that there was a vote of thanks to Mr. Bosanquet, and that he, for one, could not consent to its discussion in so thin a court. That hon. gentleman deserved that the subject should be introduced in as full a court as possible.

After a few observations from Col. Stanhope, and one or two other proprietors, it was at length agreed that the court should be adjourned to Wednesday next, that the discussion of this question should

should be resumed the first thing on that day, and that the other motions which stood, should follow in the order in which they were placed on the paper.

The court then adjourned at 6 o'clock, to Wednesday next.

East-India House, March 28.

A quarterly general Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held, by adjournment, at the Company's House in Leadenhall-street.

ATTENDANCE OF DIRECTORS.

The minutes of the last court having been read—

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose and inquired why a notice of motion, relative to the attendance of Directors, which he had given at a former court, had not been read now.

The *Chairman* (Sir G. A. Robinson).—"Because the motions of which notice has been taken in the minutes, are either disposed of, or in part discussed. That is not the case with the motion of the hon. proprietor, which will come on in due course."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"That motion contains a point which I would willingly relinquish, and I understood that you would allow it to be left out. I allude not to that part of the motion which relates to attendance, but to that portion of it which spoke of the bodily health and mental energies of the directors. When I mentioned them, there was something like a laugh in the court, and I could take a lesson from the circumstance: therefore I wish that part of the motion to be left out."

The *Chairman*.—"I did not understand that there was any acquiescence on the part of the court to authorize the omission alluded to."

BURNING OF HINDOO WIDOWS.

The *Chairman*.—"I have to acquaint the court that it is met by adjournment since the 21st inst. The motion which the proprietors are assembled to consider shall be now read, and the discussion may then be resumed."

The motion was then read as follows:—

"That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives."

Mr. *Poynder* said he should begin his address by expressing, in the first place, his sincere acknowledgment to the court, for the patient attention which had been extended to him on the last occasion; and

in the second, for their kind consideration, in conjunction with that of the learned proprietor (Mr. R. Jackson), in acceding to that learned gentleman's motion for an adjournment. He had now arrived at the commencement of the second of the heads which he had laid down in the former part of his speech. But, perhaps, before he proceeded to discuss it, he would be allowed briefly to recapitulate the points to which he had, on the first day, called the attention of the court. He would confine himself to a simple recapitulation of those points; and would not detain the court by advancing arguments on the ground which he had already gone over. His first proposition, it would be recollected, was, that enough had not been done by the government, abroad or at home, on the subject of this revolting practice; the second, that more might now be done with perfect ease and complete safety to the British empire in India. In arguing that enough had not yet been done, it was necessary for him in the first instance to shew what had really been done; and, with that view, he had adverted to the prohibitory regulation, which grew out of the letter of the Marquess Wellesley and his council, addressed to the court of Nizamut Adawlut, on the 5th of February 1805. In that letter it was stated, "that it is one of the fundamental maxims of the British government to consult the religious opinions, customs, and prejudices of the natives, in all cases in which it has been practicable, consistently with the principles of morality, reason, and humanity." On the 5th of June 1805, the court of Nizamut Adawlut answered that letter. In that answer, they omitted all reference "to the principles of morality, reason, and humanity," consistently alone with which the Marquess Wellesley and his council had declared, that the "the religious opinions, customs, and prejudices" of the natives should be consulted. They observed, "that it would be impracticable at the present time, consistently with the principle invariably observed by the British government, of manifesting every possible indulgence to the religious opinions and prejudices of the natives, to abolish the custom in question;" but the court of Nizamut Adawlut nevertheless recommended the adoption of certain prohibitory or restrictive regulations. The Marquess Wellesley did not, however, adopt those regulations, on the authority of the Nizamut Adawlut. There was, then, not only this negative evidence that he did not like to sanction them; but, perhaps, he spoke in the presence of some who knew that official reasons existed for not adopting them. Those regulations were not acted on by the Marquess Cornwallis, when he arrived in India in 1805, nor by Sir George Barlow who succeeded him. But Lord Minto did adopt them

on the 5th of December 1812, seven years and a half after they had been proposed to the government of the Marquess Wellesley. They were adopted at a time not only when the Marquess Wellesley was out of power, but when his colleagues in council were out of power also. On the 5th of September 1812, the court of Nizamut Adawlut forwarded to the Governor-general in council a copy of a letter from Mr. Wauchope, the magistrate of Bundelcund, "requesting instructions for his guidance with respect to the practice of Hindoo widows burning themselves on the funeral piles of their husbands;" and, on the 5th of December 1812, Lord Minto, the then governor-general in council, caused that communication to be answered by directing that the regulations proposed on this subject by the court of Nizamut Adawlut, in June 1805, should be adopted, "as they appeared to his Lordship in council well adapted to the purpose they were intended for." Those regulations were thus sanctioned seven years and a half after they had been proposed. In consequence of reference made to the pundits, or interpreters of the Hindoo law, at different times, in order to ascertain how far the practice of suttee was founded on the religion of the natives, much important information was obtained. It was demanded whether a widow was enjoined by the Shaster to burn, or was merely allowed to do so? The answer was, that every widow was permitted to burn, except in certain specified cases. It therefore appeared that this was not an imperative duty, but a permissive rite; and in order to prove that the government so distinctly understood it, he had referred to the proceedings of the Nizamut Adawlut in 1816 (vol. v. page 107 of the Parliamentary papers), to the regulation for maintaining the strict observance prescribed by the Shaster in the burning of Hindoo widows (vol. i. page 126), where it was stated, "that the widow is permitted, though not enjoined, to burn on the funeral pile;" and farther, "that the suicide in these cases is not indeed a religious act, nor has it the sanction of Menu, and other ancient legislators revered by the Hindoos; on the contrary, Menu declares that a virtuous wife ascends to heaven, though she have no child, if, after the decease of her lord, she devote herself to pious austerity;" and he had likewise quoted the words of the Marquess of Hastings, in his letter of the 19th of October 1817 (vol. i. page 147), approving of the course recommended by the vice-president in council, with respect to the manner in which the influence and authority of the magistrates should be exerted to prevent suttees, where his lordship said, "he trusts that the rules and regulations will have a very beneficial effect in checking

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the frequency of the instance of voluntary suttee amongst Hindoo women, by lessening the sense of obligation under which there is reason to believe many are induced to make this sacrifice of their lives, and showing that the practice is far from being inculcated as such by the most approved authorities of the Hindoo law." There were a multitude of proofs of the same description, scattered throughout those papers, to which, however, he would not refer. Sir W. Jones and other great authorities had stated, "that the pundits were generally corrupt interpreters of their own corrupt laws; but that still they had never dared to assert that this practice was essentially an integral part of the Hindoo religion." He (Mr. Poynder) had next, and as he thought successfully argued, that the prohibitory regulations framed in 1805, and carried into effect in 1812, were never meant to be final, but were of a temporary nature. He had proved, first, that they could not be final, in the nature of things, because they must vary with circumstances, if the government wished to put an end to this abuse; and secondly, that the execution of them was placed in the hands of native officers, who wished rather to keep up the practice than to check it, because they were exceedingly venal, as he had shewn. The letter of the court of Nizamut Adawlut, addressed to the Marquess Wellesley on the 5th of June 1805, in which those regulations were recommended—the proceedings of the Nizamut Adawlut, on the 25th of June 1817—the letter from the Nizamut Adawlut in July 1817, recommending an additional prohibition, confining the suttee to "the wife legally married and faithful to her husband;" these and many other documents proved that it never was intended that the regulations of 1812 should be final. In support of his whole line of argument, he had quoted the authority of many of the ablest servants of the Company, whose opinions were to be found in the printed papers; and he ultimately drew the attention of the court to information which he had derived from private sources. He admitted at the time, that those statements were not of the same importance, because they did not bear an official character, as the statements contained in the parliamentary papers that had been submitted to the Company: still, however, they were entitled to great attention, because those from whom they were derived had filled high situations in India. It was very true that they were addressing individuals privately, and he closed his observations by making that admission; but he must be allowed to say, that there was not one of their testimonies which he had not in court, under their own hands. The writers were men of high character and unimpeachable integrity:

tegrity: some of them were military servants—some of them were magistrates; and they were all men of the most scrupulous veracity. In short, knowing them to have been on the spot, and well acquainted with the facts to which they referred, he could not, he thought, have established his argument on better evidence, after the parliamentary documents, than their testimony afforded. He here might be permitted to mention, that those gentlemen whose communications he had quoted were every one of them at present in this country. He had not quoted one who was not here to back his own opinions; but, on the other hand, as several of them, indeed the majority of them, meant to return to India, it would be seen that there were good reasons for not disclosing their names. He had called the attention of the court to the annual returns of the number of suttees for nine years, from 1815 to 1823; and he had shewn, that there was not a year during that period in which he might not say, that multitudes of human beings had been sacrificed. During those nine years, no less than 5,425 suttees had taken place in Bengal; and, with respect to a large proportion of them (2,314, as we understood) not a single remark of the magistrate occurred in the returns. With respect to all those cases (he meant not to say whether they were legal or illegal) no observation on the part of the magistrate appeared. It was with

“ ————— A countenance more

In sorrow than in anger”

that he mentioned this fact. He had also, in the course of his argument, shewed that the fines imposed during the whole of these nine years, the fines imposed on the natives where any irregularity was discovered, were merely nominal. They were punished by a fine of a few rupees, or a few strokes of a cane; and the securities offered by them were uniformly worthless. He had shewn that the whole of these returns were full of cases displaying the most horrid cruelty and the most decided illegality; and he called on the court to interfere to prevent the shedding of so much blood. There was one passage in Scripture which was here peculiarly applicable. When the Lord demanded of Cain where his brother Abel was, and said, “Thy brother’s blood cryeth unto me from the ground,” gentlemen would recollect that Cain answered by another question—“Am I my brother’s keeper?” And most sorry should he be to hear such an answer as that from those who had the power of checking the monstrous evil. He should now proceed with the second head of his address, namely, that much more may be done, with perfect safety to the British empire in India, for the abolition of this barbarous practice. To

prove this, the hon. proprietor quoted, at great length, the opinion of the court of Nizamut Adawlut at different periods. And here he wished to call the attention of the court to the fact, that this barbarous rite was chiefly confined to one portion of our empire. This odious practice prevailed principally in Bengal, directly under the eye of the government. Mr. Ewart stated, that in 1816-17 no less than 860 suttees took place in Bengal, while in the same period only 600 occurred throughout the whole of the rest of their dominions. Mr. Oakley stated, as a reason for this, “that it was notorious that the natives of Calcutta exceeded all others in profligacy;” and he also observed, that this was not “a religious act,” but was insisted on from different motives. Mr. Wall, the magistrate of the Twenty-four Pergunnahs, stated “that, as compared with the suttees in the immediate vicinity of Calcutta, not one in thirty took place throughout the whole remaining extent of their empire.” Where the Hindoo religion existed in its purity, other powers had been able to prevent the practice, and why could not the English? The Mahometans and the Dutch had abolished it in their possessions, and why should not they? Abubeker had been actually called upon to “put an end to this scourge.” The hon. proprietor then quoted a variety of authorities to prove that the Hindoo creed was opposed to this practice, which was not allied to the integrity of the Hindoo religion. He farther cited authorities to shew “that the practice was prevalent amongst the lowest of the people, while satisfactory evidence could be adduced to shew that the higher ranks were not attached to it.” Now he was aware it had been said, and might be asserted in the course of this debate, that our interference would be a clear violation of the prejudices of the natives; and that, having tolerated them so long, it was now too late to meddle with them. But he would shew that there was no force in this argument, inasmuch as they had invaded the prejudices of the natives (and prejudices of no ordinary nature) over and over again. Did gentlemen recollect the change which was introduced thirty-five years since, with respect to the landed proprietors? Had they not interfered with many of their military and civil institutions? Had they not made a complete reform in the revenue and judicial system? And in doing so, had they not encountered and overcome the most violent prejudices and inveterate habits of the natives? Yet these acts had not caused any convulsion. These, it was true, were not religious cases, but Sir W. Jones adverted to some that were purely so; to the immense number of 10 or 15,000 of Hindoos who had been converted to Mahometanism; to the whole nation of the Seikhs, who had abjured

jured their religion, and adopted the worship of one god, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent. These changes were all effected without producing any of those ill effects which some gentlemen apprehended from our interference with this practice. But they had gone a great deal farther. Every one must know that the Brahmins were esteemed sacred throughout India. The Hindoo laws absolutely forbade the execution of a Brahmin; they forbade the magistrate even to imagine evil of him—it was one of the deadly sins; the tribe was all but deified. Yet did the British government respect them more than any other class of the people, when they committed crimes? Assuredly not. It was clearly evident that it would not do to exempt them from the visitation of the law, when they were guilty of offences that deserved punishment. The British laws could not be allowed to stand still, while the best interests of the people at large suffered. Did the British government, when they placed the Brahmins in the same situation as the other classes of natives, and made them amenable to the laws, did they, on that occasion, call for an examination of the Shasters, or demand their interpretation by the pundits? They did not; but those who were accused were tried like common delinquents, and when found guilty, they suffered by the hands of the common hangman. — (*Hear!*) This was the greatest outrage that could be committed upon their religious prejudices; and did they complain of it? Did they rise for the purpose of resenting it? No; on the contrary, they afforded every facility for bringing the accused to justice, and expressed the admiration of the equality of our laws. The execution of Nundcomar, fifty years ago, afforded a striking illustration of this fact. He was a Brahmin of great influence and power, and yet he suffered death. At that period the British territory in India was of small extent, and was surrounded by enemies; it was, therefore, of the utmost importance that we should conciliate our new subjects. If ever there were difficulty in taking the bold step which the British government then took, it was at that precise period. But no mischief followed from it: no resistance was offered on the part of the people; who, after witnessing Nundcomar's execution, returned peaceably to their several homes. The question, as had been well observed, was not, therefore, whether they should for the first time infringe popular prejudices; but whether, having commenced this course, they should proceed forward, and liberate the country from a practice which filled it with innocent blood. To shew that they might proceed with safety, the hon. proprietor referred to the sacrifice of children by their mothers to the Gauges, at the annual fes-

tival held at Gungoo Saugor, which had been put an end to by a regulation of the Marquess Wellesley, declaring that such acts should henceforward be viewed as murder; and a proclamation to that effect was made every half-year. The prohibition was enforced by public authority. So far from this interference exciting discontent, it was received with a contrary feeling. The hon. proprietor, further to strengthen his argument, adverted to the custom which had long prevailed amongst the Jahrejahs of Guzerat, of murdering their infant daughters; and, horrible as was the fact, the mothers assisted in the destruction of their offspring. The humane and persevering exertions of Col. Walker, the resident at Baroda, had, however, been most successfully employed in checking this monstrous practice, which had been sanctioned as praiseworthy for many centuries. It was stated, that this gentleman, in his progress through the country, two years after he had effected this reform, "had an opportunity of seeing some of the children whom he had preserved, and of witnessing the triumph of nature over superstition. The women gloried in their situation as mothers; they called upon him as their guardian; and they invoked their gods to bless him and his children;" for so they emphatically denominated the infants whom he had been the means of preserving. After stating this, it was most painful to look at the fifth volume of those parliamentary papers. It was there on record that, notwithstanding all that had been done by Col. Walker's meritorious exertions, the practice of infanticide had again revived, in consequence of the apathy and indifference of that gentleman's successors. He might be told, that practices of this description must of necessity go on. This, however, he must strenuously deny: if positive laws were to be enacted, and put in force on this, as they had been on other subjects of less moral importance, such practices might and would be prevented. Let not gentlemen content themselves with the exertions of individuals: it was not by the efforts of such excellent men as Col. Walker, succeeded as they might be by individuals who would not perform their duty, that the destruction of such practices could be accomplished. It was only by a general law for India, that a general reform could be expected. Let them not lay "the flattering unction to their souls," that partial efforts would remove the evil. Such efforts—

" — Will but skin and flim the ulcerous place;
While rank corruption, mining all within,
Infects unseen."

The hon. proprietor then proceeded to state many instances in which the prejudices of the natives had been opposed

without producing any evil effect; and he quoted a high official authority, who had said, "I hesitate not to affirm, that there was far greater difficulty and danger in reforming the revenue and judicial system, than would be found in an interference with a practice of this description, which was not commanded by their religion." The sepoys had not stipulated to give their services beyond sea; but in the last Burmese war they were commanded to proceed by sea, and, whatever might be their religious scruples or prejudices, they obeyed that command. He was perfectly convinced in his own mind, that if the Company in the same way ordered the abolition of this hideous practice, it would be speedily put an end to. He would ask, after the statements he had made, what was to prevent their effectual interference? They had already infringed, without any dangerous consequence having ensued, some of the most sacred prejudices of the natives; and when this was admitted to be the fact, were they to suppose that they would rise against their governors, when they shewed that their interference was more pure and disinterested than it had been on almost any other occasion? Such a course of reasoning could not be sustained for a moment. Their duty, then, was plain and obvious; the statements contained in the parliamentary papers encouraged them to proceed; and, in his opinion, they ought no longer to remain in a state of supine apathy. It had been well said, "that Great Britain had arrived at the highest pinnacle of power and greatness. She sat on her throne as the queen of the world, extending her sway to far distant portions of the earth; but, while diffusing from her capacious horn nothing but benefits to others, while she is herself enriched by commerce and nurtured by industry, let her never forget that she is entrusted with power and prosperity, for the purpose of blessing and protecting—whom?—her own subjects." Sir W. Jones, at a later period, had said; "Providence has thrown India into the arms of Great Britain, for her protection and welfare." If this were so, and that it was correct he entirely believed, how could they better prove that they studied the protection and welfare of that country than by putting a stop to this odious practice? It was not difficult to prove that the natives of India themselves were beginning to open their eyes to the abominations of their religious system. He had read with attention the treatise which Ram Mohun Roy (himself educated a Brahmin) had given to the British public on this subject. He stated,

"That the suttee was utterly at variance with his religion. Living constantly amongst the natives, he had an opportunity of seeing how the practice was encouraged by the Brahmins, who succeeded too well, in defiance of law and of

common sense. The obstinate adherence to this practice, which was founded on the violation of every humane and social feeling, was deeply to be regretted. In its continuance he saw the degradation of a race, who were capable of better things. These monstrous rites and ceremonies were encouraged by the Brahmins, to enable them to indulge in temporal comforts; and in furtherance of the same purpose, they kept from the people a correct knowledge of the sacred writings."

This conclusion (observed Mr. Poynder) was very much like that of their friends the Romish priests nearer home. In vol. iv. page 11, of the parliamentary papers, Mr. Harington stated his opinion to be, that the practice might be put down without danger, because it was not an *universal*, but a *partial* one. He said:

"Were this practice universal, or prevalent to a great extent amongst all classes of Hindoos, in every part of our territories, there might be some ground for apprehending that a sudden interdiction of it would produce an alarming degree of discontent, and possibly of combined resistance. But we know the fact to be, that the practice prevails chiefly in Bengal, being founded principally on authorities that have local estimation in that province. The official reports further shew, that it has but a partial prevalence even in Bengal, few or no suttees having occurred for several years in some districts, particularly in the Moorshabad division. The aggregate number also, in the whole of the provinces under this presidency, large as it justly appears on the separate valuation of individual human life, is but small, when we compare it with the total number of Hindoo females who annually become widows in the provinces, or with the number who survive their husbands from year to year, in opposition to the more limited usage of self-devotion."

Mr. Harington then observed, "that a difference of opinion existed amongst the Hindoos themselves, on the lawfulness and merit of the sacrifice;" and he next went on to argue that

"As the experience of more than half a century had proved, to the conviction of every Hindoo and Mussulman, our complete toleration of their respective religions, it was impossible that a legislative enactment to prevent assistance being hereafter given in the suttee immolation, with a view to preserve the lives of a number of miserable women from suicide, and to put a stop to the horrible abuses and cruelties which, unsanctioned by the Hindoo laws, had frequently attended an involuntary perpetration of this sacrifice, could be imputed to any other motive than what would really govern such an enactment; and which, therefore, might be fairly and fully declared, without danger of its being misconstrued into any thing like a general design to put down, by authority, the religious system with which the inhuman practice referred to is imperfectly connected."

In vol. ii, page 100, Mr. Dacre, criminal judge of the centre division at Chittoor, stated, "that he is satisfied, that the best informed and most respectable part of the natives would themselves have often prevented this ceremony if they had had the power;" and in page 101, Mr. Higginson, the criminal judge in the zillah of Trichinopoly, expressed himself in these terms:—

"If I were required to give my opinion as to the best means of putting a stop to this practice in future, I should say, that the collector and magistrate ought to be authorized to issue a proclamation, prohibiting altogether a custom so barbarous and unnatural; and which, though permitted, does not by any means appear to be insisted upon by the Shastrums. I would authorize the magistrate to declare, by the proclamation, any person or persons assisting in the self-immolation of a widow, liable to be brought to trial as an accessory in homicide; and would issue strict orders to all heads

heads of villages and officers of police to put an immediate stop to any attempt at preparation for an *anugamanam*. In the present times, the good sense and humane feeling of the Brahmins, as well as of the greater proportion of the Hindoo inhabitants, would point out to them the benevolent motive of government in prohibiting a practice, which has originated in ignorance and infatuation, and which must be reflected upon with abhorrence by every mind capable of distinguishing good from evil."

Amongst other cases recorded in these papers, there was one in which a dying native besought his wife not to sacrifice herself, but to live for the sake of her children. This request she obeyed; and no disrepute was attached to her in consequence of this proceeding. That many of the natives themselves viewed this practice with disgust, was manifest from a petition which had been some years since presented to the then Governor-general. They there said,

"Your petitioners are fully aware that persons about to be sacrificed were frequently bound down with ropes; and that some, after flying from the pile, were forcibly brought back by their relations: all which, your petitioners declare are murders, being entirely contrary to the doctrine of the Shastrers; and your petitioners look forward with a lively hope, to such further measures for the prevention of such a system, as they have reason to expect from the known wisdom, firmness, and humanity which have ever distinguished your lordship's government."

It need not be a matter of great surprise that the enlightened natives had gone to so great a length, when they all must be aware that the Romans, heathens and idolators as they were, had abolished human sacrifices in Great Britain, two centuries before the introduction of Christianity into this country. They had such a mortal aversion to the Druids and their barbarous rites, that, contrary to the policy which they usually observed in their conquests, they put down their religion by the strong hand of power. They would not suffer human sacrifices to be continued. Those sacrifices existed in our own country, until the time of Paulinus Suetonius, who overthrew the superstitious doctrines of the Druids, long anterior to the introduction of Christianity. If the mere heathen, acting from natural impulse, listening simply to the

"*Homo sum:—humanum nil à me alienum puto,*" put an end to this detestable system, could they, as Englishmen and as Christians, having brighter views and purer feelings, refuse their assistance in removing this most cruel and destructive superstition?—(Hear!) He had a right to advert to other sacrifices, besides the immolation of Hindoo widows; to the destruction of children, who at certain periods were left by their unnatural parents to perish in the waters; to drown or to become the prey of sharks, and to the putting to death of sick men on the banks of the Ganges. A captain in the Company's service stated, that he had seen from his windows, on one occasion, twenty-one persons thus destroyed in the Ganges, and eleven on ano-

ther. One of those individuals endeavoured to escape to the police station, but was immediately pursued by the Brahmins. Gracious Heaven! was there no one to protect those unfortunate persons? Was there no arm to rescue those victims from such a horrible fate? Again, was it not proper that he should allude to the practice of burying widows alive? There were not a few cases mentioned in these papers where the widow was buried alive, holding in her arms the putrid body of her deceased husband. But all these horrors sunk into insignificance before the curse of Juggernaut; the characteristics of which, to use the words of an eye-witness, were "obscurity and blood." Of the first point he should say nothing more, because the details were improper for the public ear, and did not bear upon his argument, which related to the shedding of human blood. To that subject the extracts which he was about to read directly referred. The ceremonies attending this branch of Hindoo superstition were thus described:—

"June 18, 1806.

"The throne of the idol was placed in a stupendous car or tower, about sixty feet in height, resting on wheels, which indented the ground deeply, as they turned slowly under the ponderous machine. Attached to it were six cables of the size and length of a ship's cable, by which the people drew it along. Thousands of men, women and children pulled by each cable; infants were made to exert their strength in this office; for it is accounted a merit of righteousness to move the God. Upon the tower were the priests and satellites of the idol, surrounding his throne. There were about one hundred and twenty persons on the car altogether. The idol is a block of wood, having a frightful visage, painted black, with a distended mouth of a bloody colour. His arms are of gold, and he is dressed in gorgeous apparel. The other two idols are of a white and yellow colour. Five elephants preceded the three towers, bearing towering flags, dressed in crimson caparisons, and having bells annexed to them."

Capt. *Mazfeld* rose to order. He begged to ask, whether the matter which the hon. proprietor was now stating had any reference to the burning of Hindoo widows

Mr. *Poynder* said, if the gallant officer would read the notion which was now before the court, he would find that it referred "to all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life in India," and not to the burning of widows alone. [The hon. proprietor then proceeded to read the details relative to the sacrifices at Juggernaut.]

"After the tower had proceeded some way, a pilgrim announced that he was ready to offer himself a sacrifice to the idol. He laid himself down on the road before the tower, as it was moving along, lying on his face, with his arms stretched forwards. The multitude pressed round him, leaving the space clear, and he was immediately crushed to death by the wheels of the tower. A shout of joy was raised to the God. He is said to smile when a libation of the blood is made. The people threw cowries, or small money, on the body of the victim, in approbation of the deed. He was left to view a considerable time, and was then carried by the Hurries to the Golgotha, where I have just been viewing his remains."

"June 20, 1806.

"The horrid solemnities still continue. Yesterday,

terday, a woman devoted herself to the idol. She laid herself down on the road, in an oblique direction; so that the wheel did not kill her instantaneously, as is generally the case; but she died in a few hours. This morning, as I passed the place of skulls, nothing remained of her but her bones."

"June 21, 1806.

"The idolatrous processions continue for some days longer; but my spirits are so exhausted by the constant view of these enormities, that I must hasten away. I beheld another distressing scene this morning—a poor woman lying dead, or nearly dead, and her two children by her, looking at the dogs and vultures which were near. The people passed by without noticing the children. I asked them where was their home? They said, 'they had no home but where their mother was;' O, there is no pity at Juggernaut!—no mercy, no tenderness of heart in Molochs."

"Juggernaut's Temple, near Ishera, on the Ganges, May 1807.

"The Tower here is drawn along like that at Juggernaut, by cables. The number of worshippers at this festival is computed to be about a hundred thousand. The Tower is covered with indecent emblems, which are freshly painted for the occasion, and were the objects of sensual gaze by both sexes. One of the victims of this year was a well-made young man, of healthy appearance and comely aspect. He had a garland of flowers round his neck, and his long black hair was dishevelled. He danced for a while before the idol, singing in an enthusiastic strain, and then rushing suddenly to the wheels, he shed his blood under the tower of obscenity."

"About the year 1790, no fewer than twenty-eight Hindoos were crushed to death at this very place (Ishera), under the wheels of Juggernaut. The fact of their deaths was notorious, and was recorded in the Calcutta newspapers of the period. One estimate I have seen, which was supplied me by a M.P., of the tax upon the worshippers of this bloody and obscene idol for the year 1822, makes it amount to £30,000, (or 2,40,000 rupees), which, though oppressive in the highest degree, and affecting in one festival at least 200,000 persons, excites no murmur among the Hindoos, who simply infer that the British are convinced of the divinity of Juggernaut. The ready acquiescence of the people in this taxation of their religion, is no mean proof that its bloodshed might be stopped. It further appears, from documents before Parliament, that the Indian government were not afraid, on one occasion, to seize the car of Juggernaut, and the idol itself, for the payment of a deficient tribute, from which, however, no ill consequences ensued; and shall we be more tender of our tottering revenue than of the lives of our perishing population? A pecuniary tax is also levied upon the pilgrims resorting to bathe in the sacred waters of Allahabad. This is an equal interference of political power with a religious rite, but the quiet acquiescence in its imposition affords no insufficient answer to those who contend that religious prejudice is to be untouched." Out of the tax levied, the government defrayed the expense incurred by the attendants of the idol. In 1816 that expense amounted to 69,000 rupees, or nearly £8,700. The third item of the account was under the head of "wages to the servants of the temple:" a part of which

consisted of payments to the prostitutes who were kept in the interior of the temple. Under the administration of the Marquess Wellesley, it was proposed to levy a tax on those who attended this abominable worship at Orissa, where the temple of Juggernaut was situated; but that nobleman disapproved of it, and left it to his colleagues to make this practice a source of revenue. The other members of the government considered it to be a legitimate source of revenue, because it had long been thought fair to take money from the devotees at other temples. It was afflicting to think that such a practice should, as it were, be thus sanctioned and encouraged by the government. No sophistry could justify such a proceeding. A practice so nefarious ought not to have been made a source of profit. Well had it been said, that "whatever is morally wrong, cannot be politically right;" and it had been most justly observed by an eminent author (Mr Burke), that "whatever disunited man from God, had an invariable tendency to separate man from man."—(Hear!) It would no doubt be asserted, before this argument was concluded, that the mutiny at Vellore presented insuperable obstacles to our interference. But really that case had nothing to do with the proposition which he was supporting. They had the highest authority, that of the governor of Madras himself, and of the executive body in their despatch of the 29th of May 1807, to the government abroad, as to the cause of that disturbance. It appeared that the discontent of the sepoys was occasioned by an alteration in their dress; and that the captive sons of the late Tippoo Sultan took that occasion to instigate the parties thus dissatisfied, to rebellion. Now, if this circumstance were quoted as a proof that it would be dangerous for the British government to interfere in putting an end to barbarous and bloody rites, he would ask, how did that case apply to the subject? If they interfered offensively with the dress of men who had arms in their hands, they might certainly expect that some resentment would be shewn. But was a proceeding of that kind, where a number of men had been rashly insulted, to be placed on the same footing with an effort, having no other object but that of preserving the lives of Hindoo widows, and thus securing maternal protection to their orphans? If the cases could not be proved to be analogous, he hoped no reference would be made to the mutiny at Vellore. It was with deep regret he stated, that Lord Amherst and his council, in their letter of the 3d of December 1824, discouraged our active interference in putting an end to this system. According to the statements contained in that letter, his Lordship seemed to apprehend that, by

some possibility or another, the interference which was now proposed would be attended with danger, and therefore he condemns such an interference as inconvenient, unwise, and injudicious. (*Hear !*) He (Mr. Poynder) did not shrink from stating this; on the contrary, he placed it in the front of those authorities which were adverse to his view of the subject, because he did not think it difficult to demonstrate the fallacy of the opinion. It had been said, that the point which appeared to be of more importance and delicacy than any other, namely, the probable effect of our interference on the native army, had not been touched on in any of the opinions given by the government abroad. It was very true that the judges, magistrates, residents, collectors, and all the various persons whom he had quoted, never did touch on such an argument as the likelihood of any measure of prevention creating disaffection in the native army; and they had abstained from doing so, merely because such an idea never entered their minds. Living as they did, in the country, and having every opportunity for observing the conduct of the army, it was wholly impossible that they could anticipate danger. They did not therefore allude, as a matter of argument, to that which they had never suspected; which no man amongst them had conceived to be possible, much less probable. Neither the Governors-general, nor the Courts of Nizamut Adawlut, who had examined the question in all its bearings—who had expressed their opinion that a time must occur for putting an end to this practice, though they did not state when—had ever even hinted at any danger of this nature; they never feared such an event. They did not believe it possible that, for the sake of prohibiting a law, the object of which was to prevent their mothers and sisters from burning themselves, that a great and gallant army (he only spoke of them with the respect they merited) could be moved by any such mutinous feeling, equally unworthy of them as soldiers and as men. If a contrary view of the case operated on Lord Amherst, and formed the groundwork of the letter which he sent home in 1824, then, acting on such apprehensions, the custom must be allowed to go on for all time—an abolition of the practice could never be effected. But he (Mr. Poynder) entertained no such sentiment of apprehension. "The time had been," said Mr. Burke, "when 10,000 swords would have leaped from their scabbards to avenge a threatening look directed against a royal female;" and he would ask, were they to suppose that their whole army would be weak and wicked enough simultaneously to unsheath their swords for the very opposite purpose? Would that army array

itself against the British power, because that power humanely attempted to prevent mothers and sisters (persons united to this very soldiery by the ties of blood) from sacrificing themselves on the funeral pile? (*Hear !*) He was now coming nearer home, and he wished to fix the attention of the court to a very important fact. It was, he believed, no secret to the public, that the directors themselves were divided in opinion on the question of abolishing human sacrifices in India. He had first become acquainted with the fact, from the conduct of one or two protesting individuals on this subject. Mr. Hudleston one of those gentlemen, had devoted much time and labour to this subject; and his opinion was set forth in a voluminous statement addressed to the Court of Directors, and which, he supposed, would be laid before the proprietors if called for. He was anxious to procure a sight of that paper, and he had applied for it at a former court. He understood that, as it was not a document belonging to the Secret Department, and as much had been already printed on this subject for the House of Commons, that this further information would not be refused to the proprietors. But, on applying to the Court of Directors, not for any copy of this document, but merely for a perusal of it, he was told that it would be contrary to the established rules of the Company to permit him to have a sight of it; but it was added, that the document might be moved for in any general court. He therefore watched with some anxiety and impatience for the next general court, which took place precisely one week before the day for which his motion was fixed. He then took the liberty of moving for that paper; and the reply to his proposition was, that he could then only give notice of motion for the production of the paper, which should be discussed at the ensuing court. He stated that, if such were the case, it would be impossible for him to derive from that document the information he required, as his motion stood for discussion on the next Wednesday. He mentioned this to the hon. Chairman, who received the intimation with courtesy, and said that the paper should be laid on the table, which was sufficient for his (Mr. Poynder's) purpose. But it was added by another hon. Director, that though it might be laid on the table on the day of discussion, it would still remain for the court to decide whether it should be read or not. This, of course, precluded all hope; and he abandoned, in despair, any chance of procuring a perusal of the paper. On arriving in the court to-day, one of their officers informed him that the paper in question was preparing for Parliament, and he suggested the propriety and expediency of waiting until the document

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was laid on the table of the House of Commons. He did not mean to complain; but he regretted that, in a case of great importance like the present, when a previous intention of asking for information was known, such information should, in effect, have been refused. He wanted no favour—he sought none. He cared not whether A. B. or C. D. made the application, but he did think it was desirable that the court should not be so hampered, so tied up hand and foot, by certain ceremonies and forms, as to be precluded from any important information, on a very serious and interesting subject. He had looked into the by-laws, and he saw nothing there in support of such a practice; but he supposed that the hon. director, who was extremely expert, would be borne out by the usage of the court. They had all heard of the *summum jus* being not unfrequently the *summa injuria*; or, as Pope had it:

“A right, too rigid, sometimes proves a wrong;”

and he did think that such was the fact in his case. As he could not obtain this document, gentlemen would see that he was entirely precluded from saying any thing decisive respecting it. All he could state was, that in the month of June 1823, they had, under the hands of seventeen directors, written out to India on the subject of suttees, a direction to the Governor-general in Council “to interfere as little as possible” with this practice, for reasons which were detailed in the letter. But, in addition to that letter of 1823, they had, it appeared, the declaration of two directors, who stated their belief (not in any equivocal or doubtful manner) that this foul practice might, and ought to be, put down and suppressed. At any rate, this served to shew (and he therefore introduced it in his argument) that the directors themselves were divided on this question. It might be asked of him, “why the suppression of this practice had not been moved for in Parliament on the production of the papers for which the legislature had called.” Now he did not know that he was particularly bound to answer that question; but if it meant that the Parliament of this country was silent because the question was of such extreme difficulty and delicacy; if it were argued, that therefore the Company could not move in the business, if this were to be asserted, then he must say, he thought it was a conclusion that no gentleman was justified in coming to; because, in his view of the case, they were themselves the best correctors of the evils connected with their own empire; and if this flagrant evil were not put down by measures devised here, it would never be abolished at all. But there were other and better reasons for the non-interference of Parliament.

Who, he demanded, would step in to deprive the Court of Proprietors—to deprive this great Company—of the grace of performing so humane and honourable an act—of the grace of extending mercy to thousands of females, who must otherwise perish? Who, if the Company had acted wrong in sanctioning such a system, would deprive them of the grace of ultimately doing that which was right? An acknowledgment of error was ever considered the proof of a magnanimous spirit, in the transactions of human life; and was that Company so great, and mighty, and distinguished, that it could not be governed by the common rule—that it could not acknowledge and reform its error without disgrace or shame? He should submit, with all that deference which he was bound to pay to the legislative and judicial powers of Parliament (loving, and honouring, and respecting them, which, as an Englishman, he did), that they were not so competent to deal with this question as that court was; and it was, he thought, only as that court performed its duty boldly and manfully, that the Legislature would feel inclined to come in, and aid their efforts with its strong and overruling arm. (*Hear!*) It might perhaps be said, that the time for acting was not yet completed; he, however, contended that the contrary was the fact: the time had arrived, and their duty was clear and imperative. They had it solemnly recorded by the highest authority, that the abolition was perfectly practicable, but that authority did not think it would be prudent to make the experiment while hostilities were raging—while the din of war was sounding in their ears. The time had not then come; but his argument was, that the time had now come; and they ought not therefore to lose a moment. He would now suppose the *worst probable*, and the *least possible*, result that could follow our interference. He would suppose that, for some time after a prohibition of this practice, suicide would be privately committed. Was that any reason why we should cease to call for an abolition of the existing system? Was it not their duty to discharge themselves from the most distant participation in this crime? Was it not proper that they should escape from even the shadow of delinquency—that they should no longer be looked on as *participes criminis*—that they should prevent, instead of sanctioning, scenes at which human nature revolted? (*Hear!*) Let gentlemen bear in mind the legal maxim, “*Qui non prohibet, prohibere possit, jure.*” This was a maxim of the common law of England, which had been justly described as the perfection of sense and reason. It was said that the authorities in India were the most competent to form an opinion on this subject, and that they had never interfered.

terfered. Now it appeared from those inestimable papers, that, from the beginning of our Indian empire, the government abroad had done nothing; and therefore he would not leave the business in the hands of those who had shewn so much indifference. The prohibitory regulations were not only nothing, but worse than nothing; for they operated to induce a belief on the part of the natives that we viewed the practice in a favourable light, and they had the effect of renovating the system, rather than of checking and putting it down. Lord Amherst, in his despatch, did not throw out the least hope or expectation that the practice would be abolished even at the most distant period. It was further said, that "we ought to wait for the growth of Christianity in India, as the surer means of opening the eyes of the people to the frightful nature of this practice." He would allow this argument its full weight, although he thought it came with rather an ill grace from those who manifested the greatest alarm at every step that was taken for the conversion of the natives. It had been his particular wish, in discussing this question, to avoid the introduction of any argument founded on the doctrines of Christianity. Did he omit that topic because he was insensible of the value of religion? Certainly not. It was religion that had afforded him, and would continue to afford him, while he was spared, the most cheering consolation; it was to religion alone that he could look for support in the agonies of expiring nature; it was that divine principle on which he rested all his well-grounded hopes of eternity. Did he therefore renounce this line of argument, because he thought it weak or unimportant? By no means. But he had chosen to argue this case on lower grounds. He wished to shew that the practice was contrary to law, contrary to nature, contrary to the principles of every government; and that if Christianity never had existed, such a practice ought not to be suffered. He had quoted the Marquess Wellesley and other authorities, to prove that to put an end to it was practicable and justifiable. He admitted that, by the mere light of nature, the people would probably never be brought to see the magnitude of this evil; therefore he would contend that the government which presided over them was bound to lay it open to the natives, and to prevent its continuance. If they waited for that period when a general conversion of the natives should be effected, before they took any step in this business, then he believed the most sanguine calculator must admit that they would have to wait for a very long time. Now ought they to suffer such a state of things to continue, until some indefinite period or other of time

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had arrived, when the natives, the Brahmins, the Hindoos, and all other classes, had adopted the doctrines of Christianity? He thought not; and he hoped and believed that the court would say the same thing. On this point, a single extract remained. It was the opinion of one of their authorities abroad, who said, "the ceremony of suttee was essential to the subsistence of the Brahmins, who derived considerable large sums from the practice, and who would not give up their gains;" and he concluded by stating as his opinion, "that it can only be put an end to by the extinction of the Brahminical creed; and he did not expect any abatement of the practice, except under the dispensations of Christianity." He however thought that the Company ought to interfere promptly, instead of suffering the practice to continue for centuries longer. He meant to have troubled the court with some farther detailed statements, drawn from high authorities (and he had not far to look for abundance of such authorities); but he felt the indulgence of the court to have been so great, that he was unwilling to trespass farther on the time of the proprietors. He begged however to quote the opinion of that honourable man, the late Mr. C. Grant, whose name could never be mentioned in that court without exciting feelings of respect and esteem. That gentleman, in his valuable publication (which he Mr. Poynder sincerely wished was printed and in the hands of every director and proprietor, as it had, in 1797, been ordered to be printed for the use of Parliament), asked, "Are we pledged to support, for all generations, by the power of our government and our army, that system of misery which ignorance has inflicted on a great portion of the human race? Is that the part which an enlightened government should take with respect to its own subjects? It would be ridiculous to think that Great Britain was directly or impliedly bound to sustain a practice which was at variance with reason, morality, and religion. We shudder at the idea of human victims having been formerly offered up in Mexico; but for sixty years we have suffered a more cruel practice to prevail in our Indian dominions. In Hindostan, mothers were taken from children who had just lost their father, and were barbarously consigned to the flames."

"Murder most foul, as in the best it is,

But this most foul, strange, and unnatural!"

He had now, as a proprietor, humbly endeavoured to discharge his duty to the court and to the Company at large; and he called on the proprietors fearlessly to discharge theirs. He called on them to exercise their own honest and honourable judgment on this occasion, and not to surrender that judgment at the shrine of some

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imaginary evil; he conjured them not to suffer themselves to be alarmed by the fear of contingent circumstances. Let them not suppose, that by stepping in between the living and the dead, they would excite the passions, either of the military or of the natives in general. He would here beg leave to read an extract from a periodical work, entitled *The Friend of India*, which was appended to Mr. Harington's minute on this subject. Mr. Harington spoke of it as "a well-written paper 'on female immolation,' which the late Sir Henry Blossett, as well as myself, read on our voyage to India; and which appeared to both as a powerful and convincing statement of the real facts and circumstances of the case." The author of that article concluded his observations in these terms:—

"Let us then freely look at the practicability of its abolition, and number both its friends and its foes. We may calculate on the support of all the humane, the wise, and the good, throughout India; we may depend on that great majority of the people who have prevented every village in India from being lighted up monthly with these infernal fires. Those who used all their power and influence to liberate their country from the stigma of this guilt, by preventing their own mothers and sisters from ascending the funeral pile, will undoubtedly support us in discountenancing the practice elsewhere. We shall enlist on our side all those tender feelings which, though now dormant, will then be aroused into new life and vigour; but, above all, we shall surround ourselves with the protection of that Almighty Power, whose command is, 'Thou shalt do no murder: who defends the weak and succours the injured; who, when the cries of oppressed India had pierced his throne, selected us, of all other nations, to break its chains, and restore it to happiness. With all these advantages in our favour, we may surely despise the wailings of those who, despicable in numbers, have rendered themselves still more despicable by their inhumanity: to whom the shrieks of a mother or a sister, writhing in the flames, are as the sweetest music: who have parted with all that distinguishes men from demons, and retain nothing of our nature but its outward form."

(*Hear!*) It was impossible for him to know in what manner the Court of Directors might think fit to treat this motion; but he hoped for their own sakes, as men, that they would not oppose it. He said this as their sincere friend, for he had never been otherwise; and he could openly and honourably challenge them, individually or collectively, to point out with their finger any instance, during a connexion of thirty years with the Company, in which his conduct had been different from that of a disinterested friend. (*Hear!*) He did not call on the Court of Directors to precipitate measures. It would be at once seen, from the temperate resolution which he was about to propose, that he entertained a different feeling. What were the terms of his resolution? They were, "That this court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion, that in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the

Hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives." Now, he would ask, was there anything in this motion at all precipitous? Was there any thing in it that did not leave it to the Court of Directors to pursue their measures in their own way and at their own time? And though he had not used the word *gradual*, for fear of mistake, it must be conceded to him, that there was nothing in the resolution that militated against the adoption of the most gradual abolition. He asked for the interference of the Court of Directors to put an end to this practice; but he did not prescribe the mode in which that object should be effected. He founded his application for the putting down this barbarous system, on the declarations made by their own constituted authorities; by the judges, magistrates, and residents, who had written home on this subject. The statement which he had made, was not his act, but theirs. If men, living amongst those people, said, "You can, if you please, get rid of this system of burning widows without incurring any danger," they, and not he, were accountable for the correctness of the statement; he only submitted their simple testimony to the court. But though he gave that strong, and, he would say, decisive testimony, yet he had shaped his motion in the most temperate manner. He left it to the Court of Directors to effect this great object in their own way, and to enjoy all the credit that would be attached to the act. It might be said, that that part of his resolution in which it was stated, that "it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for the prevention of the sacrifice of human life," was a mere truism; he knew it was a truism, but he should like to know in what part of the proceedings of their government that truism was recognised? Was it in the Directors' letters, or in the conduct of the government abroad? He should now conclude. Thousands in this country awaited the decision of this day with an intense anxiety, equalled only by that which prevailed throughout India, bleeding, as she did, at every pore; he therefore called on them to suffer no idle apprehensions to step in between them and the abolition of this cruel practice. He would, in the emphatic words of the poet, say—

"————— Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's, and truth's."

The hon. proprietor then moved his resolution.

Sir C. Forbes, in rising to second this motion, begged leave to offer the hon. proprietor his sincere thanks for the very able, and, in his mind, unanswerable manner

ner in which he had brought the subject before the court. It would, he was sure, be wasting the time of the court if he attempted to add more than a very few words to what the hon. proprietor had so fully introduced to their attention; and he should not solicit their indulgence at all, if he did not entertain some opinions that did not entirely accord with those of the hon. proprietor. He confessed that if he had any fault to find with the hon. proprietor's speech, it related only to one or two points, with respect to which the zeal of the hon. proprietor seemed to carry him a little farther than was altogether prudent on this occasion. He could wish, in fact, that the subject to which he chiefly alluded could be kept entirely out of view. This was not a question of religion or of policy, but purely a question of humanity. The question was, what they owed to the natives of India, as sovereigns—and how far they had discharged their duty to that great population. His opinion was, that they ought to hold most sacred all the religious rites, and even prejudices of the natives, but he did not consider this was one of them. Indeed, they had the fullest evidence to the contrary. That was to say, that the evidence given for and against the propriety of interfering with this question, greatly preponderated in favour of the interference of government to put down those human sacrifices; and that this might be done with perfect safety to India, he could, conscientiously speaking, not entertain the smallest doubt. In his opinion, it was hardly possible for any proprietor who had listened as he had done to the speech of the hon. mover, from beginning to end, to refrain from coming to that conclusion, the hon. gentleman had adduced the authority of so many able and good men in support of his argument. It was his good fortune, while he was in India, never to witness any human sacrifice, in any way whatever. During the time he lived at Bombay he never heard of one of them; and yet, of a population of 200,000 souls, three-fourths were Hindoos, and a large proportion of them were of a high class; still he never heard of one solitary instance of a Hindoo widow making application to government for liberty to burn with her deceased husband. He believed it was necessary to obtain permission of the government to burn;—and an application was made to the then Governor of Bombay for that purpose. Now, though no man more religiously wished to respect the rites and ceremonies of the natives of India, yet he decidedly refused permission for the suttee to be performed. (*Hear!*) What then was done? Why they conveyed the widow from the island of Bombay to the Mahratta shore, and there the sacrifice took place. Now he was convinced that

if the British government did all in their power to put down this practice, it would soon disappear. They could not view this practice in any other light but as a horrible rite, that ought not to be tolerated; and, in his opinion, it might be put down, and could be put down, without delay and without danger. (*Hear!*) He was sorry to hear, on a question of this kind, insinuations were thrown out, that if an attempt were made to remove this evil, it would be attended with danger from the army. He viewed such an insinuation as a libel on that army. (*Hear!*) He had no doubt that the army of India would rather feel themselves called on to support all just and lawful commands, issued by the government for the purpose of putting down such abominable rites. He would ask, did they ever hear of one sacrifice in a British camp in India? (*Hear!*) Never; and he would contend, that the suppression of this practice did not involve the feelings of the native army of India. With regard to the manner of preventing suttees, and the mode of punishing all those concerned in such practices—these points no doubt demanded the most mature deliberation. But, if they once looked to the principle, the means would soon be found. Let them view the practice as they ought, and as it was viewed by all Englishmen and Christians; let them view it as murder, and those who were aiding and abetting in its perpetration, as guilty of murder. Then let the mode of punishment be considered. He did not wish to visit those who were concerned in this crime with the punishment of death; there were other punishments, infinitely more severe and more effectual, by the Hindoo laws, than death. He might perhaps be asked, this day, "How would you like to be in India when the first Brahmin was punished for this offence?" His answer was, that he should not have the smallest objection to be there; and he should rejoice at seeing such an event; because it would prove the determination of government to put an end to this horrible system. They every day heard of Brahmins brought to punishment for different crimes. They were exiled, condemned to imprisonment, polluted, by being brought into contact with Hindoos of every caste, and put to work on the roads in irons. If, on their behalf, an appeal was made to the army, they would be at once told, "You do not deserve to be assisted—you may thank your own crimes for your punishment." Why should not their native army, who were just in other affairs, be just also with reference to this? For his own part, he had not the least apprehension of their tried fidelity. It surely never could be the intention of this court, or of the British Legislature, to continue this practice. All who knew him must know, that he would be one of the last men

in that court to support any thing that might be supposed to have a tendency to interfere with the religion of the natives of India, or to force on them any thing contrary to that religion. (*Hear!*) He had but slightly mentioned the degree of objection which might be advanced against punishing crimes of this kind with death; but he would here take the liberty of stating to the court the opinion of a great man, Sir W. Jones, lately quoted by the hon. proprietor, on this subject, to shew that the Hindoo laws admitted of punishments, infinitely more, and more to be dreaded by a Brahmin, than the shedding of his blood. It would be wrong to punish this offence by a deprivation of life—because the practice was permitted, if not commanded, by the Hindoo religion. It had been allowed to grow up under the British government—and it would not be right for this court and the Court of Directors to cut it down too suddenly. He was fortunately enabled to state, in his own words, and under his own hand-writing, the opinion of Sir W. Jones. In a letter, dated November 22, 1788, he thus expressed himself:—

“My dear Sir: I return to Mr. B. the papers containing the records, which I have read with attention, and not without emotion. Though I would not violate my rule, not to interfere with the religious practices of this country, yet since you ask my opinion, on a particular point, I must say, I think it impolitic, and perhaps unjust, to shed the blood of a Brahmin, by the sword of justice for any crime whatever. I know that the execution of Nundoomar is vehemently resented to this hour by the Hindoos of this province. All the sects, especially those of Menu and others, who believe the religion to be inspired, lay it down as a maxim, that a Brahmin's blood should not be shed. In truth, the Brahmins are not afraid of death; and the punishments for murder ordained by Menu, confiscation of property, banishment, public disgrace, and branding on the forehead with a hot iron, are more dreadful to them than decapitation. The fear would be, that, after suffering any of these punishments, they would kill themselves. But, if they did, our name would be saved from the odium of violating laws which they hold sacred.”

He thought this was a very important testimony, as shewing that various different degrees of punishment might be employed without taking away life; such, for instance, as confiscation of property, which would be felt most severely. Though he concurred with the hon. proprietor in thinking that all the details of this question ought to be left to the mature consideration of the executive body; still, he must express his hope that, in adopting the very moderate motion which had been brought forward, they would not consider it as putting the subject to sleep. He should hope and believe, that the Court of Directors would feel themselves imperatively called on, if this motion were carried, as he thought it would, by a very large majority, to take prompt measures to carry into effect the obvious views of this court, in such a manner as would effect this desirable object. As the question would soon be brought

forward by his hon. friend (Mr. Buxton) in another place, he hoped it would not be allowed to go to sleep for sixty years more, as had been stated by the hon. proprietor.

Major Carnac.—“Sir, I have listened with great attention to the speech of the hon. mover, and also to the observations of my hon. friend (Sir C. Forbes) who succeeded him in the debate; and I feel it my duty to offer myself for a short time to the notice of the court. In doing so, I have, in the first place, to entreat your indulgence to an individual who has never before addressed a public assembly—and to request your forbearance towards any irrelevancy of matter or want of method into which I may be betrayed in delivering my sentiments. (*Hear!*) No one, I will venture to affirm, is more ready than I am to do justice to the zeal of the hon. proprietor who has brought this subject before the court; and, whatever may be the result of his motion, I conceive that a material benefit will be derived from the discussion, inasmuch as our government and servants in India will see that in this great and enlightened country an anxious attention prevails to the continuance of a practice, which is as repulsive to humanity as it is in contravention of the Laws of God. (*Hear!*) But, while I concur entirely in the end and object which the hon. proprietor has in view, I differ as decidedly from the means which he has recommended to be pursued. While I applaud the construction of part of his motion, I cannot agree with him in the reasonings by which he has judged it proper to support it. Perhaps the court will allow me to refer to some notes which I hold in my hand, exhibiting my views on this most interesting subject: and I hope that on future occasions I shall be able to acquit myself more satisfactorily.” The hon. director then proceeded as follows from his notes:

“It is, in my opinion, a material error in our system of government in India, that with the most laudable intentions we are too prone to innovation, raised by our habits of judging the people of that country by the scale of high civilisation to which we ourselves have advanced. Hence the erroneous belief that nothing is wanting but the exertion of authority and power to effect that degree of moral improvement which, from the very essence of its nature, can only be the result of time, and the progressive operation of a discreet and beneficent government. We are too apt to overlook the state of comparative non-civilisation to which this now enlightened country was itself reduced, during that eventful period of its history when bigotry, superstition, and prejudice, were its sad and sole characteristics, and to forget that our emancipation from these bonds of darkness was effected, not by any sudden, or compulsive, or coercive reformation; but by the gradual hand of time, the unshackled reflections of reason, and the salutary diffusion of those great principles of truth, which have at length placed us on the pin-
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nacle of refinement as to moral feeling and intellectual superiority. Nothing that I have met with in the history of mankind would lead me to think that sudden and violent revolutions of opinion, tending to the eradication even of evils, can ever be productive of permanent benefit. Experience, on the contrary, will prove, that compulsory interposition with national prejudices, however monstrous or absurd, have but too often led to an extension of the evil which it proposed to annihilate. In legislating for the East, we should bear in mind, that the people with whom we are anxious to share our own happy exemption from the trammels of ignorance and prejudice have, for unrecorded ages, been the slaves of a custom which it is now proposed to snap asunder at one blow—a custom which, however abhorrent to our feelings, however justly revolting to our religion, is, I fear, too deeply interwoven with theirs to be rashly severed from the kindred branch with which it has been hitherto nurtured. The habits of nations, and those habits, too, the uninterrupted growth of centuries, and springing from sentiments which, however erroneous, can hardly be termed vicious—cannot, and I may say ought not, to be violently eradicated. The feeling which prompts a human being to prefer death to infamy, which urges the European to sacrifice his life in preference to his honour, and bids the Hindoo throw herself on the burning pile of her dead husband, is one which, however deplorable in its effects, is still, from its origin, entitled to a certain respect; it is a feeling which must be combated by reason, not with penal prohibitions; and, emanating, as it does, from a misdirected greatness of soul, it demands at least this concession."

Sir C. Forbes was sorry to be obliged to call the hon. Director to order. He apprehended it was not regular to read a written speech. It appeared to him that the hon. Director was perfectly capable of proceeding without having recourse to notes.

Col. L. Stanhope reminded the hon. Bart. that the hon. mover had read a brief of sixty or seventy pages.

The *Chairman* said, he was quite free to acknowledge, that it was rather a novel practice in any meeting to allow a prepared speech to be read; but his hon. friend had, in the course of the hon. mover's address, been personally alluded to, as having improperly departed from those principles and that practice, as resident at Baroda, which had been so much lauded in his predecessor. His hon. friend had also told them, that this was the first time he had addressed the court. Much consideration must, therefore, be due to him personally; and when he had seen hours expended by the hon. proprietor who had brought forward this motion, in reading from prepared papers and documents, he did think that he should be guilty of great injustice if he did not suffer his hon. friend to proceed.

Mr. Poynder rose to explain.

The *Chairman*. "You can explain when my hon. friend has concluded."

Major Carnac. "I have to apologize for having trespassed on the court. I can assure you, however, that my motive in

taking the course I have done is an honest one. It was perfectly possible for me to have prepared a speech, but I do not wish by any disingenuous mode to obtain your attention, or that my sentiments on this interesting question should be misunderstood." The hon. Director then proceeded with his notes, which concluded thus:

"With respect to ourselves, we know how futile are all enactments against a practice, which, barbarous as it is, is deemed necessary to the vindication of outraged honour. There is a feeling in the human breast paramount in such cases to any artificial restraints; and if, in indulging it, we even venture to transgress the express commands of the Divine Author of our religion, how much less are we justified in our practice, than those who may plead their religion, if not enjoining, at least sanctioning it? With reference then to a legislative interdiction of a custom which has prevailed for ages, it is my mature opinion that it would be calculated to increase the evil of self-immolation, instead of correcting it. The prohibition itself would be an engine in the hands of the Brahmin priests, to excite the minds of those who might have a disposition to sacrifice; and we might be compelled to witness the committal of suicide in a variety of forms, in substitution of the sacrifice by suttee. In a political point of view, it may be made the instrument of misrepresentation of our views as to the religious propensities of the natives, and derange and abstract those great principles of improvement, which are happily making such rapid advances in our cultivation of a closer intercourse with our native fellow-subjects, and in the means provided for the diffusion of education."

"These, Sir, are the few notes with which I shall trouble the court. It may almost be unnecessary to add, that any man who can defend the practice of suttee in principle, is less than man, and can only be distinguished from the brute in the image which he bears of his creator; but in the government of mankind, from the imperfections of our common nature, we should be cautious that enthusiasm does not mislead our sober judgment, and be assured that time is required for the consummation of any good. (*Hear!*) We are all, I consider, agreed as to the propriety of putting down this barbarous practice, so far as sound policy and a due regard for the feelings of the natives will justify our interference. But allow me, Sir, to remark, that the prohibition which the hon. gentleman proposes, embraces the most extensive application of which it is susceptible—he does not confine it to those territories which have long enjoyed the blessings of good government, and in which our beneficent intentions have been practically exemplified to our native fellow-subjects, but he boldly advances, that a legislative prohibitory enactment to the practice of suttee, should include even those territories which have but recently been subjected to our dominion, where our system and views cannot yet be appreciated, and may be easily misunderstood, and where the feel-

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ings of the people on the nature of things must, in the first instance, be unfavourable. Under all these circumstances, I would very earnestly suggest to this court, that this question be committed to those hands whose competency to judge of it has been illustrated in the letter to the Bengal Government, read at our last meeting—it is a difficult and delicate question, pregnant with the most important consequences, and in leaving it to the care of the Court of Directors, you will leave it to those who have already testified their appreciation of its interest and importance. I have now, Sir, to refer to another part of the speech of the hon. proprietor, in which he has lauded a distinguished individual, Col. Walker, for his zeal and humanity in checking the practice of infanticide; at the same time he has reprobated, in strong terms, the successor of that gallant officer for his apathy and negligence to the same great object. I believe that, for worth, for ability, for pure benevolence and virtue, a better man than the gallant officer who has been named does not exist under the canopy of heaven. If there is any event on which I felicitate myself, it is, that from boyhood I was under that gallant officer's protection, and had the benefit of his example and the happiness of his confidence and affection. If Sir, I have had any prosperity in life, I owe it mainly to Colonel Walker. Now I think the hon. proprietor could not have passed the unjustifiable censure which he has done, if he had made inquiry into the subject—he would have discovered from the papers he held in his hand, that when Col. Walker formed his plan for putting down infanticide (and it was certainly by his efforts that the native chieftains entered into engagements for the abolition of that practice), I, as his assistant, forwarded his object to the utmost of my power. Subsequent to my predecessors departure the public service rendered it expedient that the resident at Baroda should remain at his station, which was 200 miles from the province where the practice of infanticide prevailed. One would however suppose, from the statement of the hon. proprietor, that the Jah-rejah chiefs were subject to our laws, and their possessions an integral part of the British dominion, but what is the fact? that they are independent chieftains paying tribute to our ally, over whom we could claim no right of control whatever. Nevertheless, if the hon. proprietor will do me the favour to go into the investigation, he will find that the number of children preserved, under all the existing discouraging circumstances, was not inconsiderable in proportion to those previously saved during the period of my residency—he will discover, also, that in the only instance in which an attempt was made to

levy the stipulated penalties from a chief (owing to the difficulty of detection), those penalties were levied by myself from the most powerful Jah-rejah chieftain of the country. This I consider, Sir, a personal question, affecting both my feelings and my character. I must, therefore, appeal to many gentlemen now in this court, who have known me from early years, whether they have ever heard of, or witnessed any act in my life which could justify the imputation that I was callous to feelings of humanity. I can tell the hon. proprietor, that the very sacrifice of suttee, which he so properly condemns, had much abated at the station of Baroda at the period of my departure. (*Hear!*) Having, during the period of my service, been honoured with the confidence of the governments abroad, and the approbation of my honourable masters at home, I cannot be induced to think that the hon. proprietor could have been aware that he was specifically referring to me, when he made the remarks which have called forth these observations. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Poynder said, he had no idea of exciting so much painful feeling on the part of the hon. Director, and he was exceedingly concerned that he had not been permitted to explain before. In the remark he had made, he certainly had not the hon. Director in his eye. He believed that no man deserved a more high or honourable character. (*Hear!*) He would not only distinctly exculpate that hon. individual from any imputation of this sort; but he would say that, with regard to the putting down of infanticide, he was the right hand of Col. Walker. His only allusion was to another class of persons, who had followed Col. Walker, and who were spoken of by him, in his letter to the Court of Directors, as not having pursued his directions and wishes. He really did not know who those successors were; but with respect to the hon. Director, if there were any name that stood higher than another, his was that name.

The Chairman said, so far was he from regretting the opportunity which he had afforded to his hon. friend to make the remarks which he had done in the close of his speech, that he would, on the contrary, much more have regretted, if he had stopped him from entering into that very creditable explanation which he had offered to the court; and he was sure the court would agree with him in opinion, considering that Major Carnac was the immediate successor of Col. Walker, that it was hardly possible for him to pass over a reflection which, in the absence of explanation, must appear to have been intended for himself.

Col. L. Stanhope said, great credit was due to the hon. proprietor who had brought forward this question; but he conceived that

that it was not fair for the hon. baronet (Sir C. Forbes), after he had allowed the hon. mover to read fifty or sixty pages of manuscript, to stop his gallant friend (Major Carnac) in reading a few paragraphs. The hon. mover had divided the subject into two branches. First, he described the horrid practice of widow-burning; and secondly, he drew their attention to the means of preventing it, by prohibitory measures; or, in other words, by force. With respect to the first part of this question, the hon. mover had painted, in true and frightful colours, the horrors of the system, and he had contended, that few of those victims approved of being burned alive; so far, he thought his argument completely triumphant. But then came his prohibitory remedy, or remedy of force; and he had, on that point, quoted many high authorities—those of Sir W. Jones, of the Marquis Wellesley, of the judges, and of many of the most eminent of our public servants. These were great authorities, no doubt, but 'he could quote an authority still greater than those—the authority of experience. He contended, that there was no maxim in politics better bottomed than this: "that opinions cannot be put down by force; and that they could alone be put down by the influence of reason." In that respect he thought that the government of British India had conducted itself most wisely, in acting on the philosophical principles of the most perfect and unlimited religious freedom. This was the proper course for that government to have pursued. All experience shewed the wisdom of it, and the folly of an opposite description of policy. The prohibitory measures which the hon. gentleman had recommended, would not, in all probability, be attended with any immediate evil consequences, but they would produce universal discontent in the minds of the Hindoos; and on the first occasion of civil commotion or war, the whole Hindoo race would rise against the oppressors of their religious opinion. He would not follow the hon. gentleman in making a speech seven hours long (*laughter*) in order to prove to the court, what was or ought to be within the reach of the most ordinary understanding, namely, that religious opinions never have, either in Europe, Asia, or any other part of the earth, been put down by force and violence. Though he would not go into the history of Europe, yet he would make some few observations which bore on this point with respect to what had taken place in Hindoostan. The object of all the Mahomedan and European conquerors and legislators had been, to promote the pure worship of God, to prevent the burning of widows, the drowning of sick men, the destroying of children, and the worship of 30,000,000 of gods, whom the Hindoos

were known to adore. And what had been the result of their exertions? Why, the native mind was provoked and excited; perpetual wars had followed; and, worse than all, what the hon. gentleman had told them in his seven hours' speech had happened, the obnoxious practices had increased. That enlightened ruler, Mahmoud, had tried, by force of arms, to put down this monstrous practice of suttee, and to introduce a new religion. And what was the result? Why, widow-burning flourished more than ever. Aurungzebe tried the same plan; and, on his death-bed, in a letter to his son, had the wisdom to acknowledge the folly of his conduct. To come to a more recent period. What had Tippoo Sultan done? He strove to suppress that horrid burning of widows; he endeavoured to destroy the Hindoo worship; he made slaves of the people, and had them circumcised; he threw down the Hindoo temples, leaving only four standing; he made them eat beef broth, and did a hundred other things hateful to the Hindoos. And what, after all, was the result? Why, the practice of immolating widows continued to increase rather than to diminish. Now, let them look to the European governments. The Portuguese had set up the inquisition at Goa, and by their intolerance maddened, instead of converting, the people from their idolatry. By their barbarous persecutions they drove the Syrian Christians into the mountains, and destroyed their books. Again, what was the result of all these violent proceedings? Why, that which the hon. gentleman had stated to them in his seven hours' speech, (*laughter*) the practices which were thus attempted to be removed were strengthened, not discouraged. They all knew the excellent character and pure intentions of the missionaries; their object was the same as that of the hon. gentleman; they also would put down these sacrifices. What was the result here? What good had they effected? What conversions had taken place? Where had the suttees been abandoned? The result was precisely the same as in the other cases: their efforts had failed. He spoke of the missionaries with great respect; for he sincerely believed they were the very best men that left this country; but still he said their efforts had produced no favourable result whatever. A Danish missionary, 100 years ago, had stated, that the only way to put down this gross idolatry, and to remove these monstrous practices, was through the medium of education (as recommended by the hon. Director who spoke last), and by means of a free press. These were the words of that missionary:—"The press being set up, has proved so favourable to our design, that we may thank God for this hopeful benefaction." The hon. gentleman had

talked

talked of the influence of reason. Reason, no doubt, was paramount over informed and cultivated minds; but where the mind was sunk in idolatry and bigotry, what influence could reason assume over it? Would not obstinacy, and a hatred of innovation, be the leading feelings in minds of this description? Could they expect reason in men who worshipped 30,000,000 of gods; whose religion tolerated 1,000,000 of fakirs, or begging priests; whose brahmins did not allow their flocks to read any book contrary to their tenets; who destroyed children, drowned their sick, and burned their widows; did they expect reason amongst such people as these? The remedy was a clear and plain one, namely, the extension of education, and the establishment of a free press. The heathen religion, as the hon. gentleman had told them, was put down by these means; and the Hindoo religion would sink before the same power, but it could be got rid of in no other manner. The superstitionists of different religions are not very unlike each other. Look to the idolatrous Christians when they came to Calicut. They bowed down to idols there, thinking they were the same idols which they had left in Portugal. The fakirs forbade the reading of the sacred books at all. And he thought the *auto-da-fé* of the Inquisition was quite as bad, and, in fact, a great deal worse than the burning of these widows; for the hon. gentleman had told them that, however abominable those doings were, yet, in the minds of the women who performed those sacrifices, he did not doubt but that their conduct proceeded from a high and excellent feeling of virtue, according to their misconception. The vices of popery, the restoration of learning, and the establishment of a free press, had beaten down the Christian superstition; and the Hindoo religion, which had become corrupt (though in its origin few religions were more pure), would fall before the same powerful engine. If the same means were resorted to, they would produce the same effect in British India as they had produced in Europe. But, if they had recourse to force, for the purpose of attaining this object, the result would be that universal discontent would fill the minds of the natives, and, on the first favourable occasion, they would rise up against the British power. The consequence would be, the continuation of those bloody wars which had desolated the Eastern world, and not only the continuation, but the increase of this practice. Under these circumstances, if the hon. gentleman was under the influence of reason, and not of passion, he called on him to withdraw his motion, and to support the following amendment:—

“That in the opinion of this Court, though little has been done to reform the Hindoo super-

stition, or to convert the natives to Christianity, the government of British India has at all times acted upon the philosophical principles of unlimited toleration, and has thereby secured the good will of its subjects.

“That the inhuman custom of burning Hindoo widows cannot be prevented by prohibitory edicts, *id est*, by force, without exciting the discontent of millions, and, soon or late, provoking religious wars, and ultimately increasing these frightful sacrifices; and

“That the only safe means of promoting among the Hindoos the pure worship of God, and of preventing the burning of widows, the crushing of victims at Juggernaut, and the drowning of sick persons in the Ganges, &c &c., is to be found in virtuous education and free discussion, as practised under the administration of the Marquess of Hastings.”

Gen. Thornton rose to second the amendment. He entirely concurred in the principle of it, and felt great pleasure in giving it his entire concurrence. With respect to the speech of the hon. and learned mover of the original motion, it was enough to fill a huge volume; indeed he thought there would have been no end of it, and that the learned gentleman would have gone on for a month; luckily, however, he had concluded at last, after trespassing on their attention only for seven hours. Yet to what had his lengthened arguments and voluminous documents tended? To prove that which nobody doubted; namely, that the practice of suttee was barbarous and cruel, and that the sooner it was put an end to the better. Upon that principle they all agreed, and the long time which the learned gentleman took to establish it, was all spent in a work of supererogation.—(*Hear, hear!*) The question before the court was not whether this practice should be abolished, but whether the mode in which it was sought to abolish it might not be productive of greater evil than the mischief itself; whether thus pushing on the directors to the adoption of any hasty measures, might not be calculated to produce very serious consequences in India. The practice of suttee was bound up with the strong prejudices of the natives. It was not an enjoined act of their religion, but the result of a prejudice arising from a mistaken construction of their religion, and being founded in prejudice, it would be therefore more difficult to overcome. Even the Christian religion had suffered much from the introduction of prejudices. And unfortunately there was very little of it existing without them; and unfortunately it was found, that there were many who adhered more firmly to the prejudice than to the religion itself. The practice of suttee, as he had observed, was only permitted by the Hindoo religion; but still he conceived that any attempt to put it down by force would be attended with incalculable mischief, and would risk the overthrow of our authority in India. Indeed, in looking to the speech of the hon. and learned mover, he was rather surprised that such arguments should be concluded

concluded by such a motion. That motion called on the court to do what they had already done. The Court of Directors had already taken those steps which he now desired.—(*Hear, hear!*) The learned gentleman had disavowed any wish for the adoption of any violent means: what was it then which he sought to prove by his long oration? did he believe that all those great men, whose services had been so valuable in India, were indifferent on this important subject? Why did not the learned gentleman give credit for humanity, for an anxious desire to put this custom down, to Lord Wellesley, Lord Cornwallis, to Sir George Barlow, to Lord Minto, to the Marquess of Hastings? Why should he suppose that the Marquess of Hastings had not as much of the milk of human kindness in him as the learned gentleman himself? He believed that all who knew that noble Lord would readily admit that he possessed as kind a heart as ever warmed a human breast, and that he would not have hesitated to adopt any measures for the abolition of this barbarous practice, if he saw that those measures were practicable, consistently with the safety of the Company's power in India. If he had not taken any active measures, the inference was natural, that his knowledge of the country had led him to believe that any very active measures of interference with this practice could not be adopted with safety. Why should the learned gentleman have assumed that Lord Amherst was not disposed to put down this practice? From every thing he (Gen. Thornton) had learned of his Lordship, he believed him to be a man of great humanity and kindness; and if he had not interfered, he thought it must have been because he felt fully convinced of the danger of such interference. An interference of this kind would, in his (Gen. Thornton's) opinion, be attended with considerable risk. Force would never put it down. On this subject he had listened with attention to what had fallen from the hon. director (Major Carnac), and he entirely concurred with him. To the learned gentleman (Mr. Poynder), who had no acquaintance with India save in theory, nothing appeared more easy than the abolition of this practice. But to those great and distinguished men whom he (General Thornton) had named, and who were well and practically acquainted with India, nothing appeared more difficult. They were well aware of the dangers and difficulties of such an undertaking, and they wisely refrained from an attempt which might have such mischievous consequences. He would repeat, that the abolition of suttee must be the result of general dissemination of the benefits of education, and the influence of improved moral habits. The means al-

ready adopted by the court tended very strongly to put an end to the system in the only way in which it could ever be abolished; the amendment put the question in its true light, and on these grounds it should have his support. (*Hear, hear!*)

Capt. Maxfield and the Chairman rose at the same moment to address the court, but the former gave way; and

The Chairman proceeded. He was anxious at this period to address a few words to the court; and their chief recommendation would be, that they should be very short, and perhaps might tend much to shorten the discussion. In the first place he begged to observe, that the motion of the learned gentleman was altogether unnecessary, as it only called on the court to do that which they had already done, and were doing. If the learned gentleman had introduced his motion in a true spirit of prudent conciliation, it would have proved far from unacceptable. (*Hear, hear!*) But the learned gentleman had gone much beyond his own motion; and he (the Chairman) must say, that light and darkness were not more different than the motion of the learned gentleman and the speech which advocated it (*Hear, hear!*), for if he contended for any thing, it was for the principle of putting down the practice of suttee by authority. He therefore found himself in the unusual situation of having to argue against the learned gentleman's speech, while he had but little objection to his motion; a situation by which he was placed in no slight difficulty. The learned proprietor had quoted authorities out of number of those who were favourable to putting down the practice by force. Now, if he were disposed to indulge himself, or rather to punish the court, by making a speech as long as that of the learned gentleman, he could quote as large a number of authorities which went directly the other way. (*Hear, hear!*) The learned gentleman had only quoted those which were favourable to his view of the case; but as he (the Chairman) did not wish to waste the time of the court by reading in detail the opinions of those who took the same view of it that he did, he should refrain from quoting those of the many eminent men connected with the Indian government, who were unanimous in declaring that all attempts to put down the practice of suttee by force were not only inexpedient, but, to a certain extent, dangerous. If this were not so, why had not the honourable individuals, whom the learned gentleman had so often quoted, some of whom, he it observed, held the supreme authority, and whose sound judgment and great humanity no one ever could or did doubt; why, he asked, with the disposition ascribed to them of putting an end to this practice, had they not adopted some active measures

for its abolition. It was certain they had not; the fair inference to be drawn, then, from that fact was, that they had never considered the attempt as one which could be made with safety. The learned gentleman had alluded to a paper written by Mr. Hudlestone on this subject, in which that gentleman spoke of the expediency of putting an end to the practice. Now it should be recollected that Mr. Hudlestone had been a member of the government in India; but during the whole time of his employment he (the Chairman) never heard of his having adopted any measure for obtaining that object. He, therefore, with every respect for that gentleman's opinion, must refuse his belief in the prudence of measures only recommended by him when his own responsibility had ceased. Nor did he think that, having omitted to act while he himself was responsible, his subsequently formed opinions should be considered sufficient to throw the load upon their shoulders. The learned gentleman dwelt much upon what he was pleased to term the difference of opinion which existed in the Court of Directors on this subject. Now he begged to say, that there were only two whose opinions at all approached near to those of the learned proprietor; but as those two gentlemen were now no longer in the direction, he could state that the Court of Directors were unanimous in their opinions, and that there could not be found one amongst them who would advocate what the learned proprietor had recommended, not in his motion, but in his speech. (*Hear, hear!*) In anticipating the objections which might be made to his motion, the learned gentleman had remarked, that if some immediate measures were not adopted to put down the practice, he supposed they must wait for its abolition until the general introduction of Christianity in India. Now, anxious as he (the Chairman) was that these barbarous sacrifices should be discontinued, he should be very sorry to have to rest his hopes on their extinction until then; for he thought that that event was infinitely more distant than the hon. proprietor would be willing to believe: his own opinion was, that the general introduction of Christianity into India was as hopeless a case as had been ever meditated. (*Hear, hear!*) If ever the practice should be discontinued, it could be effected only by the diffusion of education and knowledge in that country, and to that point the attention of the executive body had been long, and he should hope not ineffectually directed. (*Hear, hear!*) He held in his hand an account of a series of institutions which had been established in different parts of India, all of which had for their object the diffusion of knowledge amongst the natives, and the improvement of their moral conduct.

These institutions, numerous as they were, evinced the sincere desire of the Court of Directors and of the local government to promote those important objects, and he could state that the annual expense now incurred in the prosecution of the means which the Company had adopted for the improvement of their native subjects, did not amount to less than four lacs of rupees. (*Hear, hear!*) To this he might add, and he begged in the most explicit manner to state, that the Court of Directors were collectively and individually as anxious as the hon. proprietor, or as any other man or description of men could be, to forward the objects which his (Mr. Poynder's) motion had in view. The only difference between them and the hon. proprietor was, as to the mode by which that end could best be obtained. And on this point he would contend that the prudent and cautious manner in which the Court of Directors had proceeded might be seen in the instructions sent out by them to the local government, which had been read to the court the other day. Another letter which had been also read, proved that the just views of the government abroad, upon this subject, were quite in unison with the feelings of the directors at home. He earnestly wished, therefore, that the court would come to the determination of leaving the measures necessary for the attainment of this object to the prudence of the executive body, pledging himself that there was no party, or individual, in that court who felt more deeply the propriety, or was more anxious for the success of those measures, which might ultimately, but safely, put an end to a practice so barbarous and so disgraceful to any government by which it might be encouraged; at the same time it should be recollected, that there was a vast difference between the acts of a government which encouraged, and those which only permitted an abuse. (*Hear, hear!*) This question could not be considered as one solely of humanity, as the hon. proprietor had declared; it should be recollected that it was also one of policy and safety. He did not mean to contend that the attempt to put down the practice by force would produce a general or an immediate insurrection: but when he recollected what happened at Vellore, he thought that a very useful lesson might be derived as applicable to the present case. He was quite convinced that the mutiny at that place, though ascribed to an attempted alteration in the dress of the sepoys, had no more to do with that fact than any other circumstance however remote; but when the descendants of Tipoo wished to raise an insurrection in the fortress, the Mahometans made use of the alteration in the dress of the sepoys; as a means of seducing them to revolt. Now he thought that something similar might happen in the case of suttee if it were

were put down by legislative enactment; no insurrection would probably be the immediate consequence—yet he had no doubt whatever, that the first moment any other cause of discontent occurred, that circumstance of interference with their religious habits and prejudices would be anxiously seized by the Brahmins, who would strongly advert to the abolition for the purpose of exciting the natives to revolt; and the court in sanctioning such a course as that now proposed, would afford a plausible ground for the insurrection. It was on these grounds that he felt himself bound to express his dissent, not indeed from the learned gentleman's motion, for that was quite a different thing, but from the principles maintained in the speech by which he had introduced it. To the motion itself, he repeated, he had no objection; but he was in this difficult situation, that he could not give his assent to it, without appearing to sanction the speeches of the two learned supporters of the motion, in which other and more coercive means than those professed in the motion were pointed out. Judging from those speeches, he was convinced that something very different from the moderation conveyed by the motion was intended. Now to that something, which was adverted to with sufficient clearness to make him understand that the use of force was contemplated as a means of abolishing suttee, he most decidedly objected. If an opportunity had been afforded him, it was his intention to have moved an amendment, which would put the question on its safest and best ground, by leaving it entirely to the discretion of the Court of Directors. This amendment (if the amendment of the gallant Colonel had not stood in the way) would also go to convince the proprietors of the anxious wish of the Court of Directors to obtain the object which the learned proprietor had in view. However, if he now moved this, it would be by way of amendment on amendment, and that would be an inconvenient, if not an irregular course.

Mr. S. Dixon suggested that perhaps the gallant Colonel would withdraw his amendment, in order to make way for that of the hon. Chairman, as the object of both was the same.

Col. Stanhope.—“I must first hear it read.”

The Chairman then read the following amendment :

“That whilst the court deeply deploras the existence of suttees and other rites involving the sacrifice of human life in India, it reposes the fullest confidence in the anxious disposition of the local governments, to give effect to the instructions of the Court of Directors, by adopting from time to time such measures as may be deemed necessary for effectually and safely accomplishing the abolition of those practices.

“That this court firmly relies on the earnest solicitude of the Court of Directors to follow up so desirable an object, with a due regard to the feelings and prejudices of the natives of India.”

Col. Stanhope observed, that having heard the amendment read, he had no hesitation in saying that he concurred in every word of it; and as it might facilitate the object which he, in common with the Court of Directors, had in view, he would with the leave of the court, very willingly withdraw his motion. (*Hear, hear!*)

General Thornton expressed his approval of the Chairman's amendment, and gave his assent to the withdrawal of the motion.

The Chairman thanked the gallant officer (Col. Stanhope) for his courtesy on this occasion.

The original motion and amendment were now put from the chair.

Mr. Weeding observed that in supporting the original motion, he begged to assure the court that it did not arise from any want of confidence on his part in their executive body: for if the motion had not left to the Court of Directors the full discretion of devising the best means for putting an end to practices which all of them condemned, he should not have been found one of the supporters of it. To tolerate, however, such practices by the mode now adopted in India, was to encourage them; and after perusing the documents before the court, he was compelled to admit, that the letter of the Bengal government of the 3d of December 1824, did not appear to breathe the same spirit on the subject as the court's letter of the 17th of June 1823, to which it professed to be an answer. In the pursuit of his argument it was not his intention to detain the court by any lengthened discussion on the religious customs of the Hindoos, and on the many absurd and vicious practices which prevailed among them. His purpose would be to come immediately to the subject before the court—to consider the circumstances under which human sacrifices were now permitted in India, and whether it were expedient or not to interfere for their prevention.

The forms under which those sacrifices appeared were principally threefold—the exposure and destruction of female infants; the exposure and destruction of the sick and aged; and the immolation of Hindoo widows for they were not always burned:—they were sometimes buried alive. Infanticide, and the destruction of the old and infirm, being deemed crimes, and punished as such, were points on which he should not trouble the court. He should principally consider the sacrifice of Hindoo widows, because this practice was, under certain circumstances, openly and undisguisedly tolerated and sanctioned by the British government in India. It was uni-

versally admitted that the religion of the Hindoos did not enjoin any such practice; their religious books, or shasters as they were called, did not command the ceremony they only permitted it. It was said, however, that custom had sanctioned it, and it was alleged, that to interfere with this custom would create disaffection to their government in India. Now in order to consider the extent of the danger, it would be necessary to take into consideration the extent of the practice. That it was a custom which had taken deep root among the natives of India generally, he begged leave to deny, and for proof of this he appealed to the experience of persons best acquainted with India, and more especially to the papers before the court, which shewed, on the authority of those best qualified to judge, that the practice might be abolished not only without danger, but without difficulty. (*Hear, hear!*) He should proceed to examine into the nature of the facts first, and then he should be able to reason with more satisfaction and better effect as to the alleged and anticipated danger. In this examination they were much assisted by the returns which had been made to Parliament from Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, of the number of women that were burned from the year 1819 to 1823 inclusive. In the provinces subject to the Bengal government, the average number yearly was 612. From Madras the return was for three years only, the average of which was sixty-one yearly. From Bombay, the average number for the five years ending in 1823, was forty-nine yearly. Now it would be admitted, he thought, by the court, that this number of such sacrifices, in territories which contained so many millions of people, and principally Hindoos, was so small, that it could not be considered as a custom of the country. It was rather an exception than a rule; it was a proof rather of the indisposition than of the attachment of the people, and afforded reason to believe that, in the opinion of the large majority of the people of India, it was a practice for which they had no predilection, which was abhorrent to their social nature, and would be more honoured in the breach than the observance. If he were to stop here, under this view of the case even, it might be permitted to him to inquire where the danger could be of interfering to prevent the continuance of the practice. The mass of the people were against it. What had they to apprehend from the disaffection of a few, supposing, which he did not believe, that it would follow, when the people at large were in their favour. He might be asked, perhaps, for the proof of this? He answered, that it was a natural and necessary inference from the infrequency of the practice, and he should presently state to them other reasons why

it was more than probable that in permitting the practice, they were offending, egregiously offending, the moral and social feeling of the people of India. In furtherance of his argument he would ask, had the practice of acting in other instances contrary to the religious creed of the Hindoos been attended with any injurious consequences? Most gentlemen knew that the cow was an animal held in great reverence by the Hindoos, and in their shasters, or religious scriptures, the life of a cow was deemed of much greater consequence than the life of a Sudra, and in some parts of the shasters it was reckoned equal to that of a Brahmin. It was ordained, also, that all penances might be commuted on the payment of cows or money. Thus for killing a Chshytia (or Hindoo of the second caste) forty-five cows and as many calves must be paid, or 135 kahans of cowries. For murdering a Sudra (or Hindoo of the lower caste) twelve cows or thirty-six kahans of cowries. Now he would ask, did the British government allow this commutation of the penalty of crime in India, where British sway prevailed? Did they not punish with death the murderer, whether Hindoo or European, and had they ever been afraid of exciting insurrection or tumult by the justice of such a punishment? If then they did not hesitate to convict and to punish with a severity, which the religion of the Hindoo would mitigate and disallow the murderer of another, why did they hesitate to prevent the commission of self-murder? In the one instance a life was taken away by the constituted authorities of the state, as a due penance for the destruction of a fellow creature, without hesitation, and without fear of the consequences; while on the other a reluctance was manifested to *save*, by interference, the life of a fellow creature, as if a preventive measure were not far less obnoxious than an aggressive one—as if to prevent were not much easier than to punish. A reluctance was manifested to *save* by interference the life of a fellow creature, the sacrifice of which, by the will of the individual, was alike repugnant to the dictates of nature and to the well-being of society. There was no instance in which the decisions of the Indian courts in inflicting capital punishments had created disturbance, or called forth any opposition from the natives. If they disregarded, then, the customs and religion of the Hindoos in points of such importance, not only without fear but with good effect, what danger could arise from the measure now proposed, which went to save instead of to destroy, to prevent instead of to punish crime. (*Hear, hear!*) It was curious to observe the nature of the opposition which had been made on this occasion, by two or three hon. proprietors, and particularly by that

one hon. and gallant gentleman, who had warmly supported on other occasions the liberty of the press in India. Their principal objection was, that the mover of the proposition had taken seven hours in recording his facts and delivering his sentiments. To the liberty of speech, then, it seemed, they had a strong objection, while they would scatter with indifference the liberty of the press, from the mountains of Thibet to Cape Comorin, and from the Indus to the Irawaddy. He (Mr. Weeding) envied not the head or the heart of that man whose sensibility could not have been moved, and whose understanding could not have been instructed, by the recital which had been made to them.— (*Hear, hear!*) For his own part he would say, that it was one of the best speeches he had heard in that court. The instances which had been quoted by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Poynder) were sufficient to shew, that interference with an old custom, or a custom sanctioned by the religious prejudices of the natives, would not be attended with danger to the Company's interests. He should himself advert to some, though at the risk of repetition. One instance was remarkable. It was at an annual festival held at Gunga Saugor, where mothers were accustomed to bring their children and to offer them as sacrifices to the Ganges. The Marquess Wellesley, during his government, to his honour put an end to the practice. It was prohibited at the commencement of the festival, in the presence of thousands. No resistance was offered; no wailings were heard; but perfect obedience followed. The mothers went back to their homes with their children, and in a few years learned to bless the interposing hand which had saved them from destruction. (*Hear, hear!*) In the province of Guzerat, infanticide was abolished by public order; and in Central India Sir John Malcolm related that the rajah of Pertaubghur had put an end to the practice within his dominions for thirty-eight years. A neighbouring prince had done the same. Looking indeed at the natural morality of man in all countries, at his feelings and his interests in all conditions of society, it was impossible to believe that the natives of India could be disquieted by an interference which prevented the sacrifices of their sisters and their daughters. (*Hear, hear!*) In urging the question, it did not appear to him necessary to bring into view the obligations and the motives of the Christian faith, as they were not discouraging of a practice which prevailed in a Christian country; but he pressed it upon them on the ground of its immoral tendency, and the obvious policy, as it appeared to him, of putting an end to it. He maintained, that as the sovereign of India, it was their duty and their interest

to guard the public morals of their subjects; to protect the honest and the weak against the artifices of the designing and the powerful; to encourage the practice of social virtue, and to deter from bad and vicious example. No man could doubt that public morals were violated; that vicious example was set, when a mother, because a widow, was permitted publicly to destroy herself; to violate the sacred obligations of maternal duty; to desert her offspring, however young and helpless, whatever might be the real or the pretended motive. (*Hear, hear!*) Its pernicious influence upon society, in another point of view, was equally apparent. A rich man died: his widow inherited a portion, or the whole of his property; that property became the envied object of her children or collateral relations: the possession of it could only be acquired by her destruction. A "suttee" presented the ready means! It gratified at once their cupidity and their pride. The children of the parent joined the priests, who always derived an interest from the ceremony, to persuade the unhappy victim of their avarice to submit to an untimely and a painful death. Thus were all the obligations of social life at once violated and destroyed. (*Hear, hear!*) He repeated, was it not their policy, as well as their duty, to prevent the vicious examples which those barbarous practices diffused through the country? What moral principle could be expected from men, who saw, unmoved, the immolation of women deserting the offspring they were bound to cherish and protect? What could be expected from those who encouraged the son to set fire to the pile which was to consume his only remaining parent? (*Hear, hear!*)

He would now ask, and he thought he might do it with effect, on what ground rested their dread of interference to put an end to these practices? As the governors of India, what allegiance could they expect from subjects who were engaged in them? Could they hope for the obedience of the heart, or for any other obedience than that which was the result of fear? If they could not, then in what worse situation would they be after putting down this demoralizing practice? Those who took a different view, appeared to him to invert all order of reasoning on the subject. The real ground for fear was in the continuance, not in the abolition of the practice. (*Hear, hear!*) Men who could so easily stifle and forsake the ordinary feelings and duties of humanity, were fitted to become the lawless disturbers of the public peace. They were "ripe for stratagems and wiles." It was for their political security, then, as well as for their moral credit, that he pressed upon them the necessity of putting an end to the practice. Instead of disaffection arising from

from their interference, it would be followed by the sympathies and benediction of the natives. The natural morality of the people would be both their support and their commendation. (*Hear!*) In all countries, the rankest in superstition, the darkest in ignorance, some system of natural morality was always found to prevail. Sir Wm. Jones (who would be deemed no mean authority on this head, and he was here discoursing of the Asiatic tribes) had remarked, that among the most ignorant nations, where not a vestige of philosophy was to be found, "natural ethics" would be met with, because they were what the "*rudest society requires, and what experience teaches.*" The people of India, notwithstanding their numerous superstitions, possessed this moral feeling, and he contended again it was the duty and the interest of the government to uphold it. In exemplifying his argument he would borrow a quotation, with which they had been favoured by the hon. proprietor who introduced the original motion,

"*Homo sum, humani nil a me alienum puto.*"

Most gentlemen would recollect having read these words with pleasure in their youth, and that they were repeated on the Roman stage two hundred years before the Christian era. The audience, which consisted of barbarians, of foreigners, of conquered nations, of allies and of citizens of Rome, shouted with applause to hear a declaration, which in the simple and eloquent language of nature recommended so powerfully the natural morality, the social virtues of man. Let the East-India Company, then, in putting down this nefarious practice, proclaim to the people of India that they cherished the same sentiment, and that they desired to see it cherished amid all the social relations of that land. Let it not be forgotten, that by the abolition of the practice they would save in future many families from affliction; they would save all from consternation: for who could tell into whose house next the vicious example might obtrude itself? Dean Paley, in his moral philosophy, had justly observed, that "society at large must be kept in continual alarm for the fate of their dearest friends and relations, when the restraints of morality are withdrawn by the toleration of such a practice as self-murder." He intreated, then, their executive body, with that discretion, humanity and justice, which he was proud to say, as a member of that Company, did generally mark their counsels—he intreated them to interpose, in order to rescue the people of India from the continuance of this moral turpitude, in order to rescue the East-India Company and the British Government from all participation in it. It was not a custom founded on any positive rule; it was partial and local: it was owing principally to

the disingenuous efforts of interested individuals; and it was unhappily encouraged by the sanction now given to it by the public authorities in India. Its abolition, instead of disturbing, would add to the strength and stability of their government, inasmuch as all men became better subjects in proportion as they were better citizens. He conjured them, then, to put an end to the practice without delay; to be firm, and fear not. They would have this reward, that in India, as well as in Britain, the prevailing wish with regard to their dominion would be "*est perpetua.*" (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Mr. R. Jackson said that it was more than twelve months since he had first called the attention of the court to those dreadful scenes of assassination which were allowed to take place in India; but he confessed that at that time he was not aware of the great extent to which those barbarous practices had prevailed, nor could he have imagined that they would have been suffered to exist without some attempt on the part of the Company's executive to put them down. At that time he had no idea that thousands and thousands of helpless women and children had been sacrificed, without some effort of interference on the part of the Company for the abolition of rites so horrid! He had delayed bringing forward the subject, because he knew it was about to be in much better hands. It was to be brought forward in another place by an honourable individual, not less distinguished for his talents and upright conduct as a senator, than for his amiable qualities and his general benevolence as a private gentleman. In the hands of that distinguished individual, he was sure the subject would be treated as its merits required. At the same time he must observe, that as the subject had been so ably introduced to their notice by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Poynder), the court were bound to mark their decided opinion of it, without waiting for what might be done elsewhere, and he thought it could not be done more effectually than by the court's assent to the motion before them. The great difficulties which any motion from that side of the bar had to encounter, might be judged of from the prejudice opposed to that now before the court. Though they were a body clothed by the Legislature with deliberative functions, and bound by their oaths to exercise those functions, whenever they felt it necessary, for the common benefit of themselves, or the advantage of their native subjects; yet, whenever any attempt of the kind originated with the general court, however humane their object or unobjectionable their proposition, it was at once met by the stale, common-place, forty times repeated remark, "you had better leave the matter to the discretion of the directors."

Why,

Why, if the papers before the court were true, the matter had been left to their discretion for upwards of thirty years, and what had they done? Nothing whatever. (*Hear, hear!*) He contended, therefore, that the executive had incurred a load of guilt, if during this time they had made no effort to support the endeavours of so many of their most eminent servants abroad, who had strongly advised that some means should be taken to abolish this practice, and only asked for authority to use them. In tracing back the printed proceedings, he found that from the period of the Bengal Secret Judicial Consultations in 1787, which were transmitted to this country in course, nothing had been done in the matter until the other day, when some instructions were sent out to our Indian government. In this dilatory conduct he thought their executive were exceedingly culpable, and he contended that the Court of Proprietors would become participators in their guilt, if they did not adopt the means in their power for the abolition, contrary to the law of nature, and so disgraceful to the government in whose very presence it was practised! He owned that he went further than his honourable friend; he meant to take a bolder and a broader issue, and was willing, on that day, to stand or fall by the justice of his position; namely, that the practice of suicide, being contrary to divine and natural law, the government or authority by which it was permitted became participators in its guilt. In support of this proposition, he would beg to read the sentiments of the great commentator upon the law of England, Sir W. Blackstone, who stated, that those who permitted, having power to hinder, a crime against the law of God or man, committed a crime against both. The opinion of this learned commentator would have the greater authority with those who considered that, before he delivered it, he (Sir W. Blackstone) had himself read, and well considered, the most eminent writers upon the laws of nature and of nations then extant. It was an advantage to him (Mr. R. Jackson) that he spoke in the hearing of learned persons, who would readily confute his doctrine if erroneous. When he insisted that they (the proprietors) became participators in the guilt of those suicides (even supposing them to be voluntary), if they made no attempt towards their prevention. That the crime of self-destruction was against the law of God, no one would deny; and that it was the duty of every civilized government to enforce that law as paramount to all others, must be equally admitted. He should be ashamed to press this beyond reading the opinion of the learned judge to whom he had alluded, which having

read, it would bring him to what seemed to him the second point for their consideration; namely, the expediency of putting an end to the practice of suttee, or the burning of females alive! He would contend that they were not to enter into terms with sin and wickedness; but were bound to maintain, within their jurisdiction, the law of God and of nature, whatever might be the consequence. Mr. Justice Blackstone, in treating of this subject, said,

“This law of nature being coeval with mankind, and dictated by God himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times: no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this; and such of them as are valid, derive all their force, and all their authority, mediately or immediately, from this original.”

Upon these two foundations, the law of nature and the law of revelation, depend all human laws; that is to say, no human laws should be suffered to contradict these.—To instance, in the case of murder; this is expressly forbidden by the divine, and demonstrably by the natural law; and from these prohibitions arises the true unlawfulness of this crime. Those human laws that annex a punishment to it, do not at all increase its moral guilt, or superadd any fresh obligation in *foro conscientie* to abstain from its perpetration. Nay, if any human law should allow or enjoin us to commit it, we are bound to transgress that human law, or else we must offend both the natural and the divine.”

The same learned judge defines the municipal law to be a “rule of civil conduct prescribed by the supreme power in a state, commanding what is right, and prohibiting what is wrong.” Now he believed that no lawyer who heard him would deny, that a government was bound, as far as its immediate and recognized authority extended, to enforce the observance of this rule. It was not necessary, nor was a government called upon, in upholding the principles, to interfere with the laws or customs of another country; but in that which might be said to be a part of their own, and over which their absolute authority extended, the Company were bound to put an end to practices so much at variance with the laws of God and man, so opposed to natural obligation, and to divine command. In the cases before the court, not only had the authority of the Company not been used for the suppression of those barbarous outrages, but a sanction had, in fact, been given to them, they were expressly allowed under some circumstances, and attended in all by a police, acting under the authority of the British Government. That the Company were bound, as the sovereigns of the country, to suppress practices contrary to the laws of nature and our holy religion, he had already shewn;—but it might be said, that a departure from the principles he had laid down might be justified by political expediency, arising from the fear of offending the natives. He would meet the objectors on that ground, and shew that, even in point of expediency, they were

were not called upon to tolerate the practice, but that its suppression was perfectly within their reach; nay, that it would not have the effect of injuring them in that point where they were most sensitive—he meant in the amount of their revenue.—(*Hear, hear!*) Supposing, however, for a moment, that he was unable to prove this—supposing it could be shewn that insurrection and rebellion would follow the attempt to put down this barbarous custom, still the Company would be bound to make the attempt—they would be bound to risk the loss of their authority over that part of their Indian dominions where the practice prevailed (and it was but a very small part), rather than become participators in such dreadful guilt; they would be bound rather to forego for ever the amount of revenue which they derived from those parts of their dominion, than to accept it as the price of blood! (*Hear, hear, hear!*) This he would contend, supposing that he had been driven to view it merely as a question of policy or safety, as the Hon. Chairman had described it to be. But he was not driven to that course; his honourable friend had most ably and clearly shewn, that as a question of policy we were bound to abolish the practice, and that in point of safety we had nothing to fear from the attempt. Well, he thought, had his honourable friend deserved the thanks of the court, for the pains he had bestowed upon this subject; he would go away well rewarded for his pains, if it were only with the conviction that he had successfully endeavoured to enlighten the court on a matter of this importance, by giving to them so clear and intelligent an analysis of the contents of five volumes of papers, with which not one in a hundred of the proprietors could otherwise have become acquainted. (*Hear, hear!*) Who was it that had heard his honourable friend on this subject, that could not say he had been improved by the manner in which he had placed the whole subject before them? Yet it was said that the time of the court had been wasted—and that their patience had been exercised during a speech of seven hours long. No doubt it was easy to scatter and bandy about remarks of this sort, with the mistaken impression that they were wit.—He was surprised that the gallant Colonel (L. Stanhope), and the gallant General (Thornton) had not placed more value on the labours of his learned friend, which had relieved them from the trouble of reading, and, as it should seem, from that of thinking, for he believed it cost them very little of the one or the other. (*Hear, hear!*)—The labour of a most able speech was thus in a great degree lost upon them, who found it easier to exercise their pointed wit and keen satire upon its length (*hear, hear!*) than

to combat its humane and manly arguments. It was now forty years since the attention of the Court of Directors had been called to the discovery which had been made of the extent of this barbarous practice (and in justice to some of the Company's servants of that day he desired to state, that it was no sooner discovered by them than it was deplored, and the most humane wishes expressed for its discontinuance).—They, however, of course submitted, as it was now wished that this court should submit, that is, they left the matter entirely to the discretion and authority of the executive; and the result was, that no progress had been made towards its abolition, no effort traceable throughout the papers until a recent letter from the Court of Directors! (*Hear, hear!*) In 1805 the matter occupied the attention of the Indian Government still more especially; its continuance was the subject of inquiry, and some regulations were devised, not for the abolition of these horrid sacrifices, he was sorry to say, but to discourage them in some cases, and to prevent them in others, where they were held to be illegal by the Hindoo law. If the papers before the court were true, there were numerous cases where this practice of suttee had been illegally committed, according to the ordinances of their own Hindoo law, and where there was not even the shadow of an excuse for not interfering for their prevention. If such practices were continued longer under the authority of the Company, there was not a man in that court who did not become an accessory to the crime of murder!—he that refrained from doing all in his power to prevent it, on his head be the guilt of the sanction he gave! The practice (he was about to observe) had become more general, or more known, and in many cases so evidently illegal, that Lord Wellesley felt it necessary to take some steps upon the subject in 1805. From the proceedings of his Lordship in council on that occasion he would read a few extracts, and they should be very few. He must however observe, that the principle for which he contended seemed to have guided Lord Wellesley's conduct, namely, that it should be a fundamental maxim with government to act consistently with the principles of reason, morality, and humanity. If the practice of suttee was consistent with those principles, he (Mr. Jackson) would say, let it be continued; but if it were found repugnant to those sacred rules, then he contended that the Company would not stand acquitted of a violation of its bounden duty if it did not put them down. And here he must mention it as worthy of remark, that though forty years had now elapsed since the court first became aware of those dreadful immolations, it had never

been submitted to their standing counsel, or to any of the law officers or judges of the land, how far the Company's executive would be justified in allowing this part of the Hindoo practice to continue within their own immediate dominions. It had never been inquired of those high legal authorities, whether, consistently with due obedience to the laws of the realm, they would be justified in tolerating practices, which they themselves admitted were nothing less than "atrocious murder!"—(*Hear, hear!*) It was stated in Lord Wellesley's minute, that certain instructions should be given to the magistrates of districts, with the view of diminishing, if not of abolishing, the practice. The most eminent of the pundits were ordered to be consulted, in order to have it ascertained to what degree the Hindoo law sanctioned the practice of suttee, for no pundit had ever maintained that it was *commanded*. On this point he had the concurrence of the Governor-general and of those of the Court of Directors, whose names were to the letter to which he had alluded, sent out to India so recently as 1823, after the business had been taken up in Parliament. They were all of opinion that there were no longer any grounds for believing that suttee was an obligation of law, but that it must be altogether a voluntary act. He would now read an extract of some of the questions proposed, and the answers given by the pundits on this subject.

No. 7.—*Question to the Pundits of the Nizamut Adawlut.*

"As it sometimes happens among persons professing the Hindoo religion, that upon the death of a man, his wife becomes a suttee, i. e. burns herself with the body of her deceased husband, you are therefore asked, whether a woman is enjoined by the shaster voluntarily to burn herself with the body of her husband, or is prohibited; and what are the conditions prescribed by the shaster on such occasions? You are desired to give an answer in the course of fifteen days.

4th March 1806."

Answer.—"Having fully considered the question proposed by the court, I now answer it to the best of my knowledge:—Every woman of the four castes (Brahmin, Kshetry, Bhics, and Soodur) is permitted to burn herself with the body of her husband, provided she has not infant children, nor is pregnant, nor in a state of uncleanness, nor under the age of puberty; in any of which cases she is not allowed to burn herself with her husband's body. But a woman who has infant children, and can procure another person to undertake the charge of bringing them up, is permitted to burn. It is contrary to law, as well as to the usage of the country, to cause any woman to burn herself against her wish, by administering drugs to stupefy or intoxicate her. When women burn themselves, they pronounce the sunkulp, and perform other prescribed ceremonies previously to burning. This rests upon the authority of Anjira, Vilasa, and Vrithaspati mooni.

"There are three millions and a half of hairs upon the human body, and every woman who burns herself with the body of her husband, will reside with him in heaven during a like number of years. In the same manner as a snake-catcher drags a snake from his hole, so does a woman, who burns herself, draw her husband out of hell, and she afterwards resides with him in heaven."

The exceptions above cited, respecting women in a state of pregnancy, unclean-

ness and adolescence, were communicated by Oarut and others to the mother of Sugar Raja. No woman having infant children, or being in a state of pregnancy or uncleanness, or under the age of puberty, is permitted to burn with her husband; with the following exception, namely, that if a woman having infant children can provide for their support, through the means of another person, she is permitted to burn.

Additional Question.—"In the event of a woman declaring her intention to burn with the body of her husband, and afterwards receding from such declaration, what would be the consequence and what treatment would she experience from her relations?"

Answer.—"If any woman declares her intention of burning, but afterwards recedes from her declaration, without having pronounced the sunkulp and performed other ceremonies, she is not enjoined by the shaster to undergo any *purachit* or penance; neither is there any thing contained in the law prohibiting her relations from associating with her. But if a woman, after pronouncing the sunkulp and performing other ceremonies, has not courage to proceed to the funeral pile, she may recover her purity by undergoing a severe penance, and her relations may then associate with her. The authority for this is the following passage:—'A woman who is prevented by worldly attachments from ascending the funeral pile, must perform a severe penance before she can purify herself from such an offence.'"

Mr. Jackson, in continuation, begged the attention of the court to the exceptions mentioned in those answers, and let them look at the cases of sutttees recorded in the returns before them, and ask themselves whether, if due attention had been paid by the local officers of government, all those cases could have occurred. He would be as far as any man from interfering with the religious prejudices of the natives; he would not quarrel with the notions of that country as to the three million and a half of hairs and the three million and a half of years; the thing was absurd enough, to be sure; but we were not answerable for all their absurdities, though, he would contend, we were to a certain extent for their crimes. Let them enjoy their absurdities as much as they pleased, but let them not commit murder: there the question of absurdity merged in that of crime, and as far as the Company allowed the perpetration of crime they were responsible. After the information thus obtained by the government, instructions were issued for certain regulations to be observed in the cases of suttee, so as to prevent, if possible, any but those in which the strict regulations of the shaster were complied with. Amongst other things it was ordered that due notice should be given of a suttee to the police; that the necessary information should be conveyed to the resident magistrate; and that no improper treatment or force should be used towards the intended suttee.—And that previous notice should be given to the police! Now it was well known that our Indian police was among the most corrupt of that description. From the darogah

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down to the meanest officer amongst them, there was not one who would not violate his duty for a bribe of rupees, and that bribery and corruption were the sources from which they maintained their extravagant mode of living there could be no doubt. It was not at all an uncommon thing for men in that class, with nominal salaries of £100 a year, to expend £300 or £500 on a single entertainment. How this expense was to be supported he need not mention. To this body, such as it was, was confided the care of seeing that the proper regulations were complied with, and if it was stated that they were, the women were then allowed to burn themselves. In the case where she had young children, a certain security was required for the due maintenance and support of the child or children after her death; and, strange and shocking as it must appear, a form was prescribed, and stamps were prepared, for the purpose of taking that security in the Company's offices. Thus the whole ceremony was performed under the authority of the local government, and in the presence of its officers! We the British people—the advocates of every thing humane—the natural opponents of every thing that was cruel and oppressive;—we the protectors of innocence, the avengers of wrong!—we the British people, sanctioned by our authority this diabolical custom;—nay, we went further, for by our neglect we permitted the practice in many cases which, even according to the barbarous doctrines of the shaster itself, were illegal! Was it possible that we should not make some effort to wipe out this stain upon our country? A kind of security, he had observed, was entered into for the support of the children under a certain age, of women about to devote themselves on the funeral pile of their husbands. But it had been found that this sort of undertaking afforded no legally binding guarantee for the future maintenance of the little orphans, and the heartless relations by whom it was given only laughed at our credulity when it was found that the security given was not worth one farthing. Would any man say that the Company was not culpable in allowing such open evasions of its own regulations? Could it be possible that our local officers should be ignorant of the extent of these atrocities? The returns before that court would show that this could not be the case—for in those returns, he found that between the years 1815 and 1821, the number of women who sacrificed, or were compelled to sacrifice themselves as suttees, amounted to 3,617, and of this number 2,619, or more than two-thirds of the whole, were burnt in the vicinity of Calcutta. (*Hear, hear!*) It appeared, indeed, that it was not deemed consistent with the dignity of the Supreme Court at Calcutta that the sacrifices should

take place in its immediate neighbourhood, but, that nuisance being avoided, the parties were allowed to take the body outside the city of Calcutta, and there, almost under the walls of the palace, and in sight of the college, the abominable ceremony was allowed to be performed. (*Hear, hear!*) He had before shown that, according to their own interpretation of the shaster, the practice of suttee must be in all cases voluntary, and that in no instance force or fraud must be used. He would go farther, and show, that abstinence from the practice, even where it might be legally performed, was considered, according to the Hindoo religion, much more meritorious, provided a certain course of life (in every woman's power) were followed. Indeed in what he was going to quote, he thought there was a direct inducement held out to abstain from burning, and that the latter practice might be considered as indirectly prohibited thereby. It was true that the shaster held out a promise to the suttee, that she should by her voluntary sacrifice, acquire a right to dwell in heaven, in the company of her husband for three millions and a half of years.—But he compared it with one with whom the shaster was comparatively a light authority—who might be considered the Moses of the Hindoos, and whose words were esteemed as the commands of heaven. The great Menu had laid it down, that though the three million and a half of years enjoyment of heaven in the company of her husband might be acquired by the woman who voluntarily burnt herself with his body, yet that that would not secure her eternal bliss, and that the only way by which a woman could acquire final beatitude, was by living a pure and chaste life after her husband's death, and devoting herself to works of piety and charity; as the reward of which, she at her death went immediately into the enjoyment of eternal happiness. From that state she was of course to return no more into the flesh, but the *suttee*, after her three million and a half of years were expired, had to come back again to this life, to put on again the human form, and be once more subject to all the vicissitudes of human existence. From this she might again obtain a temporary admission to paradise by similar means, but her eternal bliss could be in no other way secured than by living a chaste and pure life. Now it was clear from this doctrine of Menu that the practice of self-burning was not commended, but that the living purely and chastely was recommended in preference, as entitling the party to an infinitely greater reward. The strict practice of the Hindoo religion was rather against burning than otherwise; the latter custom was for the most part advised by the Brahmins and interested relations, who were in general gainers by the

the event. If some pains were taken to point out to the people in general what it was their religion did really enjoin on the subject of suttee, and the preference given in the doctrines of Menu to the passing a pure and holy widowhood, there could be no doubt that the laws of nature and the dictates of humanity would soon acquire their just influence, and the barbarous practice of self-murder would in no great length of time be altogether discontinued. (*Hear, hear!*) Much as the sanction given to this dreadful crime in some cases was to be deplored, it was still more to be lamented that it was allowed to be perpetrated in others where there was not even a pretence for it on the ground of religion; on the contrary, where it was in direct violation of the rules of the shaster. It had been that day contended by a gallant officer (Col. L. Stanhope) that those sacrifices were the voluntary acts of the women who performed them, and that as such it would be an imprudent interference with the religion of the people to offer any interruption to their expectations of eternal bliss. Even if they were all voluntary, he (Mr. Jackson) would still contend that we should be inexcusable if we did not attempt to put them down; but this argument had increased force in those cases where the suttee was attempted in cases notoriously prohibited by the shaster. That such was the fact in very many of the instances which had been reported to government, the returns before the court would afford abundant proof. In a list of sixty-two cases in which women were said to have burned themselves, there were fourteen under seventeen; twenty-two under sixteen; six under fifteen; two under fourteen; two under thirteen; ten under twelve; one under ten; three under eight; and one under four years of age. (*Hear, hear!*) This account was taken from the papers laid before the house, and now presented for the inspection of the proprietors. He would ask the gallant colonel what kind of consent to this horrid immolation could have been given by creatures of the tender years he had mentioned? Where, he asked, was the reasoning faculty which led them to hope for eternal bliss? Where was the voluntary assent to this most dreadful death in an infant of four years old, or even in one of eight or nine? (*Hear, hear!*) Would the gallant colonel, or the gallant general (Thornton) or any other member of that court, stand up and assert that the consent given by these infants was the result of reason and reflection? (*Hear, hear!*) Would the hon. Chairman maintain that in cases of suttee at such tender ages, the law of the shaster or the instructions of the government had been complied with? But these were not the only points on which the regulations of the local govern-

ment were allowed to be evaded; let any man look at the returns and see the vast number of instances in which the woman was persuaded to sacrifice herself without any notice being given to the local authorities. Here, again, the venality of the native police officer was evident; the offer of a handful of rupees would be sufficient at any time to induce him to be out of the way, so that the notice could not be given; or if in the way, he did not arrive at the scene of action until all interference became too late. The Europeans in office were of course too dignified to attend to any of these matters personally. The affair was left to the vigilance of the native police, and the superintendence of the dorgah; and the latter was frequently in real or pretended ignorance of the transaction, until it had been terminated in the death of the unfortunate suttee. Nothing was more easy than to be ignorant of that which one did not want to know, and wherever it was the interest of these persons to be ignorant, the whole matter was sure to remain unknown until the knowledge of it became of no use. Looking at facts as they stood recorded, he called upon the court to consider the great responsibility which attached to them if they allowed these barbarous murders to be continued when they had the means of preventing them. That the great body of the proprietors were hitherto ignorant of the extent to which those murders had been carried, he had reason to believe. For himself he would say, that until he had seen the returns before the court, he could not have believed that the practice was permitted to the extent it had been, with such means of prevention at hand. To-day he was an innocent man, but should he go from that court innocent if, after what had come to his knowledge on this subject, he did not make every effort to release himself from participation in crimes? Every man in that court was nearly in the same situation; not one of them could lay his hand to his heart to-morrow and say he was guiltless, if to-day he did not use every means in his power to put a stop to those cowardly barbarities. But it would seem, according to some of the opinions he had heard delivered on this subject, that the Company's servants were too busy to attend to such matters. An instance of this kind had been given in one of the cases cited by his hon. friend (Mr. Poynder). Application was made to a local magistrate for leave for a young widow to burn herself. The parties applying seemed to know their time, and chose the hour when the worthy gentleman was going out to dinner. The loss of a human life, and that too by the most dreadful torments, was not of sufficient consequence to delay the important business of his engagements,

and he gave his consent without much inquiry into the circumstances, though if he had enquired as was his duty to have done, he would have discovered, what was found out when it was too late, that the child thus sacrificed, whether a betrothed or an actual wife did not appear, was under twelve years of age, and consequently that her burning, even according to Hindoo law was illegal, which considers sixteen as the age of puberty. No such fact was ascertained by the magistrate, but he despatched the applicant with a verbal message to his darogah or other subordinate, that "if she were not under twelve years of age they might proceed to burn her!" (*Hear, hear!*) Was not this, he (Mr. Jackson) would ask, contrary to the instructions which the government of India had sent to the several local magistrates? Was it not a case the recurrence of which should be rendered impossible by the timely interference of that court? But there were a variety of other points in which the instructions of the Indian government, and the regulations of the shaster with respect to suttee, were wholly disregarded. The answers of the pundits which he had read to the court stated, that after the pile was made up and lighted, the woman who had intended to burn herself might without disgrace retreat, that she might do so even after she had touched the flames. According to the instructions of the Indian government she should be allowed to do so; it was declared to be highly criminal to force her back, and that should her death ensue from such force it should be considered as murder. But, notwithstanding this declaration, the instructions were set at naught with impunity, and that too even in the vicinity of Calcutta. In that neighbourhood, and in other places within the province of Bengal, instead of a pile of already lighted wood which the shaster enjoined, a pit was dug, in which, acting under the persuasions of interested relatives and the excitement of drugs given to her for that purpose, the unfortunate female, whom the gallant Colonel (Stanhope) would call "a reasoning animal," placed herself. The pit was immediately filled up with heavy logs of wood, and frequently bamboes were placed over it, so as to make retreat almost next to impossible. The fire was then applied to the pile, and the cries of the unhappy victim were drowned with the noise of drums and other instruments, amidst the shouts and howlings of a barbarous populace. Now these things were altogether at variance with the instructions which had been issued to the local magistrates by the Indian government. They were contrary to the enactments of the Hindoo religion, which enjoined that the fire

should be lighted before the suttee ascended the pile. In some instances after the fire had reached the body, and notwithstanding the efforts to keep the wretched woman down, the sense of pain had given her strength to disengage herself, when her convulsive efforts to escape had been counteracted by the violent resistance of her relations, who uniformly, unless when prevented by the police, forced her back into the flames. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) Let those who doubted what he said on this part of the case, turn over the pages of the papers before the court, and they would soon be satisfied that he had rather understated the facts than used the slightest degree of exaggeration. He would read to the court but one case out of many which had come before the courts of adawlut, and it would shew how little influence the regulations of the shaster possessed against the superstitious prejudices or interested views of the natives; he would rest the whole question on that case being fairly reported. It was to be found in page 67 of the second volume of the papers printed by order of the House of Commons, and he would state it in the words of Mr. Hudlestone their late Director.

"One Seethoo, a Brahmin, died when absent from his family. A fortnight afterwards his widow, Hoomulee, a girl of about fourteen years of age, proceeded to burn herself, the pile being prepared by her nearest relations, then at the village she resided in. Her father, Puttun Tewarrey, was in another part of the country, and does not appear to have been made acquainted with what was passing. Whether the sacrifice was originally a voluntary one has not been ascertained; it must be presumed it was so.

"The preparatory rites completed, Hoomulee ascended the pile, which was fired by her uncle, the prisoner Sheolol. The agony was soon beyond endurance, and she leaped from the flame; but seized by Sheolol Bichhook, and others, she was taken up by the hands and feet, and again thrown upon it; much burnt, and her clothes quite consumed, she again sprang from the pile, and running to a well hard by, laid herself down in the water-cours, weeping bitterly. Sheolol now took a sheet, offered for the occasion by Rooma, and spreading it on the ground, desired her to seat herself upon it. 'No,' she said, 'she would not do this, he would again carry her to the fire, and she could not submit to this: she would quit the family and live by beggary; any thing, if they would but have mercy upon her.'—Sheolol upon this, swore by the Ganges that if she would seat herself on the cloth he would carry her to her home. She did so;—they bound her up in it, sent for a bamboo, which was passed through the loops formed by tying it together, and carrying it thus to the pile, now fiercely burning, threw it bodily into the flames. The cloth was immediately consumed, and the wretched victim once more made an effort to save herself, when at the instigation of the rest, the moosulman Buralchee, approached near enough to reach her with his sword, and cutting her through the head, she fell back, and was released from further trial by death." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Jackson continued. The court would observe, that in this case the most solemn pledge which could have been made by one Hindoo to another was given by the uncle of the unhappy child, as a guarantee of her safety, and that it was afterwards violated in the most brutal manner. What pundit, he would be glad to know, would release that man's soul, after

after this violation of so sacred an oath? Any member of that court who doubted of such cases as he had read being in abundance, was bound before God and his country, to inquire diligently before he gave his vote, and to take the most effectual means in his power for abolishing the truth. If he neglected that course, he would leave that assembly a guilty man. In fact, an honest man had no alternative but to make himself master of the facts as set forth, or give credence to the statements of his hon. friend, to whose speech they were so much indebted. Was there any one who listened to him, who for an instant doubted the truth of what the papers before the court contained? Did any man then present hesitate to believe that those dreadful murders were committed, and sometimes with all the pomp and circumstance of a grand pageant, decorated by the presence of Gentoo and British authority? They had it in evidence before them, on the testimony of men who had filled high and responsible situations in their service—of men who had been distinguished in the direction of their affairs, that these appalling sacrifices of the young and the helpless were often attended by an immense concourse of persons, as if it were some great fair—by Brahmins of the highest caste—by our own police, and the most dignified of the local native authorities. The dreadful act was urged on by some, sanctioned or permitted by others, and witnessed by all. It might perhaps be asked, what interest had the Brahmins in encouraging the commission of those dreadful murders? The papers before the court would answer the question, by shewing that on these occasions the attendant Brahmins received a large fee; were they to receive none there would soon be an end to the practice; they being absent, it would cease to be a show! In most instances the suttee was rich and possessed of jewels, which she distributed with a liberal hand to those who assured her she was going to heaven, and applauded her act of self-destruction. Those who shared in the plunder had thus a direct interest in promoting the deed by which only it could be secured. The relations of the woman, particularly those on her husband's side, were also interested in seducing her to the fatal suicide. By the Hindoo law a widow of caste could not marry again, but must remain ever after under the care of her friends; by her death they were relieved from all farther trouble on her account. It was to these causes that Mr. Walter Ewing, and other of their most intelligent servants, had attributed the sacrifice of widows, even of four and of eight years old.

The *Chairman*.—"I can assure the learned proprietor he is mistaken in giving

those as the ages of the suttees. There is a mistake in the accounts, that which he reads as four should have been fourteen, and that which he reads as eight should have been eighteen." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Jackson*. He had quoted those cases from Mr. Hudlestone's papers, which made mention of infant widows of the tender ages of eight and nine years; and the instance of four years of age, Mr. H. had quoted from the papers printed in Session 1823, page 45, where the age of four was inserted.

Mr. *Wigram*.—"I can state to the learned proprietor, that those ages have been inserted by mistake. That which is put down as only eight, should have been eighty."

Mr. *Jackson* continued. He had relied on the accuracy of the reports laid before the House of Commons, and now before the court. In those he found the numbers he had stated. There were besides several cases of nine, of twelve, and of thirteen, with the names and castes of the parties, and one but of two years of age! Were these also mistakes? But suppose fourteen years should have been stated instead of four, where stood the father in that court who would admit that as a proper age at which his daughter should decide upon sacrificing herself by a most cruel death? (*Hear, hear!*) Where was the father that would not heap curses on the head of the unfeeling relative who, disregarding the tears and intreaties of a girl of fourteen, imploring that her life might be spared, could take her by force and hurl her back into the flames from which she had repeatedly endeavoured to escape, as was the fact in the case he had read to the court? (*Hear, hear, hear!*) Was there one who heard him, who did not shudder at the villany with which the young creature's confidence in that case was betrayed, and the barbarity which accompanied the whole of the proceedings? She had, perhaps, given a sort of consent to the sacrifice, though this was said to be doubtful, which she was not allowed to retract, notwithstanding that retraction was perfectly lawful, and even provided for according to the Hindoo religion. What was the cause? The parties which forced her to the pile had an interest in her destruction! He had said that the Brahmins encouraged those practices for the sake of the fee they received. The parents and relatives of children did it in order to be relieved from farther care of them; if left on their hands at that early age they might have to maintain them through a long series of years, while subject to those contingencies and aberrations of conduct which bring discredit on their families. That these deeply disgraceful crimes might be avoided, and this

this foul blot removed from the British character, Mr. Jackson thought would be made apparent by the next part of the subject to which he should call the attention of the court. One material argument for the facility with which the practice might be abolished, was, Mr. Jackson said, its very limited extent. From the returns it appeared that the average number of women who burned themselves or were burnt on the death of their husbands, was about 600 in the year, and this number, let it be observed, was out of a population exceeding sixty millions, and in which the number of deaths of adult males left about 250,000 widows annually. This clearly shewed that the practice was by no means general, but rather an exception to the general rule: and yet it had been gravely stated that the practice was so general, that the attempt to put it down would excite a rebellion! What, preventing 600 immolations out of 250,000 widows excite rebellion! It would have no such effect, and for this he could quote the opinion of Mr. Harrington, now a member of council in Bengal, who stated the practice as so partial, that no risk would attend the attempt to abolish it altogether. The directors had neglected it for forty years, and it had of course increased. What was it they were now afraid of? Was it that the armed force of India would rebel if any attempt were made to put an end to the practice? Let the court recollect the real cause of the late calamity at Barrackpore, and then say whether they would fear any revolt of their troops on account of the abolition of suttee? Why no sepoy's widow ever thus sacrificed herself; not a single instance appeared out of the thousands of women that had been burnt since 1815. The sepoys were most devotedly attached to their wives and children; they would willingly lay down their lives for their protection. It was not a soldier's feeling to consign his widow to the flames, nor that of his comrades to countenance such cruelty; it was therefore a most gross absurdity, to believe that they would ever attempt revolt on account of a regulation, which was intended only for the protection and security of those so dear to them! To talk of rebellion from putting this wicked practice down, was to suppose that it extended all over India, and was deeply rooted in the prejudices of the natives, whereas the very reverse had been shown to be the fact; it was confined to a comparatively small portion of the Company's possessions, and was so little fixed in the prejudices of the natives, that in many cases enumerated in the papers, the slightest exertion was found sufficient to prevent it. How, then, were they to proceed? Were they to use force

at once? He did not advise that course. He would have it recommended to the Court of Directors, that such means should be adopted for abolishing the practice as might be deemed expedient, consulting, as far as consistent with that end the feelings of the natives. This he thought would be obtained by the original motion. But the Chairman's amendment, after urging the directors to act, added, that they should leave the matter wholly to their discretion. Now as he thought it better that their disposition to act should be stimulated by the recommendation of a General Court of Proprietors, he should vote for the original question. However, he was glad to see such an amendment coming from the chair; it was a hundred million of degrees beyond their last letter of 1823. The present amendment left the subject to the discretion of the local government, but the former said that "the less they interfered the better." What was that, but saying in plain English, that though women should be sacrificed and their children left destitute; though infants of the tender ages of seven, eight, nine, ten, and twelve years of age, should be cast into the flames, as widows deliberately and voluntarily devoting themselves on the funeral piles of their deceased husbands; though, in short, all the existing rules and orders of the Company on the subject of these suttees should be violated; though in the teeth of their own shaster, venal Brahmins and sordid relatives should seduce pregnant women, or those in a state of giving nurture to destroy themselves, the Company's officers were "not to interfere," or in any way interrupt the savage ceremony? Why this would be to cry havoc, and to let all the evils of the most barbarous superstition spread over that unhappy country. If this motion should not be carried he would feel it his duty again to call the attention of the court to the papers before them. The question could not stop there—*no*, it should not stop there, he, himself, at a future court, would move a series of truisms, taken from the reports. Hon. members within the bar might, if they pleased, meet them with the previous question, but he would place them upon their records; the people of England and the Legislature should know of the hundreds of murders annually committed under British authority, and the public should be invoked for their suppression. He had not the least doubt but the call would be answered, and the tables of the houses be covered with petitions against a custom so obnoxious to every moral and religious precept, and so disgraceful to the national character. Might he be allowed to speak as a friend to the Directors, he would counsel them to avoid this extremity. He would

would recommend to their reflection a most material circumstance; the time would soon come round (it was fast approaching, and near at hand) for discussing the renewal of the Company's charter. That Parliament would take some strong and important steps in their affairs he had no doubt. In the mean time, let the members of that court carry with them the public approbation and regard, added to the consciousness that they had done their duty as men and Christians. In supporting the original motion, they would have credit with their country, for doing that spontaneously, which outraged humanity would otherwise soon force upon their adoption. The measure was admitted on all hands to be necessary; then let it be no longer deferred. The hon. Directors might reject the motion if they pleased, but they might rest assured that they would not thereby stop the proceedings of Parliament, or silence the voice of the British nation. Indeed, it would be disgraceful to them as men, if they waited for such interference. (*Hear, hear!*) It was due to both Houses of Parliament, before which the question would soon be brought, and still more to themselves, that that court should take some preliminary step to show that they entered into no compromise with an unrighteous policy, and were determined to avert from themselves and their children the guilt of shedding blood! The learned gentleman, after again advertising to the importance of carrying the original motion in preference to the amendment, concluded (amidst considerable cheering) by calling on the court, as each individual member of it would wish to retire with the conscience of an innocent man, to vote for putting an end to this abominable practice.

Captain *Maxfield* said he would not trespass long on the attention of the court. He certainly would not have to try their patience in a speech of seven hours. But he begged to say a few words in answer to the uncalled-for attack which had been made on hon. members within the bar and without, who happened to differ in opinion from the learned mover. Those who did not concur with him, and with the learned gentleman who spoke last, in thinking that the practice of suttee ought to be abolished by some means, forcible or otherwise, were, forsooth, declared to be guilty of murder. Now, he thought the practice ought not to be interfered with, and he was not more a murderer than either of the learned gentlemen who addressed the court. What, he asked, was all this declamation about? Why had not those learned gentlemen pointed out some effectual means by which the practice might be abolished? If the thing were as prac-

ticable as they represented, why not shew how it might be accomplished? In a speech of seven hours' length, one would have thought there was ample time for shewing this if it could be shewn. Instead of this, however, they were entertained with a long detail of circumstances, that which they all admitted, and all deplored, that the practice existed. In the whole of that long address, he had scarcely heard one argument which required an answer. They all knew that the practice existed, and there was not one who would wish to perpetuate it. All agreed that it would be desirable to have an end put to it, but the question was as to the mode by which that object could be effected. If any one then in court could put it down by his wishes, no doubt the thing would soon be decided; but it was one thing to wish, and another to achieve this desirable result. Hon. proprietors might talk of the facilities of putting it down by force in one place, and by persuasion in another: these notions, however, were purely theoretical. All the experience we had on the subject, shewed that the attempt to reduce them to practice would be not only difficult, but dangerous. One remark of the learned gentleman (Mr. R. Jackson) deserved notice. The learned gentleman had said that the custom of suttee was not general, and had not taken any great hold on the minds of the natives. To this assertion he (Capt. Maxfield) must object. On a people so weak, so ignorant, as the Hindoos, the promise held out by the Shaster must have a powerful influence. The certainty of a wife enjoying the society of her husband in heaven for three millions and a half of years if she burned herself with his body, was calculated to have a strong effect on persons who were so ardent and enthusiastic in their religious feelings as the natives of India, and particularly the females. Three millions and a half years of happiness in heaven were ensured to the suttee, and neither the Shaster nor Menu pointed out any other means by which that might be obtained. Was it at all surprising, then, that this should have a strong effect on ignorant minds? He verily believed, that if the same doctrine could be inculcated in England, and that it obtained, there would be found very many of both sexes ready to make the sacrifice in order to ensure its reward. (*Hear, hear!*) Why then should it excite our surprise, that the promise had so much influence in India? It was quite idle to say it had not a strong hold on the people's minds. It had, and like many other superstitions, the more absurd it was, the more firmly did the natives adhere to it. Allusion had been made to Col. Walker's influence in putting a stop to the practice of infanticide in his district.

What

What was said on that subject was quite correct, but the conclusion meant to be drawn from it was erroneous. Col. Walker could effect that which not ten men in the whole of the Company's service could do. All who had been in Guzerat, could tell how much and how deservedly he was beloved by the people there. To this the hon. director (Major Carnac) had borne testimony, and no doubt would have dwelt longer on the subject if he himself had not been a party concerned. But it was hopeless to think that the rest of our public servants in India could act as Colonel Walker had done. If they were all like him, it would be an easy matter to abolish suttee, and to put an end to infanticide throughout India. All men were not alike in their modes of proceeding; the Company must use the tools as they found them, though they might not be tempered alike. Under all the circumstances of the case, he would support the amendment; and he could not but express his regret that the feelings of the court had been worked upon in the way they had been on this occasion. It was too bad to hear hon. proprietors accused of being murderers, and *participes criminis* in those horrid sacrifices, which they had no means of preventing. — (Cries of "question," "question!") He had not much more to offer, but he must be allowed to conclude his remarks without interruption: the court had already indulged an hon. gentleman with a hearing of seven hours, and he had not yet spoken more than as many minutes. He had before said, that he concurred in the amendment; he would not sanction the use of force in the abolition of this practice, but he thought that much might be done by a more strict attention to the regulations already in existence in India. Those regulations had been very much relaxed in consequence of being entrusted to persons whose connivance at their violation might be purchased by a few rupees. He himself had seen cases where a few rupees were sufficient to purchase the consent of a local native officer, to what he knew was a direct breach of the Company's regulations with respect to suttees. But it might be asked, was there no remedy?—were there no means by which a stop could be put to this practice? He thought there was, and that it might be gradually abolished without any violent interference with the religious prejudices of the people. He would suggest that a woman applying to burn herself with the body of her husband should be obliged to wait three months, and that in all cases the application for such license should be made in person: this, he had no doubt, would, in a vast majority of cases, be an effectual prevention, as it would afford time for reflection. He would also have some means adopted for

disseminating the doctrines of the shaster with respect to the use of force. By the shaster all force was strictly forbidden in the performance of suttee; but from the motives of interested parties, this doctrine was not fully explained to the people; if it were made sufficiently known he was sure that women would never consent: for in almost every case of suttee, they had seen that absolute force was required to keep the suttee within the burning pile from the first moment the flames reached her body. Feeling convinced that all these means would be resorted to, in the exercise of the discretion vested in the Court of Directors by the amendment, he would vote for that in preference to the original motion.

Mr. Trant said he would explain in a few words the reasons why he voted for the amendment put from the chair. He saw that the instructions sent out to India had the signature of Mr. C. Grant, on whom so deserved an eulogium had been pronounced, and in those instructions a discretion had been given to the Indian government to act as it pleased, and as circumstances might require. Another reason why he preferred the amendment was this, that great difficulties would present themselves in the way of any active measures that might be adopted to abolish this custom. On this subject they had the evidence of Mr. Harington, who stated that though he felt anxious, in common with many others, to put an end to the practice, yet there were difficulties in the way which could not immediately be got over. The only means by which these difficulties might be effectually removed, would be by a gradual improvement amongst the people, by the dissemination of moral instruction. On this subject he was glad to find that much had lately been done. Forty schools, he perceived, had been open for the instruction of Hindoo youth; and one of those schools for the instruction of females was superintended by a Hindoo mistress. Feeling that much might eventually be done by these means, he was not prepared to risk any thing by the adoption of precipitate measures. Such measures, he was sure, could do no good, and might be productive of much injury; he was therefore opposed to all such measures, and though the want of them might suffer the practice to continue for some time longer, he did not at all consider himself criminal, and would go to bed with as quiet a conscience upon the subject, as the hon. and learned gentleman who had a short time before addressed the court. He thought the best way would be to leave it to the discretion of their executive, and, considering what was now going on in India, he would be ashamed if he withheld his confidence from them on this point. In a recent number of the Quarterly

Quarterly Review, it was stated, on the authority of Col. Phipps, that much of the cruelty practiced in the worship of Juggernaut had been recently abandoned. The abominable and disgusting sacrifices heretofore attending that worship were to a great extent given up, and in other respects a gradual improvement was perceptible in the habits of the people, as connected with the severity of their worship. The court would exercise its power to much better effect in giving encouragement to this gradual improvement; but as that was going on, it would be extremely dangerous to pursue any course which might come into violent collision with the religious prejudices of the natives. (*Hear, hear!*)

Gen. Sir J. Doyle said that after the many lengthened addresses which they had heard on this question, he was sure the court would listen to him with some pleasure, for all he had to state was, that he had intended to address them, but on consideration he thought they had already heard quite enough, and therefore he would not add a word one way or the other. (*Hear, hear!*)

The *Chairman* observed that nothing could have induced him to meet the original motion with an amendment but the language used in the support of that motion. That language led him to believe that something more was intended than the motion itself expressed. This he thought was clear from the language of the hon. mover himself, and also from the speech of the hon. proprietor (Mr. R. Jackson).

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he was disposed to pursue a middle course in this affair: but between the two conflicting opinions he felt himself like a fish out of water; he was placed between two fires—(*hear, hear! and laughter*), like a Jew amongst saints, or a saint amongst sinners.—(*Hear, hear!*) Some complaints had been made against the learned gentleman (Mr. Poynder) for the length of time during which he had occupied the attention of the court; but he (Dr. *Gilchrist*) made no objection to the learned proprietor on that ground; on the contrary, he thought him entitled to a hearing to the full extent of his address. He himself had often occasion to address the court, and to trespass a little on their patience, and should be very unwilling to be interrupted; he was, therefore, disposed to give to others the same measure of indulgence which he claimed himself. With reference to the question before the court he would observe, that as an abstract proposition, no man would contend that suicide ought to be allowed. But it was another question whether the practice should be put down by force of arms. He thought there was a way by which

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this might be effected without risk or danger to the Company's interests. That way he, as an author, had pointed out to their Governor-general in India forty years ago. His plan was, that any Hindoo in any way connected with a suttee—not merely as instrumental to the burning, but any relation or connexion of a woman who had burned herself, should be declared for ever incapable of holding any place of office, authority, or emolument in the Company's service. He had lately proposed the same thing to a gentleman who was about to introduce the subject to the House of Commons, and something of that kind must be done in addition to other measures. Something, he thought, ought to be done on this subject—the laws of humanity required it, and the only question was, what that something should be. One reason why he would support the original motion was, that he saw all the directors unanimous the other way. (*Hear, hear! and a laugh.*) He did not wish, by the original motion, to interfere with the religion of the people of India, or to attempt to christianize them—for that attempt, in the present state of things, would be hopeless. Let the effects of religion and education work their way; they would in time have, no doubt, a powerful effect; but, in the mean time, such measures as that he had proposed should be adopted. He entirely concurred in what had been said by the learned proprietor, that no member of that court could lay his head quietly upon his pillow, unless he aided in some way in putting an end to this barbarous custom. The thing might be very easily accomplished by the mere difference of a letter, and he would tell them the reason. The difference was between "suttee and suttaw." The one meant the burning of a woman for her husband, and the other meant the burning of a priest; and if the priests alone were concerned, there would be no difficulty in getting rid of the matter. But the suttee presented the difficulty. Hon. proprietors were not aware that relationship with a suttee gave a certain rank in India in the estimation of the natives. The son of a woman who had performed suttee ranked as a knight; if he could boast that his sister also had burned herself, he would be considered as a baronet; if he had other relations who had also sacrificed themselves, he would rank as a baron, and so on up even to the dignity of a king, according to the number of females of his family who had performed suttee. This it was which gave the custom so fast a hold upon the prejudices of the natives.—(*Cries of "question, question!"*) They might cry question if they pleased, but he was not the man to be put down—he would go on to the end of

the chapter, and would take care that the right of every proprietor to address that court should not be sacrificed in his person. He would not, however, trespass much longer on their patience, but he implored them, as they valued their reputation in this life, and their happiness in the next, to be cautious how they negatived the motion. It would be a stain upon their character, as sovereigns, as legislators, and as men, if they did not take some steps to check a practice repugnant to the laws of nature and of civil society. At the same time he must repeat, that he did not wish to see violence used. Let the Company strictly enforce the regulations already existing; let them keep a vigilant watch over the native officers whom they employed: this would be going a great way. While he was in India he had never gone to see a woman roasted, but he knew that many such sacrifices had been performed in the immediate vicinity of Calcutta; and several of these in violation of the orders of Government, and even of the rules of the slasher. How could this happen, unless the rich Hindoos bribed the native officers to connive at such proceedings? What reliance, he asked, could be placed on the Brahmins to put a stop to this—they who gloried in the number of relations that had performed suttee? The age of the suttee, and the information as to the legality in each particular case, were derived from them; and what truth could be expected from parties so interested? The Company might expect it if they pleased, but they would not get it. The priests were the general authors and abettors of these wicked ceremonies; they had an immediate interest in the thing, and it was idle to talk of any distant reward or patronage they might expect for not encouraging the practice. They acted upon the old proverb of "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush;" and they preferred the certainty of immediate gain to the distant prospect of greater advantage. An hon. proprietor had talked of the danger to the Company's interests from the immediate abolition of the practice. He did not mean to contend for the use of direct force; but even if that were resorted to, he did not believe it would have the dangerous consequences which some gentlemen anticipated. The spirit of the Hindoos was by no means so vindictive as some gentlemen imagined. As an illustration of this he would mention, that he was travelling in India on one occasion, and the moonshoes who attended him were very much annoyed by a Braminee bull. These bulls were let to have free scope wherever they went, and their trespasses were often found of great inconvenience, because whatever they did was

without redress, as they were held sacred. His moonshoes, however, were not of that opinion, and they caught one of these Braminee bulls and cut his throat, and afterwards eat him. He (Dr. Gilchrist) was afraid that the throats of him and his companions would have been cut in return, and that the story would have spread all over Benares, and that at length it would have been made a matter of grave complaint to the governor. No such thing, however, took place, and the loss of the Braminee bull was borne without any thing being said, except an expression of regret at his death. This shewed clearly that there was no very strong national feeling, even on matters which were held sacred by their very religion. He intreated the court, then, not to be led away by fears of danger to the Company's interests, which had no foundation, and (he added) not to be led away by the apprehensions of gentlemen who conjured up ghosts which were not in existence. It was idle to talk of the native troops being opposed to the abolition of the suttee; that army was, for a great part, composed of Mussulmauns, who cared nothing at all about the practice, and on whom its abolition could have no influence.

A Proprietor expressed a hope, that whatever might be the determination of the court on this question, it would be unanimous. There was the more reason to hope for this, as the difference between the amendment and the original motion was only a difference in name. It was for the general interest of the proprietors, and would facilitate that which was, he believed, their common object, that there should not appear to be any difference of opinion amongst them on this subject. The learned gentleman who brought forward the original motion had, he was sure, no intention to cast aspersions on the executive of the Company, in any thing that had fallen from him on this occasion; and as the opposition of the hon. Chairman was more directed to the words of the speech than the motion, he hoped the discussion might be brought to a conclusion in which all would concur. The Court of Directors, he felt persuaded, would feel themselves bound to make every exertion which prudence could point out, to comply with the wishes of the proprietors. That they could effect much, without resorting to force, he was quite certain; and that they were disposed to do a great deal he was willing to believe. Under those circumstances, he was willing to leave the matter wholly to their discretion.

Sir J. Doyle said it was not his intention to address the court, but after what had fallen from the hon. Chairman, he could not avoid saying a few words. From what had been stated, it appeared that the

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hon. chairman agreed with the original motion, and differed only from the speech by which it was introduced. There was not much, then, which stood in the way of their being unanimous; and he need hardly say how important it was that the court should appear united on this question. His own opinion was, that the whole matter should be left to the discretion of the Court of Directors, convinced that they would adopt the best means for bringing about that result which, he trusted, was the common object of all—the eventual abolition of this barbarous practice. But at the same time he would suggest, that the hon. Chairman should leave the original motion as it stood, as it was clear that the passages in the speech to which he objected were not uttered with any intention to offend. The withdrawal of the amendment would reconcile all parties, and bring about that which was so desirable on this occasion—an unanimous vote of the court. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Wigram said he had no wish to impute improper motives to any hon. proprietor; on the contrary, he was disposed to give credit to every party for good intentions. At the same time he could not but express his regret that such a discussion should have taken place, as it would tend rather to frustrate than facilitate the object which they all had in view. He could by no means concur in the arguments by which the hon. proprietor had supported his motion; for in his opinion, they went to the putting down the practice by force. (*Cries of "No, no!"*) Honourable gentlemen might entertain their own opinions on that point; but it was his conviction, that whatever might be the words of the motion, the effect of the speech was clearly the use of force; and as long as he had a seat within that bar, he would not consent to any measure which would risk the safety of the Company's power in India. It had been said by an hon. proprietor that he would vote for the amendment because he did not understand it; now he would support it for a contrary reason. In the original motion the word prevention was used; now by that word he could understand nothing else than the intended application of force, and in that sense it was calculated to do infinite harm to the government at home and abroad. An assent to any motion, however it might be worded, supported with such a speech as that of the hon. and learned proprietor, would be construed into an approval of the principles which that speech contained; and, with every respect for the Court of Proprietors, he could not agree with the hon. and learned proprietor in thinking it their peculiar duty to instruct their executive as to what measures they

should adopt on this occasion. The legislature had placed the executive power in the hands of the Court of Directors and the Board. The proprietors had the right, undoubtedly, of choosing their own directors: but he thought they had not the power to dictate what particular measures should be carried into execution. He would now say a word as to the amendment. [Here the hon. director read the amendment] Now, he contended that this amendment went as far as could be done with safety, by leaving much to our governments abroad; and as the original motion contained the word "prevention," on that ground he would object to it; and if he stood alone, he would vote against it.

Mr. Twining said, that whether they adopted the original motion or the amendment, much good would result from the present discussion. He thought many thanks were due to the honourable gentleman for having given them so much information on this subject, and without going to weigh words, he was sure it would produce a very good effect. Much, however, as he approved the general principle of the learned mover, he would give his support to the amendment. He did not object to the original motion by itself, but when he recollected that the Court of Directors were unanimous in their support of the amendment, and that they were disposed to give effect to the wishes of the proprietors upon this subject, he was anxious to leave it altogether to their discretion, possessing as they did the best means of information with respect to it. He repeated, that he by no means objected to the principle contained in the original motion, but if both were put he must support the amendment.

Mr. J. Martin observed, that before the question was brought forward in that court, it had been the object of active measures by various religious denominations in the country, amongst whom it excited a very considerable interest. It would at last, he believed, become very popular in this country if the original motion were now rejected; it would, he thought, excite very general dissatisfaction out of that court. If however on the contrary it was carried, the decision would be hailed with satisfaction by the public, as an indication that something was likely to be done in the case. Without being a prophet or the son of a prophet, he might say, that unless that court took active measures for the suppression of that barbarous custom, the public would act for themselves in the affair, and take it up warmly in another place, without consulting the objects which the Company may have in view. In conclusion, he would appeal to their good feelings, and beg of them not to re-

ject the original motion on account of the use of the word 'prevention,' which he believed came in the first instance from their side. He trusted the hon. Chairman would not persist in his opposition to the motion, in the general principle of which it was clear he fully concurred.

The *Chairman* said that on no occasion was he disposed pertinaciously to adhere to his own view of any question, and therefore if the hon. mover and the learned gentleman (Mr. Jackson) would declare to him that it was not their intention to instruct the directors, or to apply to the legislature in any way sanctioning the use of force, he would withdraw his amendment, but he could not do so unless he should have first received that assurance.

After a few words from Mr. Weeding,

Mr. *Poynder* said his motion went to leave it entirely to the directors, to use their own time and their own discretion. This motion he thought the directors could not refuse, and therefore he would not retract.

The *Chairman* said that was not what he wanted; what he wished was, that the gentlemen would afford him the satisfaction of knowing that they did not wish that this practice should be put down by legislative enactment, and he would withdraw his amendment, and he must add, that except for the disclosures arising out of the speeches introducing and seconding the motion, he would have felt it his duty to support it without proposing any amendment at all.

Mr. *Poynder* said that if any thing in his motion spoke of the use of force, he would admit that the hon. Chairman was correct in rejecting it. He did not speak of immediate force; if he alluded to it at all, it was as remote and contingent upon the failure of all other means; the use of force at present, then, he disavowed, but it was too much to ask him to state whether he had any intention of urging that point in future.

Mr. *Jackson* said that the Chairman must have noticed that he had refrained from going into the horrid practice of *infanticide*, which had been put down in the western part of their dominions by the firmness of Lord Wellesley, who proclaimed that he would treat it as murder; and in the eastern parts by the government of Bombay: because that in both of these cases the purpose had been aided, if not effected, by military demonstrations. In this case he did not think force would be necessary; he meant, in the terms of the original motion, that the practice should be prevented, but he relied upon the opinions of near sixty of their most eminent servants, such as residents, judges, and magistrates, that it might easily be subdued by a mixture of firm and conciliatory measures, who founded their opinions

upon at least as many instances in which such conduct had been successful. Should it now fail, he would not hesitate at coercion—they must obey God rather than man!

The *Chairman* observed that as the hon. proprietors declined making the admission he required, he felt it his duty to press his amendment.

Mr. *Poynder* stated that he had not advocated the use of force further than as the Court of Directors might see the necessity of using it. He must again beg to disavow the imputations which had been cast upon his motives on this occasion.

The *Chairman* said he had made a proposition of a conciliating kind, but it had not been met in that manner which he thought the court had a right to expect; he had nothing therefore more to do now, but to take the sense of the court upon the motion and amendment.

The motion and amendment were again read, and the question put from the chair, when

Sir *C. Forbes* rose. He said he had waited until the last moment, in the expectation that some other member of the court would accept the challenge given by the hon. director, and answer his remarks respecting the power of the Court of Proprietors. Now he would say that the Court of Proprietors should be considered only as the servants of the directors if they tamely submitted to the statement he had made. The Court of Proprietors had, he contended, a right to call the attention of the directors, their executive body, to any particular course of measures which they thought ought to be pursued, and to give instructions respecting them. He asked, if the court were to recommend or give instructions upon any particular point, whether the Court of directors would dare to refuse? Perhaps they might—but what power had the proprietors in such case? They had the power to visit any director who refused to listen to their recommendation, with a vote of censure, and that vote would have the effect of his immediate removal from the direction. Why, it might as well be said that the House of Commons had not the right to dictate a particular course of measures to a minister; that they had such power was undeniable, and he should like to see the minister who would dare refuse to give immediate attention to such suggestion. What! were the members of that court to be only the mere puppets of the directors, to act and move at their pleasure, without a power of doing any thing but what they should please to dictate? Was all they had to do there, to place confidence in the Court of Directors, and leave every thing to their discretion? He was really sick

sick of this. He was as much disposed as any member of that court to place proper confidence in the directors; but he could not allow any one of them to put such a construction upon the law affecting the rights of the proprietors, as that which he had heard from the hon. director.

Mr. *Pattison* declared that he had not understood his hon. colleague in the sense to which the hon. bart. alluded. The hon. director was proceeding, when he was called to order by

General *Thornton*, who observed, that it was not regular to speak after the question was put.

The *Chairman* said the question had not been put, and he apprehended that even if it had, it was competent at any time before the sense of the court was taken, for any member of the court, who had not previously spoken, to address himself to the question. The hon. bart. had been allowed so to do, and he thought it but fair that his hon. colleague should exercise the same right.

Mr. *Pattison* proceeded. He had but few words to offer, but he would not be put down in his attempt to exercise his right. This question had been taken up as if it had been a declaration on the part of the directors against the principle of the motion. It was no such thing. The proposition made by the hon. Chairman was one solely of conciliation, and was rendered necessary by principles having been laid down in the speech which were not contained in the resolution of the hon. proprietor.

Mr. *Poynder* said the recommendation of force was neither in the speech or the resolution.

Mr. *Pattison* continued. When he was a young man, he used sometimes to interrupt others in their speeches; but now he was an old man, more used to and acquainted with the world, and he found that very little was gained in point of time or convenience by such interruptions, while they added very much to the irregularity of a debate. But to come to the subject before the court. The hon. Chairman had made a proposition which he thought could not in fairness be rejected. All he asked was, that the two proprietors should state that they did not intend to recommend the application of force. If they did so intend, that was a strong reason why the court should not agree to the motion; and if they did not intend it, they could have no hesitation in avowing it. The amendment would, in the latter case, be withdrawn, the original motion agreed to, and all parties would go away satisfied.

Mr. *Wigram* begged to explain. He was sure the hon. bart. had quite misunderstood the meaning of his observa-

tions; and in doing so, he (Sir C. Forbes) had himself fallen into an error. He (Mr. *Wigram*) understood the hon. and learned proprietors to have stated that that court had a right to instruct and command the Court of Directors. Now he (Mr. *Wigram*) had stated that the Legislature had placed the government of India in the hands of the Directors and the Board of Control, and to that statement he adhered. The Court of Proprietors had, he fully admitted, the power of making any recommendations they might please to the Court of Directors, who would pay every consideration to the same; but they were not necessarily bound to adopt it.

The question was now again about to be put from the chair, when

Mr. *Poynder* said, that before the court came to a decision he claimed his right to reply, and felt it necessary to call for lights.

A *Proprietor*.—"Good God! is it after a seven hours' speech?"

Dr. *Gilchrist* said it would be then too late to hear the hon. member's reply. No doubt he had a right to reply, and the court had a right to indulge him as long as he thought proper to address them; but, judging from his opening speech, the reply would occupy a considerable time; he therefore moved that the court do adjourn to this day week.

Mr. *Jackson* begged to read the motion to the court. He then read it as follows:

"That this Court, taking into consideration the continuance of human sacrifices in India, is of opinion that, in the case of all rites or ceremonies involving the destruction of life, it is the duty of a paternal government to interpose for their prevention; and therefore recommends to the hon. Court of Directors to transmit such instructions to India as that Court may deem most expedient for accomplishing this object, consistent with all practicable attention to the feelings of the natives."

Now, he contended, it was clear from those words that the use of force was not intended by this motion. It left it to the Court of Directors to issue such instructions as to them should seem proper, but not one word was said of force.

The *Chairman*.—Then he was to understand the learned gentleman as not in any way recommending the adoption of force?

Mr. *Jackson*.—He certainly did not mean to recommend the use of force *now*; but if other measures should fail, he must not be understood as being precluded from recommending the use of force on a future occasion.

The question was here again about to be put, when

Mr. *Poynder* insisted upon his right of reply.

reply. It was absolutely necessary to his view of the case that he should have an opportunity of answering some of the objections made to him.

Mr. Jackson said, if his hon. friend concurred with him in his construction of the motion, there was an end of the question: if not, it was most certain he had a right to reply.

General Thornton observed that the question had been already put, and he thought the subject had been sufficiently discussed.

The *Chairman* said, certainly the learned gentleman had a right to reply if he thought proper to exercise it.

After a few words from Sir J. Sewell, which were inaudible to us,

The *Chairman* said, that he would now withdraw his amendment if the hon. proprietor would say that he had no intention of recommending the use of force.

Mr. Poynder observed that he had already stated that.

Sir J. Sewell said he thought that the conduct of the hon. *Chairman* was hardly fair upon this occasion. He not only called upon the learned proprietor for an explanation of what he had stated, and of what his object was at this moment, but he seemed to require some pledge as to what it might be hereafter. There was no talk of force at the present moment, but there might be some necessity for its adoption hereafter, and if it were used, it was his opinion that it would not be resisted. He fully concurred in what had been observed by the learned gentleman (Mr. Jackson), that the Court of Directors would become participators in the crime of murder if they did not take some means for its prevention. They were the governors of India, and had the power, and he must observe, that they were a very bad specimen of governors. They endeavoured to throw the responsibility from themselves, by saying that the acts were the voluntary acts of others, and that they could not prevent them. It was in this way that Pilate wished to wash his hands from innocent blood, and to throw the guilt on others. The names of those who gloried in the action, and cried "let his blood be upon us and upon our children," were long since lost, while that of Pilate was handed down with disgrace to posterity.

The *Chairman* said, that his object in wishing to obtain the declaration he had mentioned from the hon. gentleman, was not to deter them from any future measures. If the present resolution should not, in their opinion, produce the effect which they anticipated, they would of course have a perfect right to bring the subject forward upon any future occasion, only giving due notice to that effect, and af-

fording time to the local governments to act upon the present motion.

Mr. Poynder said this was so fair and candid, that he must concur in what had been stated by his hon. friend (Mr. Jackson). He did not want the use of force; indeed he did not think it requisite at present; all he required was, that every other means in the power of the directors should be employed.

The *Chairman* said that, with the understanding that there was no wish to recommend the employment of force until the court had sent out instructions, he would withdraw his amendment. (*Cheers.*) At the same time he must observe, that if the measures to be adopted by that court should not have a satisfactory result, the question would be open for further consideration. (*Hear, hear!*) In answer to the remark, as to how far the recommendation of the Court of Proprietors was obligatory on the Court of Directors, he should observe, that, if they agreed to any recommendation for the employment of force, no consideration would induce him to be a party to the transmission of such instructions to India; it would be uncandid in him if he hesitated to declare so, or if he scrupled to say that, rather than comply with such an instruction, he should decide at once to resign his seat behind that bar. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Campbell said, that on a subject of less moment, he would not, at so late an hour, have ventured to present himself to the court, but he did not think that he should discharge his duty were he to give a silent vote on a matter of such vital importance. He regretted extremely that the *Chairman* should have been induced to withdraw his amendment. It was one of the few instances in which he had occasion to question the judgment of the hon. baronet; but neither the respect he entertained for him, nor the unpopularity that might attend the course he (Mr. C.) was then pursuing, could make him compromise his opinion on this occasion. Mr. Campbell thought that he perceived, in the original motion, something that might lead to the employment of force for the prevention of these horrid sacrifices, which every person must deplore. He could not but deprecate any thing like penal enactments to put down the practice of suttee; he was sure that such a course, while likely to be productive of danger, would rather tend to aggravate than to abate the evil: for who ever heard of custom of long duration, or of prejudice deeply rooted, being overcome by persecution? He had resided in India for seven-and-twenty years, and in situations which afforded him opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with the native character, and he felt confident that

that the only mode of effecting the object which all must desire, was by the diffusion of education, and by the moral improvement of the people, who, when more enlightened, would of themselves abandon a practice, not less abhorrent to our feelings, than repugnant to one of the strongest instincts of our nature. The hon. director was proceeding, when

Sir J. *Snell* hoped that, at that late hour (past seven o'clock), the worthy director would not feel it necessary to go over arguments which the court had already heard at such very considerable length.

Mr. *Campbell* said that it was not his intention to have trespassed on the court further than to say, that as he could not agree to the original motion, he should hold up his hand against it.

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the original motion put, and carried by a large majority, there being no more than five hands held up in the negative.

The *Chairman* said there was some other business to be disposed of before the court separated.

General *Thornton* suggested that it was then too late to think of going into any other business, and thought it would be better to adjourn the court to that day week.

The *Chairman* said he had no objection to adjourn to any time that might suit the convenience of the court; but the question was, whether another day could be spared for another general court, unless a very early one—to-morrow or the day after—was named. Should that not be convenient, he hoped that they would put it off until some period after the general election.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he had no objection to the postponement.

The *Chairman* repeated, that unless some very early day was named, he might find it difficult to get through the business of the court before the general election.

Dr. *Gilchrist*, referring to the question of the general election, said the court were aware that he was one of the candidates. Now he wished to know from the hon. Chairman, whether, in case one of the six other candidates should be taken into Abraham's bosom before the period fixed for the election, what was to become of him? Would the directors get another candidate, or was he to walk over the course?

The *Chairman*.—"I hope not."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"Then am I to understand that time enough would be allowed for another candidate, to start at a moment's notice?"

The *Chairman*.—"Yes, a candidate may start from the post."

It was now moved that the court do adjourn, *sine die*.

Mr. *Twining* said, the court were aware that he had a motion, but he was unwilling to press it at that late hour, and with so thin an attendance. He thought it better, perhaps, to give notice of it for the next court.

A *Proprietor* suggested that it would be much better to adjourn this court to the next Wednesday, when they might have time to get through the whole of the business before them.

The *Chairman* said it would be very inconvenient to have a general court next Wednesday, there was so much other business to be done; but, if gentlemen were so disposed, he was willing to give up to-morrow.

Mr. *Twining* said he would leave it entirely in the hands of the directors. He did not wish that any time should be fixed which would cause inconvenience, and therefore he should leave the matter over to another day.

After a short conversation, in which the Chairman, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Twining took a part, it was agreed that the court should adjourn to Friday.

The court then adjourned to Friday the 30th instant.

East India House, Friday, March 30.

A quarterly general Court of Proprietors of East-India stock was this day held, pursuant to adjournment, at the Company's house in Leadenhall-street.

PROPOSED THANKS TO C. MARJORIBANKS, ESQ.

The minutes of the last court having been read,

The Chairman (Sir G. A. Robinson) said, he had to acquaint the court that it was met by adjournment from the 28th inst. for the purpose of discussing several questions. The first of these was a motion, of which notice had been given by a gallant general,

"That the thanks of this court be given to our late Chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq., for the obliging and gracious manner in which he communicated information when questions were put to him by the proprietors; and for the very satisfactory manner in which he conducted himself in the court whilst he filled the chair."

General *Thornton* wished, before he proceeded with his motion, to ask two questions of the hon. Chairman, the answers to which would, in some degree, guide him in his course of argument. When a ballot was demanded by a certain number of proprietors, it must be granted; and he should like to know whether, by that proceeding, the Company was put to any expense? He should also be glad to learn whether any, and what expense was incurred, when a number of proprietors requested that a court should be made special.

Mr.

Mr. Weeding objected to such questions, the effect of which was, to interrupt and retard the regular business of the court. The Chairman had already decided that questions should not be put till the regular business of the day was at an end, and he hoped he would adhere to that rule. Either let the gallant general proceed with his motion, or let the court pass to the other orders of the day. (*Hear!*)

The Chairman.—“I consider the question quite unconnected with the motion before the court; and this inquiry I have no more means of answering than the gallant general himself; for I have not looked into the expense attending either a general court or a ballot.”

General Thornton said he would at once proceed to state the reasons which induced him to make this motion. Gentlemen would, no doubt, express some surprise that such a delay should have taken place before he introduced this proposition. They would, of course, feel, that when such a motion was contemplated, it ought to be brought forward as soon as possible after the individual whose conduct was to be approved of had left the chair: he should, therefore, as briefly as he could, state the cause of the delay that had occurred. In the first place, perhaps, it might be attributable to him; but ultimately it was caused by the directors. He was unwilling to go round, and request nine gentlemen to favour him with their signatures: he well knew the excuse which was generally made on such occasions. Individuals said, “it is proper that attention should be paid to such and such matters, but we are afraid of offending the directors by signing a requisition.” (*Hear!*) Therefore it was that he did not make such an application. He, however, knew, that on some occasions, a quarterly general Court had been made special by the Court of Directors, on the requisition of two proprietors, for the purpose of taking certain specified matters into consideration: he, therefore, knowing that a gentleman near him approved of this motion, asked him, soon after Mr. Marjoribanks had left the chair, to sign, along with himself, a requisition, calling on the directors to make the next quarterly general court special; and he desired the clerk to go to the directors and inquire whether that requisition was sufficient. The answer he received was, that it was quite sufficient. The requisition was as follows:

“We, the undersigned proprietors of East-India stock, request that the quarterly general court to be held on the 21st of June next, be made special, for the purpose of considering the following proposition, viz. ‘That the thanks of the proprietors be given to our late chairman, C. Marjoribanks, Esq.’”

And then came the rest of the motion, as

it had been read this day. This was the requisition sent in early in May, and the answer was, that it was quite sufficient. A letter was, however, sent from the East-India House some time afterwards, containing a refusal to accede to the requisition, which he would read. It was dated “June 1, 1826,” was signed “J. Dart, Secretary,” and addressed to Mr. Addinell and himself. It ran thus:

“I have laid before the Court of Directors your letter of last month, on the subject of the next quarterly general court of Proprietors being made special to submit to it the motion therein stated, and I have to inform you, that the Court of Directors do not think it necessary to make the court special for that purpose. At the general court to be held on the 21st inst. it will be competent for you to bring forward your motion, if you think proper.”

He confessed that he was astonished at this refusal, as quarterly general courts had been made special at the request of two proprietors on other occasions; and he did not choose, without any notice, to bring forward such a motion as the present, which deserved the attention of the proprietors. He knew he might claim the privilege of bringing the motion forward at the quarterly general court without notice; but that he would not do, except under peculiar circumstances. He had lately, on several occasions, when he felt it necessary to ask a question, been desired to wait till the conclusion of the proceedings. Now the reason why he first wished to bring the present motion forward, was on account of the obliging manner in which the late chairman conducted himself while he presided in that court. He had seen, with great sorrow, the conduct of some former chairmen, who had acted in a very disobliging manner to the proprietors. The rule laid down as to the asking of questions might be a very proper one, if fairly acted on; but Mr. Marjoribanks did not stand on such a nicety; it was his custom to give every information in his power as soon as it was required of him. He understood, on the other hand, that one chairman, who was not of so obliging a disposition, had been the cause of an expense of £5,000 accruing to the Company for the printing of voluminous papers, as well as of the time of the court having been occupied five days, in consequence of that individual's refusing to answer a single question. Whether this was true or not he did not know; but it was very likely that mischief had arisen from his not having done his duty, by answering the question put to him. He had already remarked that a great length of time had elapsed, since he first formed the intention of bringing forward this motion; he, however, fortunately procured an opportunity some months ago to give notice of his intention of moving this vote of thanks. How he got such an opportunity he could not tell, for a similar favour was immediately

immediately afterwards refused to another hon. proprietor. He (Gen. Thornton), however, luckily slipped in (*a laugh*), and gave notice of the present motion. He should now call the attention of the court to the grounds on which the motion was introduced. It arose from a feeling of gratitude for the civil and gentlemanly behaviour which, at all times, had distinguished Mr. Marjoribanks, whilst he filled the chair. Mr. Marjoribanks acted, throughout the time in which he held the situation of chairman, with perfect good-humour; which was not, he believed, the case with others who had filled the chair. Rules had been made by hon. Chairmen, as it appeared to him, by their own authority alone. One of these was, that no notice of motion should be given, and that no question should be asked, until the business of the day was over. This rule put the proprietors to very great inconvenience; and this he could prove in his own case, for on one day, when he wished to say a word, and was told he must wait till the proceedings were concluded, the court sat until seven o'clock, and it was not in his power to stay. What time was it, he would ask, to put a question of great importance, perhaps, to the interests of the Company, or to give a notice of motion, which a gentleman might wish to be generally known to the proprietors, when the day was drawing to a close, and the court was nearly empty? A proprietor might wait till the latest hour, till, in fact, the court had broken up suddenly, and then he would be told, as had been done on a former occasion, that the question of adjournment had been carried. He had been for some time in the House of Commons, and had been called on to move an adjournment when there was no business before the house; but he recollected no instance where that question was carried secretly, or where those whose duty it was, refused to answer a question until all the business was gone through. What did their by-laws say on this subject? Sec. iii, cap. 8, set forth:

"It is ordained, That all questions in any general court, except the previous question or for adjournment, shall, if required, be stated in writing, before the same shall be put; and the Chairman shall not adjourn or dissolve the court without a question."

Now what was the reason of this? It was clearly that, if any thing were forgotten in the course of the day, or remained to be done, it should be disposed of before an adjournment took place; otherwise there was no use in the by-law. If this principle were opposed, and the by-law rendered nugatory, it would be better to put an end to the chair at once. He, therefore, protested against this conduct of the chair, which virtually prevent-

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ed individuals from receiving information. He thought it would be satisfactory to all the proprietors, and also to the directors, if the practice of the House of Commons were adopted, where the putting of questions was not restricted to any time unless business was actually in progress: that system never interfered with the debate. To answer a question did not take a moment, and was a saving instead of a waste of time. His reason for asking, in the outset, what expense attended the calling a special court, was because that circumstance might perhaps induce gentlemen not to sign a requisition; or might lead the directors not to sanction the making a quarterly court special at the instance of two proprietors. Now he knew that if some explanation did not take place this day, an hon. proprietor would move a resolution, relative to the shutting out of information from the court when it was required; a system founded on mere matters of form. Forms ought always to give way to expediency; they ought only to be resorted to, for the purpose of preventing inconvenience; and no inconvenience could arise from answering questions that would not take up a moment. He did, in gratitude to Mr. Marjoribanks, whom he would hold up as an example to other chairmen, move this resolution; because he could not but recollect his obliging conduct, in answering all questions while he was in the chair. His hon. friend (Dr. Gilchrist) had, on one occasion, put a most extraordinary question to that hon. Chairman, relative to the proving of fire-arms before they were sent out to India, which was immediately answered. He at the time considered this to be a very curious question; but he found out afterwards that the question was not put because a suspicion existed that fire arms were not properly proved before they were sent out, but merely to afford an illustration of his hon. friend's subsequent argument, which was, that if care were taken to prove that the instruments of war sent out were perfect, no less care should be taken to prove the capability of the individuals by whom they were to be wielded and directed. He should take up no more of the time of the court, having explained why this proposition was so long delayed, and the reasons which had induced him to bring it forward. He was very anxious that the motion should pass unanimously; and he wished that some other rules, with respect to asking questions and giving notice of motions, should be laid down; rules that would not give offence to the proprietors. He was desirous of impressing on the attention of the Court of Directors the necessity of imparting information cheerfully to the proprietors, when it was called for. Why the directors

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should

should turn their backs on the proprietors, when the latter were disposed to be civil to the former, he could not tell. He thought it material that this point, relative to the right of asking questions, should be arranged at once, without any special meeting being called for that purpose. The gallant General concluded by moving his resolution.

Dr. Gilchrist rose with great pleasure to second the motion; and he was ready to give a specific reason for taking that course. On a former occasion, when he was a humble functionary of the Company, he met with treatment from the late hon. chairman which, as he conceived, was not altogether proper; but circumstances had occurred since that period which caused him not only to forgive, but even to forget that treatment. Charity covered, and ought to cover, a multitude of sins, and he could not but recollect that the late chairman was the first individual on the other side of the bar who took pity on the sufferings of a poor man, who had been abruptly sent from India to starve in this country. He alluded to Mr. Arnott, who, when he arrived here, had nothing to subsist on. He had been thrown, as it were, naked on the world, when Mr. Marjoribanks kindly took him by the hand, and procured him some compensation for his losses and sufferings. There were two dark spots on the Company's escutcheon. One of them, that caused by the treatment of Mr. Arnott, had, thank God! been obliterated: the other, the case of Mr. Buckingham, which was too old a story to notice at length, still remained; and he feared it was too late to hope that any thing would be done for that gentleman, though it was better late than never. He agreed in what had fallen from the hon. mover with respect to Mr. Marjoribanks' conduct in the chair. To him (Dr. Gilchrist), whatever might have been his conduct on another occasion, to which he had referred, Mr. Marjoribanks appeared to have constantly acted like a considerate chairman. He did not adopt the tone and manner of a dictator; he felt that he was filling the chair for the benefit of the Company, and in that point of view he was satisfied with that gentleman's conduct. He recollected even when he (Dr. Gilchrist) asked the question about firearms, that Mr. Marjoribanks turned to the gentlemen around them, received the necessary information from them, and answered the interrogatory. He could not forget the kindness of his general conduct to gentlemen in that court. Whilst he was in the chair he never refused to answer a question, merely because some informality was attached to it. If he understood the business of the court, the rule now acted on was a new thing, which had

originated with the present chairman, and looked very like dictatorship; and he was afraid that this was not the only instance in which he played the dictator. (*Order!*) Some individuals might be afraid, from peculiar circumstances, to look the directors in the face; but he was the man who would appear there, even if alone, to defend every privilege he had a right to claim, so long as he had a foot to stand on, or a voice to make himself heard. There were some lines, written by Shakespeare which he thought might be quoted with advantage in that court, to encourage men not to suffer themselves to be trampled on, and not to bow to the dictates of any individual, unless those dictates were in perfect consonance with the customs of the court. He would now read his extract from an English author. He would not trouble the gentlemen behind the bar with any oriental quotations, of which, he believed, they could make very little, though some of them had been much later in India than he had. Shakespeare then said:

"For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,
Th' oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,
The pangs of despised old age,
The insolence of office, and the spurns
That patient merit of the unworthy takes?"

He would answer the question—he would bear them, because his independent mind taught him to despise them, and by persevering exertion he hoped to overcome them. That done, he would endeavour to forgive and forget those who had endeavoured to annoy him. With regard to himself as an individual, he would stand before the hon. Chairman, and tell him that he had not been courteous to gentlemen on that side of the court. (*Order!*) He had called a number of gentlemen "a set of requisitionists." He might as well call them a pack—a crew. This certainly was not civil language. (*Loud cries of "Order!"*) He confessed he did not think it very civil to call a body of respectable men "a set of persons," who did nothing but draw up requisitions. He had himself, on a former occasion, when his propositions were rejected, and an adverse amendment was carried, been stigmatized, in Johnsonian style, as "a visionary enthusiast." This was the language of the Chairman; and what, he asked, was "a visionary enthusiast," in plain terms, but a madman? He had been called a madman, but that was nothing new to him. (*Much laughter.*) So far from being irritated at this, he adverted to it merely as language that ought not to be used by the Chairman; he ought not to call any person a visionary enthusiast. What was worse, he had been stigmatized as a jobber. Now, if there were

were any man (and he had been known on the stage of public life for thirty years) who was less a jobber or less connected with jobbers than he had been, or who disliked jobbing more than he did, that man he should like to have pointed out to him. This accusation was re-echoed in India, through the medium of *The Government Gazette*, where it was asserted "that he (Dr. Gilchrist) was mean enough to be looking up to a job, to procure which was the object of Mr. Hume." On the occasion to which reference was here made, he (Dr. Gilchrist) was misunderstood by his friend Mr. Hume. The article in question went on to state, that "the fact was afterwards alluded to by the then Deputy Chairman," who now filled the chair.

The *Deputy Chairman* (the Hon. Hugh Lindsay).—"I rise to order. We are now discussing the merits of the late Chairman, with which the conduct of the present Chairman has nothing to do; and I must say, that the learned proprietor seems to have applied to himself that which I will venture to assert was not intended by the hon. Chairman. I beg, therefore, that the learned proprietor will confine himself to the only question before us—the merits of the late Chairman."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"We can only estimate a man's merits by comparison."

The *Chairman*.—"I am obliged to my hon. friend for his interference; but I have to intreat that the court will indulge the hon. proprietor to any extent he pleases to go, in discussing the *demerits* of your *present* Chairman, the question before the court being the *merits* of your *late* Chairman. (*Hear, hear!*) I should be very sorry to interrupt the hon. proprietor, because I can solemnly assure the court, that nothing that can fall from the hon. proprietor can produce in my mind any other feeling but that of pity. I treat his observations, so far as they respect myself, with perfect contempt." (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* said that compliment was perfectly reciprocal, and he threw it back to the hon. Chairman. (*Cries of "Order!" and much confusion.*) Would gentlemen, who were crying "Order," like to be treated in this way, and not throw back the insult? He would not tamely receive an insult from any man; and if the hon. Chairman gave him a Rowland, he would return it with an Oliver. Character could only be known by comparison, as a man's countenance was marked out by the reflection of the looking-glass; and perhaps the character of Mr. Marjoribanks stood higher, because he answered questions which another chairman would not. And on what ground did his refusal rest? On nothing but his own *ipse dixit*, at least so far as he could

discover. He had been studying the by-laws and Mr. Auber's book, and he could not see a line that debarred gentlemen from asking questions before the business of the day had commenced. If the hon. Chairman made a new rule, let it be so; he and other proprietors would submit to it as long as they could not help themselves, but no longer. In his opinion, the court had shewn too much passive obedience, had manifested too much submission to the Court of Directors. The learned proprietor was then proceeding [as we understood, for there was much noise in the court] to make some observations on a circumstance which had occurred, when Mr. Wigram, he being in the chair,* had refused to answer a question.

Mr. *Wigram* wished to set the learned proprietor right on this point. On the occasion alluded to, an hon. proprietor had made some observations on what he (Mr. Wigram) had said, and to those observations he had at once replied.

Mr. *Pattison* said he rose to a point of order. If this sort of discussion were suffered to go on, it could in effect end only in a vote of censure on all the gentlemen who had filled that chair for some years past, with the exception of one. "You, sir, (continued Mr. Pattison) have, in my opinion, acted as an excellent and impartial chairman." (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Wigram* said, he must consider his hon. friend out of order, in going into the general merits of the question.

Mr. *Pattison*.—"If I am out of order, I am only following the example of others; it is not my own seeking. I wish to draw the attention of the Court of Proprietors to the condition in which the Court of Directors will be placed if the proceedings go on in this manner, each director rising as if to defend himself against a vote of censure."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I think the hon. director is quite out of order.—(*Laughter.*) He complains of my learned friend for touching on a particular subject, and yet he goes to the same subject himself, and thus continues the discussion. He is, therefore, out of order." (*Much confusion.*)

Mr. *Pattison*.—"I am not out of order; but from a general respect to the whole body of proprietors here assembled, I beg leave to draw their attention to what must be the condition of the constituted authorities if"—(*Cries of "Order!"*)

* We believe the allusion was made to what took place in the General Court on the 11th of February 1824, when the case of the Marquess of Hastings was first introduced by Sir J. Doyle. On that occasion, Mr. Wigram, who was then chairman, declined answering certain questions that were put to him, on the ground that he had received no instructions from the Court of Directors, of which he was the organ.—*Vide Asiatic Journal*, vol. xvii. p. 302.

The *Chairman*.—"I really must confess, that I think my hon. friend is out of order. I feel, as much as my hon. friend on the floor, the inconvenience which attends a discussion of this kind; I should, therefore, let the learned Doctor proceed; I should leave it to himself to select his topics."

Mr. *Pattison*.—"I shall sit down very patiently, expecting my turn to come."—*(A laugh.)*

Dr. *Gilchrist* said, he should close the subject by making a remark on one expression that had fallen from the hon. director (Mr. Pattison). That hon. director had spoken of a vote of censure. Now it was possible that such a thing might be moved; It was possible that he might move or second such a proposition. If he thought it necessary, he would not hesitate to bring forward such a motion, as he had proposed to do in the case of Lord Amherst.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"I call the learned proprietor to order. We are not discussing the conduct of Lord Amherst. I beg that the learned proprietor will confine himself to the conduct of the late Chairman."

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—All he had further to say was, that, comparatively, he considered Mr. Marjoribanks to have been a very good chairman. No proprietor had to complain of being put down by that gentleman, when he asked questions which he thought necessary.

Capt. *Maxfield* said it was with infinite concern he had observed the turn which the debate had taken. His learned friend seemed to be much offended at an expression which had fallen from the hon. Chairman; but he (Capt. Maxfield) must beg leave to say, that he interpreted that expression very differently from his learned friend; he did not think the expression alluded to was meant for himself, for instance; he did not believe it was meant offensively; and he felt it but fair, as he and his learned friend took a different view of this point, to state his opinion distinctly, and to endeavour to bring his learned friend over to his view of the matter. He thought that the less discussion which took place on this subject the better; this must be evident to all. While Mr. Marjoribanks was in the chair, he certainly was satisfied with his conduct to the proprietors; but, though that was the case, he was not disposed to draw any invidious comparison between him and others.—*(Hear!)*

Mr. *Weeding* said this was one of the most extraordinary questions ever proposed to the court of proprietors, and he had many objections to it. If they considered it with reference to precedent, it was quite clear that no precedent of such a nature could be found; and he should

be very sorry to assist in creating one. The hon. gentleman had not sufficiently accounted for the long delay which had taken place, after the way had been pointed out to him of getting over the difficulty which he at first met with; the motion therefore wore the aspect of indifference, if not of affront, to the gentleman in whose favour it was intended. *(Hear!)* He had a much stronger objection to it, from its being avowedly made for the purpose of drawing a comparison to the prejudice of other members of the court of directors. He (Mr. Weeding) knew of no superiority which the late Chairman (and he spoke it with all respect for him) possessed over any of his colleagues, who had been raised by the choice of their own body to the high and dignified station of Chairman of the East India Company. *(Hear!)* Whether it were for talent, for application to business, for courtesy, or for any other quality with which it were desirable for a public functionary to be endued, he knew of no superiority which the late Chairman possessed over the rest of his colleagues. He said this, not in disparagement of him, for he believed that he would himself be willing to admit the justice of the observation, and that he would scorn to receive one jot of applause in the way it was now proffered, at the expense of the due merit of his associates. *(Hear, hear!)* The strongest objection which he had to the motion was founded on the respect which he (Mr. Weeding) entertained for the general court itself. The proposition was totally unworthy of their deliberative vote. *(Hear, hear!)* To thank a gentleman, and still more to thank him ten months after he had quitted the chair, notwithstanding the lame apology offered for the delay, for the mere outward signs of gentlemanly behaviour, for civility and courtesy, merely while presiding over their deliberations, was a proposition which he trusted the court would mark their reprehension of by refusing to entertain it. *(Hear!)* It would be a bitter sarcasm upon the court itself if such a motion could pass, as well as upon the hon. gentlemen, in whose favour it was proposed. *(Hear!)* He trusted that the gentlemen behind the bar would place so much confidence in those before the bar, as to rest assured, that the latter would never suffer unjust and invidious comparisons and reflections to sway their deliberations in that court. The great majority of the court, he was sure, would be ever ready to defend their executive body against unfounded clamour and vituperation, and to uphold the Chairman of the court in the firm, manly, and judicious exercise of his authority. *(Hear, hear!)* He had heard from one quarter of the court something like a menace of

a vote of censure upon gentlemen behind the bar. Those from whom it came should reflect, that votes of censure might be passed upon members of the constituent as well as the elected body; and if motions, such as that now before them, were persevered in, if the court were summoned and its time consumed by a repetition of the same trifling, useless, and unmeaning propositions, its patience might be at length exhausted, and a severe and merited animadversion be recorded against those who were the cause of it. He should sit down with moving the "previous question" on the motion before them.—(*Hear, hear!*)

Col. L. Stanhope said, that throughout the whole of his argument the hon. proprietor who had just sat down was in error, with respect to the proceedings of this day. In the first place, he had accused the hon. mover with having been dilatory in bringing forward this measure. It was not, however, the fault of his gallant friend, but of persons in power, who had not attended to his requisition. The hon. proprietor said there was no precedent for a motion of this kind: why they had a very late precedent in the House of Commons. (*A laugh.*) At the meeting of Parliament after the general election the present speaker was re-elected, and an eloquent eulogium was passed on him for his former conduct in the chair. With respect to Mr. Marjoribanks, he agreed, generally, in all the eulogiums that had been passed on him by his gallant friend. As for any invidious remarks that had been made by his learned friend, he must say that the present Chairman had always, in his opinion, acted with exceeding courtesy to that court—(*Hear, hear!*); though he must say, he did not approve of his preventing questions to be asked before going into the business of the day. It was the practice of Parliament, and a very useful one, to allow questions to be put before motions came on. He must, however, observe, that a good deal of sparring had been carried on between his learned friend and the hon. Chairman; who, he thought, conducted himself towards his learned friend (but certainly towards no other person) with a degree of sharpness that was not altogether becoming. For Mr. Marjoribanks he certainly felt a great degree of respect, though he did not know him; and though, on one occasion, he had given him a very unbecoming answer.—(*Laughter.*) He stated to Mr. Marjoribanks, in that court, when he filled the chair, that he had received a letter, purporting to come from the twenty-four directors, calling on him to vote for certain individuals to fill up vacancies in the direction; he mentioned this practice as extremely impro-

per, because it was using a most undue influence, and he asked Mr. Marjoribanks whether the letter was sent by authority or not? The answer was, that if he (Col. Stanhope) did not like the letter, he might put it in the fire.—(*A laugh.*) Now the present Chairman, he believed, would not have returned such an answer.

Dr. Gilchrist.—"I think my gallant friend is under a mistake. I believe it was you, sir, who gave that answer?"

The Chairman.—"No."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"I stand corrected."

The Chairman.—"I think it is desirable that the proprietors should hear something from me before this question is decided; and I do assure the court that I should not have said a word on this occasion, in reference to the allusions made to myself, if they had not been of a very personal nature. I have great satisfaction in reflecting that the proceedings of the Court of Directors have generally been supported by the great body of proprietors; and whenever a division has taken place, it has always ended in a way that was most gratifying to my own feelings. (*Hear!*) Therefore, it is not with reference to myself as an individual, or to my private feelings, but with reference to the discharge of my public duties, that I wish to detain the court for a short time. When I am charged with disrespect in addressing those whom I am anxious to honour and respect—I mean the court collectively—when I am accused of having laid down rules which were not customary in the proceedings of this court, I answer clearly and distinctly, that such is not the case. If, when questions have been put to me by individual members, the matter had dropped on an answer having been given, I beg to assure the court I should always have been ready to satisfy such inquirers: but when I saw that a question never was put to which an answer was given that a debate and discussion did not arise out of it, then I certainly felt that I was maintaining the regularity of the proceedings of this court by stopping so inconvenient a practice; (*hear!*) and in so doing I feel at this moment that I best discharged my duty. It has been said, that by this course of proceeding a great deal of expense has been incurred by the directors, to the detriment of the Company. Now I am not aware how that fact can in any case be made out; and I am quite sure that if any expense has arisen from the proceedings in this court, it has been a wasteful expense of time, and not of money: because I believe that special courts cost the company very little. The expense is nothing; but the inconvenience to gentlemen is very considerable. (*Hear!*) A circumstance which has been particularly noticed by the gallant general, relates to the conduct

conduct observed by the Court of Directors when notice of this motion was first intimated to them. If this notice had been regularly sent in on the requisition of nine proprietors, it would have been incumbent on the Court of Directors to have called a special court for the consideration of this motion. But I maintain that, when a notice of motion is sent in to the Court of Directors signed only by *two* proprietors, it is not incumbent on them to call a special court; it then becomes totally a matter of discretion whether they will do so or not: and when information was given to the two hon. proprietors who signed the requisition in this case, of the determination of the Court of Directors, they were treated with all the respect due to such a motion, by being reminded that, if they did not choose to call a special court, by procuring the signatures of nine proprietors to a requisition, still it was in the power of any proprietor, at a quarterly general court, to bring forward any question he pleased. I think, therefore, that with respect to those two points which are advanced as charges against the Court of Directors, a simple explanation of the facts is sufficient to exonerate them. I have never been an advocate for encroaching on the rights of any individual, much less have I ever attempted or thought of encroaching on the rights of the proprietors, whose privileges I will ever maintain and support. (*Hear!*) I shall sit down perfectly satisfied with the position in which I stand with reference to the feelings of the great body of proprietors; and I care not for the opinions expressed by disappointed individuals, who may think proper to compare my conduct with that of my worthy predecessor."—(*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *Gahagan* wished to make one observation with respect to what had fallen from the hon. Chairman on a former day, and which was not at all irrelevant to some of the matters that had been brought forward on the present occasion. At the time to which he referred, he had, when the general court was about to commence the regular business, tendered himself to the notice of the chair, stating that he would not occupy the court for more than an instant. The hon. Chairman on that occasion, and also the hon. director (Mr. *Wigram*), acted, in his opinion, quite correctly when they observed, that one question, even when properly answered, led to fifty others; and therefore declined to indulge him. He (Mr. *Gahagan*), when he found, as was the fact, that his question was likely to lead to a desultory conversation, desisted. This conduct, he thought, was perfectly correct; and he believed that if, on any simple question being put, it was under-

stood that the answer of the directors should be received as final, they would always, except under very extraordinary circumstances indeed, be ready to satisfy the proprietors. (*Hear!*) As to the motion before the court, it appeared to him to be so positively ludicrous and absurd, that he should not be surprised, were it agreed to, if, on the next ballot day, some facetious gentleman should move a vote of thanks to the individual who had shewn most skill in making their chocolate, coffee, or tea. He really thought that if Mr. *Marjoribanks* happened to meet the gallant general in the street, after the proposition was decided in the negative, that he would be very apt to congratulate the gallant general, as he must certainly congratulate himself, on the loss of such a motion.

Sir. *C. Forbes* said that, no doubt, the asking of questions did, to a certain degree, retard the business; but by no means to the extent that had been insinuated. In fact, it must be viewed entirely as a matter of courtesy; and, whenever a desultory conversation occurred on a question being put from one side of the bar to the other, it ought at once to be put an end to. Still, however, it was important to all the parties concerned that gentlemen should be allowed to put questions at that period which appeared to be the most convenient, and he was convinced that the hon. Chairman never was disposed to discountenance the practice: he therefore intreated the gentlemen behind the bar not to push any rule to such an extent as would have the effect of restricting and restraining the proprietors in the exercise of so very useful a mode of obtaining information.

The *Deputy Chairman* was desirous, as allusion had been made to the mode of proceeding in the House of Commons, to say one word on that subject. He believed that, when important questions were intended to be put in that house, courtesy induced those who meant to ask such questions to give notice of their intention to the members from whom they expected an answer, to enable the latter to acquire all the information which was necessary to meet such interrogatories satisfactorily. Now he was sure, if gentleman had the courtesy to state any question they meant to put in that court, a day or two before their intention was to be carried into effect, it would enable those upon whom they called to answer correctly. (*Hear!*) This could not be expected otherwise; for, he would venture to say, that it was impossible for gentlemen behind the bar to contrain in their heads a full recollection of all the matters on which they might be questioned, and relative to which a prompt answer might be required. If gentlemen,

men, in future, pursued the course which he had recommended, their applications would meet with that courtesy which, he was sure, the chairman, deputy-chairman, and the whole court of directors, were always anxious to manifest towards the proprietors. (*Hear!*)

Gen. Thornton said that, notwithstanding all that had been advanced against his motion, he thought he was perfectly right in bringing it forward. It had been said that one question generally produced fifty others, but he confessed that he did not recollect any instance of that kind since he became a member of the court, and he believed the circumstance originated in the imagination of the gentleman who had made the statement. With regard to what the hon. Chairman had said relative to questions having the effect of bringing on discussions, he must beg leave to say, that if such were the case, the fault rested with the hon. Chairman himself, who should immediately stop such discussions, because they undoubtedly were irregular, and created much confusion: for, if one gentleman spoke, fifty had a right to take the same course. He wished for no such irregularity; all he contended for was, that they should merely adopt the practice of the House of Commons (which was an extremely good one); namely, that when a proprietor asked a question at a convenient time, he should at once receive an answer. The only satisfactory suggestion he had heard was that which had been thrown out by the Deputy Chairman. He agreed with him, that the mode which he pointed out was a very good one; and he (Gen. Thornton) hoped the proprietors would attend to it; and, whenever an opportunity occurred, he would, beforehand, frame his question, and have it submitted to the proper authority. He bowed to the chair; and he wished to be treated with that courtesy which he himself never departed from. In obedience to this feeling, he should adopt the recommendation of the Deputy Chairman, and previously state to the Chairman, when it was practicable, any question he meant to put. But circumstances might occur in that court, relative to which questions ought to be asked on the moment, and he trusted they would not remain unanswered because no previous communication had been made. It was a serious matter to be called on to wait till seven or eight o'clock in the evening before he could put a question, when circumstances prevented him from making so long a stay; whereas, no inconvenience could arise from answering a question, or receiving a notice of motion immediately, which would not take up a minute. He was perfectly satisfied, after what he had

heard on both sides of the question, with the consciousness of having done his duty. His motion had been attended with some good effect; and, whatever might be its fate, he hoped the proprietors would, in future, meet with more courtesy from the directors. He trusted that they would treat one another hereafter with more good temper; and that, on each side, there would be manifested a feeling of kindness, which, like "the quality of mercy,"

"Is twice bless'd!"

"It bleaseth him that gives, and him that takes."

The previous question, viz. "That this question be now put," was put from the chair, and negatived. Gen. Thornton's motion, of course, fell to the ground.

THANKS TO JACOB BOSANQUET, ESQ.

The Chairman.—The next notice on the paper is, to submit to the court a motion, expressing the sentiments of the proprietors on the retiring of Jacob Bosanquet, Esq. from his seat in the direction, and to call for the production of any correspondence between the Court of Directors and Mr. Bosanquet on that occasion.

Mr. Twining begged, in pursuance of the notice which he had given on a former occasion, that the Chairman would permit the documents then alluded to by him to be read to the court.

The proper officer then read the following papers:—

"*Bromsboury, 22d February, 1827.*"

"My dear Sir:—It is now nearly half a century since I was chosen a member of that court over which you so honourably preside. It will not therefore be matter of surprise, that I should feel my health admonishes me to retire from a post which requires greater energies of mind and body than I can now bestow, in the discharge of the important duties which necessarily devolve on a Director of the East India Company. I have accordingly determined to resign my seat in the direction, and have taken measures to announce the same to the proprietors at large; but it is through you that I am anxious to make known my resolution to the Court of Directors, with whom I have been so long associated. Differences of opinion there must necessarily have been, but I have the satisfaction of knowing, so far as my own feelings are concerned, that I retire from the direction with a sincere regard towards all its members, individually and collectively, and that I shall only cease with my life to entertain the warmest wishes for their prosperity and happiness. I desire to assure you, my dear Sir, of the personal satisfaction which I experience in your being the channel through which my sentiments may be conveyed to the court; and that I have the honour to be, &c."

(Signed) "JACOB BOSANQUET."

"Sir G. A. Robinson, Bart., Chairman, &c. &c."

India House, 23d Feb. 1827.

"My dear Sir:—Your son, Mr. Richard Bosanquet, delivered into my hands this morning the letter with which you favoured me, announcing your determination to retire from the direction. I do assure you most unfeignedly, that the communication occasioned to me feelings both of regret and satisfaction,—regret that by your retirement we shall lose a member for whom the court cherish a sincere regard and esteem,—satisfaction that the close of your association with us has been marked with the same honourable, disinterested, and independent character which you have invariably maintained

maintained throughout the unprecedented term during which you have been a director. I feel it to be due to you to summon a Special Court, for the purpose of making known your determination. The court met this day; they most sensibly appreciated the mode in which you conveyed to them the intimation of your intention; and I feel that I cannot discharge the pleasing obligation imposed on me, in a way better calculated to do justice to the sentiments of the court, or to my own personal feelings, than by transmitting you the accompanying copy of an unanimous resolution which has been passed on the occasion. The Deputy Chairman joins me in the expression of our warmest wishes for your happiness; and I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) "G. A. ROBINSON."

"J. Bosanquet, Esq. &c. &c."

"At a Court of Directors held on Friday the 23d February, 1827:

"Resolved unanimously:—That whilst this court deeply regret the cause of Mr. Bosanquet's relinquishment of his seat in the direction, they cannot view the close of a connexion which has subsisted during so extended a period, with so much honour to himself, and with so much advantage to the interests of the East India Company, without recording the high sense which they entertain of his long, disinterested and valuable services; and assuring him of their most cordial wishes for his health and happiness in his honourable retirement."

"Bristol, 24th Feb. 1827.

"My dear Sir:—I have had the honour to receive your letter of yesterday's date, conveying to me the unanimous resolution which the Court of Directors have been pleased to adopt on the occasion of my retirement. I trust that I appreciate as I ought this valuable and honourable mark of their regard, as well as the flattering manner in which that proceeding took place; and I have to intreat that you will add to the obligations which you have already conferred upon me, by presenting to the court my warmest and grateful acknowledgments. Were any thing wanting to satisfy me of the propriety of the step which I have taken, I should find it in the opinion with which you have been so good as to favour me in your communication. I request you to convey to the Deputy Chairman the expression of my sincere regard, and that you will accept the renewed assurance of the esteem with which,

"I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) "JACOB BOSANQUET."

"Sir G. A. Robinson, Bart. &c. &c."

The documents having been read:—

Mr. Twining rose and said:—"Mr. Chairman; I consider, Sir, that I could not introduce the subject on which I mean this day to found a motion in a better or more forcible manner, than by laying before the court the documents which have just been read: and, perhaps, I should act wisely in reference to those whom I address, as well as to myself, were I at once and without further preface to propose the motion which I am proud in having pledged myself to bring forward. But I think it a mark of respect due to this court, and to their late director (Mr. Bosanquet) to state a few circumstances connected with his public life, which will enable these proprietors who may be less acquainted with his character, justly to estimate his worth; and I claim the indulgence of the court, whilst I state those circumstances as briefly as I can, desirous as I am that they should be fully acquainted with the grounds on which my motion rests. The feelings of respect which I have long and sincerely entertained for Mr. Bosanquet, would have induced me to support any

motion similar to that which I am about to propose; or I might have been impelled to take the same course by the lively recollection of the warm friendship which had subsisted, for many years, between Mr. Bosanquet and one, whose memory must ever influence my conduct by every sentiment of duty and affection. Strongly, however, as these considerations operated on my mind, I should not have felt myself warranted in acting on them alone, and bringing the subject before the court, had I not believed that such a proceeding was strictly in unison with their general opinion. And here I hope I may be allowed to say that, in bringing forward this motion, I have had no idea of making invidious comparisons. I take up the matter solely with reference to the honourable object of my motion; and, while framing it, I could not but think of many eminent characters who had quitted the direction to whom high praise was due—men mature in experience, strong in judgment, and upright in conduct. But in considering the merits of Mr. Bosanquet, I do not feel it necessary to turn aside from what appears to me to be the proper course, for the purpose of instituting comparisons; and I trust that the court will do me the justice to believe, that I have no object in view beyond the plain and simple one which I have stated.

"Sir, Mr. Bosanquet's case contains many circumstances of a peculiar nature. In the first place, I would notice length of service, if I may be allowed the expression. I would also notice the fact of his having been for many years father of the direction, and his having on various occasions filled very prominent and responsible situations. If, in enumerating that gentleman's services, I allude particularly to any instance in which, as chairman, he has shown himself an able supporter of the Company's interests, I beg to be understood as not meaning to claim all the praise for him, knowing that the acts which pass from the chair are in a great measure to be traced to the united efforts of the whole direction: I do not, therefore, desire that Mr. Bosanquet should receive more credit than is actually due to him. The period during which Mr. Bosanquet remained in the direction was, I believe, unprecedented in the annals of this, or of any other company. Mr. Bosanquet entered the direction in 1784, and therefore, at the time of his resignation, had been attached to it for nearly half a century. In the course of such a number of years, at any time, the events must be manifold and important; but, perhaps, in no previous half century had such extraordinary events occurred—events, not merely important to the Company, but to the nation at large. I will not attempt to go through a history of all those

these events, but I will touch on a few of them, which were connected with the career of Mr. Bosanquet. Scarcely had he taken his seat in the direction, when Mr. Fox's India Bill drew forth all the efforts and energies of the Court of Directors and of the Company, to make an efficient stand against it; and it is proper to state, that Mr. Bosanquet was one of those directors who received, by name, the thanks of this court, for their upright, manly, and persevering conduct in upholding those franchises, which were then threatened by the bill about to be passed.

"The war, which gave to the Company possession of Mysore was concluded in 1799—and the fall of Seringapatam must be viewed as one of the most glorious events recorded in the history of the India Company. Mr. Bosanquet was at the time chairman of the Court of Directors, who received the thanks of this court, 'for their watchful and unremitting attention to every possible danger which might threaten our possessions in India;' and 'for the decisive aid which they afforded their governors abroad.'—Thus reducing the labours and lessening the hazards of those brave men who carried on the war, and who brought it to a successful issue.

"The words of a gallant and eloquent historian (Sir John Malcolm), who I am happy to hear is about to return to India as one of the Company's highest functionaries, might here be quoted with propriety.—'Such,' said he, 'was the termination of a war, which whether we consider the temper and wisdom that marked the negotiations by which it was preceded, the ability and courage with which it was prosecuted, or the important political consequences by which it was attended, will be found unparalleled in the annals of British India. In the short period of a few months a rival power was destroyed, which, from the day of its existence to that of its dissolution (a period of thirty-eight years), might be said to have directed all its efforts against the English power in India.'

"I now come to a transaction which you, sir, who so ably fill that chair, would perhaps wish me to pass over in silence, from the share which you yourself bore in it: but, estimable as that feeling is, I am confident that the court would not wish it to prevent my stating, that in 1822, Mr. Bosanquet and Sir George (then Mr.) Robinson were appointed commissioners on behalf of the Company, to consult upon the settlement of most complicated accounts, which had long subsisted between government and the Company. The judicious labours of the commissioners in investigating these accounts, connected as they were with many circumstances

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of difficulty and delicacy, materially assisted the Court of Directors in bringing the negotiation to a conclusion, which—(I think I adopt the very words of the then chairman, Mr. Pattison)—was deemed a 'fair, legitimate, and honourable adjustment.' By that settlement the sum of £1,300,000 was paid to the Company; and the commissioners received the thanks of this court for their able services. I will not occupy the time of the court by going through any further details relative to our late worthy director. It is to me, I confess, a matter of pride and exultation, to rise in my place for the purpose of proposing this resolution;—and I do it the more gladly from recollecting, that on *ten* occasions Mr. Bosanquet received from the proprietors their suffrages which placed him behind the bar; whilst the good opinion, expressed by those suffrages, was proudly confirmed to him by his being elected, on *six* occasions, to fill the chairs. In the course of that period Mr. Bosanquet has, I believe, in three instances assisted in the renewal of the Company's charter, and I most sincerely hope he will live to see it renewed for the fourth time. (*Hear!*) Mr. Bosanquet, indeed, will no longer be able to afford the Company the benefit of his exertions; but as long as he exists my much respected friend will be interested in every thing connected with the privileges of the India Company. No longer enabled to contribute the assistance of his counsels, his delight will be, from the height of his honourable and dignified retirement,

—Magnum alterius spectare laborem.

However arduous the labours may be on that important occasion, I trust that he will see them brought to an honourable conclusion. (*Hear!*) I may, I hope, be allowed to observe, that on this point I am no less interested than my hon. friend, persuaded as I am, that the more the sacred rights, the more the privileges of this great company are upheld, the more will the interests and happiness of the natives of India be consulted,—and in the same proportion will the resources of that country continue to contribute to the strength and dignity of the British empire. (*Hear, hear!*)

"Mr. Bosanquet is now quitting us — and we are parting from an old and well-tried friend, who, I am confident, carries with him the good-will and respect of all who have witnessed his labours, or are acquainted with his virtues. His colleagues have most feelingly expressed their deep sense of Mr. Bosanquet's long and eminent services: this mark of esteem must be exceedingly gratifying; but the measure of praise will not be completed until Mr. Bosanquet has received the public

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approbation

approbation of his constituents. That great reward of his various labours will, I trust, be now conferred upon him, and indeed, I can have no doubt on the subject.

"Grateful, sincerely grateful, for the indulgent and encouraging attention of this numerous and respectable court, I will no longer occupy their time, but submit to them the motion, which I hope will, notwithstanding any imperfections in the mode of bringing it forward, receive their unanimous support."

The hon. proprietor then moved,—

"That the thanks of this Court be presented to Jacob Bosanquet, Esq., for his upright and independent conduct during the period of his occupying a seat in the direction of their affairs (a period extending nearly to half a century), and for his uniform and zealous exertion at all times to uphold the rights and privileges, and promote the interests of the East India Company.

"And that he be requested to accept, from this Court, the assurance that he retires from his public duties accompanied by their highest sentiments of respect and esteem, and by the most earnest wishes for his health and happiness."

Sir C. Forbes said he rose with great pleasure to second this motion; for, though it might be asserted that he had hardly the honour of being acquainted with the gentleman who was the subject of it, still he could truly aver that he was no stranger to his conduct as a director, or to his virtues as a private individual. (*Hear!*) In both respects he had been accustomed to consider Mr. Bosanquet as one of the most able and excellent men he had ever known:—(*Hear!*) he had met that honorable gentleman on some few occasions, and he was perfectly satisfied that, in all his public conduct, he was actuated by the purest, the most disinterested, the most independent, and the most unbending principles of honour and of justice. (*Hear!*) He believed there was no person, who had witnessed Mr. Bosanquet's conduct, that would not cordially join in the opinion which he now expressed. (*Hear!*) There were, however, some points on which he differed from Mr. Bosanquet; such, for instance, was the part which Mr. Bosanquet took, in 1813, with respect to the extension of the private trade. There he thought, the hon. gentleman was wrong, and the official results of the extension of the private trade to India had proved the fact. Whilst, however, he made this remark, he must say, that no doubt existed in his mind but that Mr. Bosanquet believed that what he advised at that time was for the good of India, and for the general benefit of the country. Differing from him as he did on that occasion, he deemed it right to make this observation. He most cordially concurred in all the praise which had been so ably and so feelingly bestowed on Mr. Bosanquet by the

hon. proprietor who had introduced this motion; and he thought that the hon. mover might, with great propriety, have expatiated on Mr. Bosanquet's benevolence of heart, and disinterestedness of conduct, in the disposal of his patronage. He had known many instances in which Mr. Bosanquet, without solicitation, had bestowed a portion of that patronage on the relatives and friends of deserving officers and servants of the East India Company, who had no other claim upon his attention but their merits. (*Hear, hear!*) He knew that Mr. Bosanquet had repeatedly acted thus without solicitation. He did not mean to say that this was exclusively the case with Mr. Bosanquet;—he believed many other gentlemen whom he then had in view had an equal right to praise for pursuing the same liberal course. In fact, with regard to patronage (although much had been invidiously said with respect to the manner in which it was disposed of), he believed that it was distributed in a very proper manner. He was not one of those who thought that the attainment of patronage was the grand and only object which gentlemen who had a seat within the bar kept in view; on the contrary, he believed that many honourable and disinterested men would be found, anxious to fill the situation of a director, even if there were less patronage; indeed, he was persuaded that the directors in general would much rather be without patronage. (*Hear!*) And why? because a man possessing patronage could not satisfy all applicants;—and where he obliged one person, he was forced to disoblige five hundred. (*Hear!*) He should now say one or two words with respect to the situation in which the directors were placed; and it was his decided opinion, that when a gentleman had spent the best part of his life in the Company's service—when he had exhausted twenty-five or thirty of his best years in performing the laborious duties of a director—it was right and proper that he should have it in his power to retire on a pension. He did not think such an arrangement could be fairly objected to; in his opinion, the directors of the Company had as good a right to look forward to a provision of that nature, in requital of their services, as the president of the Board of Control, or any other public officer whatsoever. At present, the president of the Board of Control shared very largely (more so, he believed, than the directors) in patronage; and, when he retired from office, he was allowed a handsome pension. This point was not, in his opinion, irrelevant to the present subject. Mr. Bosanquet having for near half a century filled the office of a director, was, as it appeared to him, worthy of the bounty as well as of the praise

praise of that court. It might be said that Mr. Bosanquet was in independent circumstances. This was, he believed, the fact; but that had nothing to do with the principle for which he contended; and, though Mr. Bosanquet was possessed of an ample competence, it might so happen that other gentlemen might not be so fortunately situated. At one time a director might be in affluent circumstances, but untoward events might occur to alter his situation, and reduce him to comparative want. Now he thought it extremely proper, if a director, after long and faithful service, relinquished his situation on account of an alteration in his circumstances, that he should have some provision made for him. He who was in the habit, for many years, of devoting his time and attention to the affairs of the Company's government, at home and abroad, richly deserved a reward of this kind. As to the salary of the directors, it was a mere nominal matter. He should conclude with expressing his most hearty concurrence in the vote of thanks proposed to Mr. Bosanquet. On this, and on all future occasions, he should sincerely join in a vote of thanks proposed to any of the honourable Court of Directors, so well deserved as the present was, for long, efficient, and disinterested services. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. Palmer felt greatly indebted to the hon. proprietor (Mr. Twining) for the motion which he had submitted to the court; a motion which gave to the proprietors at large an opportunity of speaking the sense they entertained of the long, zealous, and faithful services of their late excellent director, Jacob Bosanquet, Esq. In estimating the character of any public man, the question was, "*non quam diu sed quam bene gesserit*;" and, after hearing the account which had been given of the various services of Mr. Bosanquet, if that question were put to him with respect to this much esteemed individual, he should briefly answer, "*tam diu—tam bene.*" (*Hear!*) In saying this, he believed he uttered the sentiments of every gentleman then present. It might be said, that the patronage of the directors amply repaid them for the duties which they undertook, and the services which they performed. He however, for one, freely confessed, that, in his opinion, were the attention, the close and constant attention, given by the hon. chairman and the other gentlemen behind the bar to the affairs of the Company, duly and candidly estimated, and a balance struck between their labours on the one side and their patronage on the other, the account would be found considerably against the Company. (*Hear!*) When he said this, he did not mean to undervalue the patro-

nage which the directors enjoyed; he was aware that it afforded the hon. Chairman, and the other gentlemen behind the bar, the pleasing opportunity of rewarding merit where it was conspicuous. (*Hear!*) It enabled them to become the fathers of the friendless. (*Hear!*) And placed it within their power to take by the hand the children of deserving families, which, but for their humane interposition, might probably fall into utter distress. (*Hear!*) That the hon. Chairman and his colleagues daily experienced feelings such as these, he was perfectly satisfied; and his earnest prayer was, that they might long live to experience them. (*Hear!*) He hoped, while on this topic, he should not be considered tedious or out of order if he related an anecdote, for the truth of which he pledged his character. A clergyman residing in the county of Hertford, and having a very large family, grown up, was advised to send his son out as a cadet, and the appointment was proffered, and the boon gratefully accepted. The young man was fitted out, and sailed for India; but the ship was unfortunately lost, and the youth perished with it. No sooner did the hon. director who had granted the cadetship, hear of this sad event, than he wrote to the young man's father, expressing his deep regret that any accidental circumstance should have occasioned the loss of so valuable a member of the rev. gentleman's family. He observed, that he knew not how to make up for the loss of such a son; and concluded by stating, that if any other of the gentleman's sons should wish to try his fortune in India, a writership was at his service. (*Hear, hear!*) The Rev. Mr. Lane, of Hertfordshire, was the clergyman to whom he alluded, and the hon. director was Jacob Bosanquet. (*Hear, hear!*) In mentioning this circumstance, he feared he ran the risk of incurring some displeasure from that hon. gentleman; because he believed that, in every instance, Mr. Bosanquet wished to conceal those acts of genuine benevolence which he so frequently performed; but he (Mr. Palmer) felt that he owed a duty to that court which was paramount to every other feeling, that of shewing to the world that their patronage was most honourably disposed of. (*Hear, hear!*) He conscientiously believed, taking it altogether, that no patronage in this country was more honourably disposed of than that of the Company. (*Hear!*) He should take up no more of their time but merely to declare his heartfelt concurrence in the motion, and to express his wish that the approbation of the court should, if it were not contrary to rule, be trusted to some more imperishable material than ink and paper. Not that Mr. Bosanquet

would value this mark of their esteem more on account of the medium through which it was conveyed; but he wished the approbation of that court to be placed before the eyes of his children, and his children's children, to stimulate them to follow the example of a parent, who had conducted himself, for so long a period of years, with so unimpeached and spotless a reputation. (*Hear!*) The vote of thanks, if there were no objection, might be engraved on a piece of plate; but if gentlemen did not approve of this suggestion, he trusted the occasion would plead his excuse for having made it.

Dr. Gilchrist hoped that, in rising on the present occasion, he should not be supposed as intending to offer one word against the motion then before the court; he cordially approved of the vote of thanks, and entirely coincided with the hon. mover in all that he had said. But still he trusted the court would not refuse to hear one or two observations, which were not unconnected with this subject. He considered the situation of a director as a most honourable and gratifying one. He, who held that high office, was enabled to assist the widow and the orphan, and to do an immensity of good. Such a situation every man would be happy to enjoy for the same length of time that it had been enjoyed by the late hon. director; a period, he believed, of nearly half a century. During that period, if he were not wrong in his calculation, Mr. Bosanquet must have had patronage at his command to the amount of nearly a million of money. (*Hear!*) He did not pretend to say that this was the fact; but such unquestionably was the rumour. He did not mean to censure him, or any other gentleman in the direction, for availing himself of the benefit which the system, as it now stood, presented to him. He was not at all to blame for taking his legitimate share of the good things, which the system, as it at present existed, so bountifully afforded. It was said in Parliament that "the machine (that was, the borough system) worked well." The same might be observed of the Company's system. It worked well for the gentlemen on the other side of the bar; but those on his side of that boundary (the many) were left to take care of themselves as they could. He did not mean to say one word in disparagement of Mr. Bosanquet. He believed, that he was in private life, an amiable character; and that, in his public capacity, he was a useful servant. Still he could not help thinking, that the reward which that gentleman, in common with the other directors, received, was fully commensurate with his labours. The delightful feeling which an honest man enjoyed, at the idea of his being able

to assist the distressed, was, in itself, a fortune. This alone was worth all the labour incident to a seat in the direction. It was no wonder that men should be anxious to be placed in a situation, where they had ample means to effect good. Opportunities were hourly occurring, where benefits could be conferred on their naval or military servants, or on the children of those who had shed their blood for the Company, on the field of battle; and had, by every exertion in their power, supported the honour, and sustained the interests of that great body by whom they were employed. The children of such men, who had spent their best days in the company's service, ought to be patronized, as far as they possibly could; and surely, so to bestow patronage was a real happiness; a sort of foretaste of that beatitude, which they were taught to hope for in another and a better world. He was very glad to find, that one director had the merit of putting this theory into practice; and he sincerely hoped, that all the gentlemen behind the bar, would follow the example; for precept was one thing, and example another. The anecdote, related by the hon. proprietor (Mr. Palmer) proved Mr. Bosanquet to be, what he had always supposed him, an honest, kind-hearted, and benevolent man.

Mr. Twining hoped he would be allowed to return his thanks to the Hon. Bart. for the kind and disinterested manner in which he seconded the motion; and also to the hon. proprietor who had dwelt so feelingly on the virtues of the hon. gentlemen who was the subject of this resolution. That hon. proprietor had thrown out a suggestion, on which he deemed it necessary to make a single observation. He could assure the hon. proprietor, that it was not from any disrespect, on his part, towards Mr. Bosanquet, that he declined acting on his suggestion; but from a well-founded feeling, that nothing could be more gratifying to Mr. Bosanquet, or could make a more indelible impression on the minds of his descendants, than the simple vote of thanks which was now proposed. He hoped it would be carried unanimously; and if it did so pass, as he was convinced it would, he should move, "that their worthy chairman do communicate the circumstance to Mr. Bosanquet." (*Hear.*)

The motion was then put from the chair, and carried unanimously, amidst loud applause.

Mr. Twining then moved, "that the chairman be requested to communicate to Mr. Bosanquet the resolution of the Court of Proprietors." Agreed.

PATRONAGE OF THE DIRECTORS.

The Chairman.—"The next notice on the

the paper is relative to a motion, "for a return of all writerships, cadetships, surgeon's appointments, nautical appointments, and all other patronage in the gift of the Court of Directors, during the years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, and 1826."

Col. *L. Stanhope* said, he could not anticipate any objection to the production of this information; because, whatever their political opinions might be, all men must agree on this point, that it was essentially necessary, that the patronage of every great corporate body should be made known to the public; and, he believed, that, under every government, except that of the very worst species of tyranny, such information had never been withheld. It would be an insult to their understandings, to go into a lengthened discussion on this subject; because they must all be aware, that the people of India, and of this country, in short that the community at large, should be correctly informed with respect to the patronage of those who exercised sway and sovereignty over the distant provinces of this great empire. It was equally for the interest of the people of India and of this country, to know exactly the extent of patronage and of power, that was vested in the hands of the executive body. With respect to the Court of Directors themselves, he thought they were bound in honour not to keep this matter secret. If they acted with propriety, they could not disapprove of the production of this information; and, with regard to the proprietors, no man could say it was not right that they should be made acquainted with the patronage in the gift of the executive body. This was rendered the more necessary, because the extent of this patronage was very differently represented. For example, it had been stated by the learned doctor, that an hon. gentleman who had just received the thanks of the court, had, during his administration, a patronage worth a million of money at his disposal; whilst others declared, that the directors received a mere paltry remuneration of £300 a year, which was scarcely sufficient to pay for their wives' opera-boxes. (*A laugh!*) Again, it was asserted by one of the most distinguished men that ever looked into India affairs, no less an authority than Mr. Dundas, that the patronage of the East India Company, if placed in the hands of Ministers, was sufficient to corrupt both houses of parliament. This he quoted on the authority of Mr. Dundas, which, he believed, stood very high in that court. He felt it, therefore unnecessary to offer any farther observation, in support of the motion for the production of those papers. He could anticipate no reason for

the refusal of those returns. If the motion were complied with, he, of course, would say nothing farther; but if it met with opposition, he should take other measures to effect his object. The gallant officer then moved for the returns in the terms of his notice.

Capt. *Maxfield* seconded the motion.

The *Chairman*, "So far as writerships and cadetships are concerned, there is already before this court a return on the subject, which will, I think answer the purpose of the gallant Colonel's motion. The return to which I have alluded does not embrace the year 1826, but it is carried up to 1825, the Court of Directors have not the smallest objection to produce the return relative to the latter year. I am only speaking the sense of the Court of Directors when I assure the hon. proprietor that not the least intention exists of impeding or throwing any obstacle in the way of his motion, so far as it can be complied with. (*Hear!*) That motion embraces two or three other descriptions of appointments. It expressly mentions 'nautical appointments' (to the production of which there is no objection whatever;) and it calls likewise for a return of 'all other patronage in the gift of the Court of Directors.' Now if this last clause has reference to any individual patronage, I should be glad if the hon. proprietor would explain what it is, because neither myself nor my colleagues wish to keep any thing back. (*Hear!*) I am only aware of one other description of patronage, namely the appointment of labourers in the warehouses; and if the hon. proprietors wishes for a return under that head he may have it. I should also state that a return of many of the appointments for which the hon. proprietor has moved, from the year 1814 to the year 1821, has been laid before parliament."

Col. *L. Stanhope* wished to have returns of the appointments in the civil, ecclesiastical, medical, and military service, the Bombay marine, the pilot service in Bengal, and all marine appointments on the China, Singapore, and St. Helena establishments. Likewise the appointments in the colleges of Haileybury and Addiscombe, and in the home department, including law officers, &c.

The *Chairman* said, the appointments of assistant surgeons were completely embraced by the motion before the court: as to appointments in the colleges, they had nothing to do with patronage. The patronage only began, when a writership or a cadetship was granted.

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"I mean the appointment of professors."

The *Chairman*.—"That can never be considered as individual patronage. The collective body appoint the professors. There

There is, in those cases, no individual patronage. The same may be said, with respect to the appointment of chaplains. I wish to conceal nothing from the gallant officer; I am really most anxious to give him every information in my power." (*Hear.*)

Col. L. Stanhope was grateful for the information which the hon. Chairman had imparted. He wished to know whether the second sort of patronage which had been alluded to was shared by the directors generally, or by the Court of Directors and proprietors jointly.

The Chairman.—"The hon. proprietor is to understand, that certain appointments are in the gift of individual directors. This comes, I think, strictly under the name of patronage. But if an office is vacant, which office is to be filled up by the Court of Directors collectively, I do not deem that appointment to be patronage. If, on the nomination of any particular director, a situation is conferred on an individual, that unquestionably would be patronage; but the case is different where the situation is given by the collective body. When a question of that description is brought forward—when a variety of opinions prevail, as to the merits of any individuals proposed for any office, and when the business is decided by a majority of the court, that I consider to be entirely apart from patronage. Thus, the filling up of the situation of governor-general cannot be viewed as a part of the patronage of the Court of Directors."

Dr. Gilchrist.—"It is patronage, no doubt, though of a different specie."

Col. L. Stanhope.—"My wish is to procure an account of the whole of the patronage, I care not what its description may be. (*Hear!*) I and my fellow-proprietors receive no portion of that patronage. It is given to the particular friends of the directors, instead of being distributed generally to the people of this country."

Capt. Maxfield wished to ask, whether the China voyages did not form a part of the patronage? It used to be so, and very fat pickings they afforded.

The Chairman.—"As I before stated, the Court of Directors have no objection whatever to give the utmost information in their power, with respect to every species of appointments that can properly be classed under the head of patronage."

Dr. Gilchrist was of opinion that his gallant friend wanted an account of all patronage, whether it was disposed of individually or collectively. It was an easy matter for a corporation to say, because an office was disposed of by a vote of a majority of the directing body, that, therefore, there was no patronage in the case. The contrary was clearly manifest. If

his Majesty's ministers were to say, that the disposal of such and such offices must be decided by the whole cabinet, instead of being placed under the dominion of an individual, could any one be hardy enough to assert that this was patronage?

Mr. Weeding said, that as a member of the East-India Company, he should feel very sorry to say a word against the concession of any proposition which appeared likely to advance the general good of his brother proprietors. But he submitted that the present motion was useless, inasmuch as they could not, under the existing law, alter the disposition of this patronage, or interfere with it in any case whatever. Such being the fact, he would ask, *cui bono*, to what beneficial object the present motion was directed—what salutary end could it answer? Now, unless the gallant officer could point out to them what good was likely to be derived from his motion; unless he could shew that it was not brought forward merely to gratify his own curiosity, and that of other gentlemen; unless he could satisfy the court that he had some better purpose in view, he (Mr. Weeding) should certainly oppose the proposition. (*Hear!*) When this court could not alter one iota in the mode of distributing patronage—on what ground, and for what purpose, he desired to know, were all these returns to be forthcoming? (*Hear!*) He hoped the court would reject the motion. He, for one, certainly should oppose it, unless it were proved to him that other proceedings, and those of a beneficial nature, were likely to grow out of this proposition. (*Hear!*)

Col. L. Stanhope conceived that the hon. proprietor who had last spoken had, in fact, nothing to do with the business. The Chairman had been asked whether he would agree to the production of certain papers; and he had answered in the affirmative. After this, he (Col. Stanhope) conceived the observations of the hon. proprietor to be quite superfluous.

Mr. Weeding said that every question propounded in that court was left to the determination, not of an individual, but of the proprietors who happened to be present. (*Hear!*) Now, much as he respected the hon. Chairman, and greatly as he relied on that hon. gentleman's superior discretion, still he could not agree to this motion, which appeared to him to be part of a system by which frivolous questions were constantly brought before the court. (*Hear!*)

The Chairman.—"When I answered the question of the gallant colonel, I did so merely as an individual, to whom an appeal had been made. I then certainly stated that I should not oppose the motion. The proposition is, however, before the court; and it is not fair to say, because

because I have stated that I do not mean to oppose the production of those papers, that therefore others have no right to do so; it is entirely in the pleasure of the court, whether they will grant those papers or not. I merely stated in the outset, for the satisfaction of the gallant officer, that I did not mean to oppose his motion."

Col. *L. Stanhope*.—"My proposition is simply this, that the extent of the patronage of the East-India Company should be made known. The hon. Chairman agrees to the motion; and then, for what reason I cannot perceive, the hon. proprietor steps forward, and calls on the chairman not to grant the desired information."

Mr. *Gahagan* said the reason assigned by the hon. proprietor for his opposition to this motion was the most extraordinary he had ever heard. Mark what the hon. proprietor said: "I don't like to give you up those returns, (why?) because I cannot tell what use you mean to make of them." Now, what would be said in parliament, if, when papers were called for by the opposition, the minister were to say, "You must, before we grant those papers, tell us what you mean to do with them." (*Hear!*) He doubted not that, on inquiry, it would be found that the Company's patronage was most properly and honourably disposed of; and, were it for nothing else but to prove that fact, he should vote for the production of these returns.

Mr. *Weeding*.—"Nothing could be more misconceived or misinterpreted than my argument. What I said was, that when those returns were procured from the court of directors, no use whatever could be made of them. The act of parliament restricted the proprietors from any interference in these matters."

Sir *C. Forbes* said, that when papers were moved for in the House of Commons, it was generally necessary to lay some parliamentary ground for their production. But, notwithstanding this was the general rule, he was sorry to observe, that the House of Commons too often gave way to motions for the production and printing of papers (which, however interesting they might be to individuals, were not at all so to the community at large), and the consequence was that an enormous expense, amounting to £70,000 or £80,000 annually, were obliged to be defrayed by the public for printing alone. In his opinion, the Chairman ought to see what parliamentary grounds (if he might use the phrase) were advanced in support of this motion. He confessed that he could not see what object his gallant friend had in view in bringing forward this proposition. The hon. Chairman had stated, very candidly, that neither

he nor the Court of Directors had the smallest objection to the production of these returns. But, he would ask, was not this one of these cases to which he had just alluded, where a motion was made without any ground being adduced as a reason for introducing it? If his gallant friend wished that a different mode should be adopted with respect to the future distribution of patronage, if he desired that the court should consider this part of the Company's system, he (Sir *C. Forbes*) could understand such a proposition; and then it would be for the proprietors to say whether they thought that was, or was not, a sufficient ground for the motion. But, as the matter now stood, he knew not what use could be made of the returns moved for.

Capt. *Maxfield*.—"Conceiving that the papers had, in the first instance, been conceded, he had not deemed it necessary to say any thing on this subject. This was a matter of more magnitude than some gentlemen seemed to imagine. The returns, he understood, were to have been laid on the table; but now, it seemed, the court was called on to refuse them, although the executive body were ready to produce the papers. The papers, even if printed, would create very little expense. And it should not be forgotten, that papers were printed, some time since, at the expense of thousands of pounds, on which no motion was ultimately founded. Perhaps on that very subject a motion might be brought forward on a future day. He had no doubt that, if the papers now called for were produced, they would give rise to a motion in that court. It was said, outside of the court, "how ridiculous it is for you to make any motion there;" and those who spoke thus, when asked to assign a reason why individuals who had fact, argument, and incontrovertible reasoning on their side, should not appeal to the court, answered, "why, because you cannot succeed; there is always an immense majority against you." He, however, did not think this was a reason that ought to induce him to retreat. If he could not carry a point to-day, he might at some future period. Where sound argument appeared on one side, and large majorities on the other, the majorities went for little in the eyes of reflecting men; and by agitating questions frequently, even under these adverse circumstances, much good was ultimately done. Let them look to the opposition in the House of Commons. Although that body had not been able to carry any measure, yet had its exertions done much good. The hon. proprietor who rose voluntarily to oppose the present motion, said, "the patronage is distributed by act of parliament, you therefore cannot touch

touch it." Well, suppose it was so distributed, that did not prevent the interference of the proprietors. If the patronage system worked well for some, while the great body of the Company was thrown overboard, what was to prevent them from applying for an act of parliament to remedy the evil? But the hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) would not, it appeared, let gentlemen know any thing whatever of this business; he would not even let them look at the papers, to gain a little information on so important a point. However, so far as his (Capt. Maxfield's) vote went, he would endeavour to procure that information. He did not mean to say that the directors improperly disposed of their patronage; on the contrary, he knew instances (and he hoped they were very frequent) where the patronage had been disposed of in the most laudable manner. He, however, was perfectly aware of the bad effects which the system of patronage had, with reference to their distant provinces, over which the government had little or no control. In several instances that system had, comparatively speaking, converted whole districts into deserts. The hon. proprietor then proceeded to illustrate his argument by referring to the Hyderabad and Oude papers, to shew what mischief was produced by the overweening desire for patronage which appeared to engross the minds of their servants. He traced the embarrassments of the Nizam of Hyderabad, and of the Nawab of Oude, to their connexion with the Company's government. No sooner did that connexion take place with the Nizam, than a reform of his troops was set on foot, which had produced the worst consequences. But, where a different course was pursued, results of a most beneficial nature had followed. This was the case with the Guicowar's dominions, because no attempt was made there to reform, as it was called, the force of the sovereign.

Mr. *Gahagan* put it to the good sense of his gallant friend whether these proceedings in Oude, and in the territories of the Nizam, had any thing to do with the question before the court. (*Hear!*)

Capt. *Maxfield* said he was shewing the bad effects of a system of patronage, with respect to the two former states of Oude and Hyderabad, and the good effects of a different system in the Guicowar territories. He denied that he was out of order; it might be said that he was, but he defied any person to prove it. Gen. Walker was the resident at the court of Baroda, and he believed his intentions were to support the integrity of that state.

The *Chairman*.—"I consider the question before the court to be, whether the

Court of Directors will agree to lay before the proprietors a return of patronage of different descriptions. Should that paper be laid before the court, it may then form the foundation of those observations which the hon. proprietor is now making: but I think it quite out of order to enter into this sort of discussion at present." (*Hear!*)

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"It appears to be the opinion of certain individuals, that we, at this side of the bar, are better able to send out fit and proper persons to serve in India, than the Court of Directors are. Now, as I am of a directly contrary way of thinking, I wish the patronage to be left just as it is."

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose to order.

Capt. *Maxfield* defended the course he was pursuing.

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"What I said, I meant as a general observation."

The *Chairman*.—"I think both the hon. proprietors are out of order in entering on a subject not properly before us. I pronounce the first hon. proprietor to be out of order—and the second hon. proprietor, by following his steps, has been no less out of order."

Mr. *S. Dixon*.—"Some individuals can only go on in their own way—and I am one of those."

Capt. *Maxfield* said, if he had not, by the course which the proceedings had taken, been called on to produce this sort of evidence of the effects of patronage, he would not have touched upon it. They had been told, on the other side, that this was a mere motion for papers, and that, therefore, he had no right to adduce those facts to which he had been calling the attention of the court. Now he must be allowed to say, that the matters to which he was referring were very important, though not very palatable to some gentlemen.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"If the motion had included that which the gallant officer is now calling in question—namely, the mode in which the Court of Directors dispose of their patronage—then I should say that he was perfectly in order. But the question here merely is, that a return of patronage, of different descriptions, shall be laid before the court; and, so far as I am concerned, I shall be very glad if the motion is carried. It is not, however, my intention, should the question be put, to hold up my hand one way or the other."

Capt. *Maxfield* continued.—He had been called on by one set of gentlemen, to assign some reason for this motion—and now, when he was doing so, he was repeatedly told that he was out of order. He wished to show that the system of patronage in India had produced very bad effects; and he believed that its results

sults were precisely the same in the two countries. He was by no means prepared to admit, that what was bad on the other side of the water, was good here. If he were not allowed at present to expose the deleterious effects of patronage, he had the pleasure to know that hereafter an opportunity would be afforded him for that purpose, when a court was specially called to consider this subject in detail. Therefore, putting off the discussion, or putting down for a day, could have no effect whatever in the end. An hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) seemed to entertain a strong idea that great evil would arise from the production of those papers—which he (Capt. Maxfield) believed might be procured with very little trouble, without coming to that court for them. He, however, conceived that the hon. proprietor's fears were totally groundless. The gallant officer was again proceeding to advert to Gen. Walker's conduct in the territory of the Guicowar, when

The *Chairman* rose, and declared that hon. proprietor was entirely out of order. He was introducing matter of the most irrelevant nature.

Capt. *Maxfield* proceeded to say, it had been admitted that part of the patronage consisted of the nomination to China voyagers. Now he should be glad to know whether that portion of patronage had reference to the appointment of the captain, or the selection of the ship? Did it enable the captain to appoint a particular ship? or was the captain selected, and was the ship then taken up as a matter of course?

The *Chairman*.—"The simple answer is, that the patronage is attached to the captain, and not to the ship."

Capt. *Maxfield* said, if he attempted to prove all the evils which arose from this arrangement, he would detain the court longer than he wished. On this subject he could, however, make out a very strong case.

The *Deputy Chairman*.—"If a captain should die or resign before the voyage is commenced, the voyage becomes vacant, and it is referred to the proper committee to consider whether any, and if any, what alteration should be made in the destination of the ship, in consequence of the appointment of a new commander. As to the gallant officer's saying that there are many fat things to give away, I can assure him that there are also many lean ones."

Col. *L. Stanhope* expressed his astonishment that the hon. proprietor (Mr. Weeding) should appear to be so little versed in history, as not at once to see strong grounds for the motion which was before the court. This very question of East India patronage, was that which turned

Mr. Fox out of power—a circumstance that had altered the course of events in Europe from that day to the present.

When, too, they found this patronage described by such an authority as Mr. Dundas, as sufficient to corrupt both houses of parliament, did not that statement, of itself, call upon them to procure some account of it? Could any man be so noodle-headed as not to see, that it was desirable for every great body to know how its appointments were disposed of; and to be acquainted with the nature and extent of the power and patronage exercised by those who filled the executive situation? With respect to what the hon. proprietor said about the Act of Parliament, he had no doubt that it was very difficult to be understood, as most Acts of Parliament were; but, suppose the Act described the way in which this patronage was to be distributed, had not that court the power of making representations on the subject to the Court of Directors, to the President of the Board of Control, and to other authorities, for the purpose of having the system changed, if they found it to be very corrupt? Had gentlemen never seen the Red Book—and did they not know that all the patronage of government was there set forth? If such reasons as these did not satisfy the hon. proprietor that the information now called for ought to be given, then he should begin to think that the hon. proprietor had some personal interest in concealing it.

Dr. *Gilchrist* thought it a most extraordinary thing, when the Court of Directors appeared willing to grant this information, to find an hon. proprietor coming forward to oppose the motion. To refuse the papers was a most monstrous idea. It was almost as bad as the proceedings at Juggernaut, or the burning of widows. It was said, "There is no necessity for producing those papers, because the patronage is never given to any improper person." He denied this—for it was notoriously given to young men who knew nothing of the Hindoo language. The directors gave it to persons who had no claims on that Company—whose fathers had not toiled and bled in their service. He would contend, that until the directors sent out cadets who were perfectly fit for duty, when they arrived in India, they were disposing of their patronage improperly.

The motion was then put, and negatived without a division.

ATTENDANCE OF THE DIRECTORS.

Dr. *Gilchrist* then rose to make his promised motion relative to the attendance of the directors during the last year; and also, as to the attendance of the six gentlemen recommended to fill the vacancies occasioned by the going out, by rotation,

rotation, of that number of directors, during the year they were last in office. He observed that six gentlemen (or what was commonly called the House List) had been recommended by the Court of Directors. Now, if this were not a species of self-election, he really did not know any case to which that term would apply. It had been made a matter of praise to-day, that an hon. gentleman had remained in the direction for nearly fifty years. But if he got in, he would stay, if possible, for a century. (*Laughter.*) The salary of the directors, small as it was, might be considered in some degree as important; but, compared to the patronage they enjoyed, it was like a drop of water in the ocean. He thought that the attendance of the directors, and their attending properly, was a very great matter. Indeed, so important did it appear to him, that he meant to make the former attendance of the six gentlemen who were again recommended to the direction, one of the most prominent features of a circular letter which he meant to send round to the proprietors. He intended to make a stand for the direction himself. It might be given against him; but he would persevere to the end, whatever the consequences might be. The learned doctor then proceeded to argue, that if, from old age, infirmity, dotage, or from any other cause whatsoever, a director were unable to attend regularly to his duties, the proprietors ought immediately to look out for a man whose mental and bodily vigour was fully equal to the task. Much had been said about the labours of the directors. Now, they lost nothing but their time; and for that they were well paid. He wished to God that he was half so well rewarded for his labours. But it appeared, notwithstanding their labours, that they had a good deal of time to spare. He found one of them had leisure and strength to carry the whole *Globe* on his back, a second supported the *Palladium*, and *Atlas* himself was sustained by a third. Persons had accused him of taking up the time of that Court; but he thought such observations came with a very bad grace from individuals who, while they were paid by that Company, contrived to act as chairmen or directors to different joint-stock companies. He would not fatigue the court with reading the names of the various companies, from a book which he held in his hand, because he supposed that those whom he addressed were sufficiently aware of the facts to which he alluded. What he complained of was, that some of those gentlemen were constantly talking about the time of the Court being unnecessarily taken up; which was occasioned, he supposed, by their having so much to do elsewhere. As to their la-

bours, he considered them as trifling. Their clerks only wanted a little supervision, and the business would go on just as well without the directors as with them. He would now proceed to show, from the By-Laws, and from Mr. Auber's excellent book, what the privileges of the Court of Proprietors were. He felt it incumbent on him to take this course, because the other day they were treated as mere ciphers. There was, however, as he should show, a positive enactment on this subject.

He found in chap. vii. that it was laid down that nine proprietors had the power to demand that a court should be summoned for the discussion of any particular question: so then according to this, nine proprietors were more important than the directors were willing to imagine. They were very good "nine pins" until they were thrown down. The learned gentleman then proceeded to contend that the proprietors and directors were to be considered as one body, having a conjoint power. One of the by-laws stated, it is to be observed,

"That the quarterly courts are the only courts for general business; at which subjects not previously advertised may be introduced for discussion; such subjects must not involve questions in which a specific notice is prescribed by the by-laws, such as grants of money, the forgiving offences, &c."

He would contend that every proprietor, as a shareholder of the Company, was as much interested as any director within the bar. If any one who heard him had any doubt upon the subject, he would read an extract from the charter of the Company; that charter stated, amongst other things, what follows:

"And we do further by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, give and grant unto the said English Company, trading to the East-Indies, and their successors; and we do hereby ordain, will, and appoint, that it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every the members of the same Company hereby established, from time to time to assemble and meet together at any convenient place or places for the choice of their directors, and for making of by-laws, ordinances, rules, orders, or directions for the government of the said Company, or for any other affairs or business concerning the same; or that all the members of the same Company, or so many of them as shall be so assembled, shall be and be called a general court of the said Company and Corporation, which court shall assemble and meet at such times and in such manner as is directed."

This extract clearly proved the authority of the proprietors in all matters touching the interests of the Company. It shewed that the "pins" were not knocked down. But what further did their laws say of this power?—"A general court may be summoned on the demand of nine proprietors, and in default of the directors in summoning such court, the said nine proprietors may summon it, and may displace any director for mismanagement in his office." Was this power of the "nine pins" nothing? Or were they, after this declaration of their laws as to the authority they possessed,

possessed, to be declared mere ciphers? Every member of that court ought to unite in upholding their common authority, and by that union they might uphold the Company in Parliament, for it was very probable that some attempt would there be made to knock them down. He had said thus much of their power—now let the court hear what was said of the question of “patronage.” Their laws said, that

“Where any director or directors shall happen to die, or be removed, or his office shall otherwise become void before the expiration of the term for which he shall have been elected, the major part of the members of the said Company assembled in a general court, and being duly qualified as aforesaid, shall and may elect and choose any other member or members of the said Company, qualified as aforesaid, into the office of such director or directors that shall so die or be removed, or whose office shall become void, which person so to be chosen shall continue in the said office until the next usual time hereby appointed for election, and until others shall be duly chosen and sworn, unless he shall be removed as aforesaid.”

Thus the proprietors saw that they had more power than they were aware of—and thus, if they exercised that power freely, he might expect to be supported by every independent man amongst them. (*Laughter, and cries of “question!”*) He could assure hon. proprietors that he would not be put down. He would go on to the end of his remarks, for he just felt himself as much at his ease there as he should in his easy chair at home. He would now beg to call their attention to another point:—In chap. iii. sec. 3 of the By-laws, it was enacted

“That no by-laws shall be ordained, altered, repealed, or suspended, without the consent and approbation of two general courts, specially to be called for that purpose; of the first of which general courts, fourteen days’ public notice at the least shall be given.”

He was anxious to call the particular attention of the court to this, for he would not shrink from his duty, however unpleasant it might be to his own feelings, or those of others; and if he should be defeated there, why he could apply to Parliament; small as he was, he could petition at any rate. They had seen that no by-law could be altered without the authority of two general courts—he would now point out to them the penalty attached to a breach of any by-law. The next section to that he had already read was

“That if any director shall be guilty of a wilful breach of any of the by-laws of this corporation, to which any other special penalty is not annexed, and shall be so adjudged by a general court, he shall be liable to be removed from his office of director, and be incapable thereafter of holding any other office or employment under this company.”

One of the by-laws, to the breach of which he had just pointed out the penalty, was to this effect. In the 11th section of the 6th chapter it was ordained,

“That at the first court of directors after every annual election, a chairman and deputy chairman shall be chosen for the year by the ballot; and that each of them be allowed five hundred pounds

a year, and every other director three hundred pounds a year, for his attendance upon the business of this Company.”

Now he did not know whether the rumours which had gone abroad were true or false; they might be false, and he did not mean to say they were true, but such as he had heard the rumour he would give it. It was stated that the present Chairman had upon his coming into office, claimed and exercised the right of appointing his deputy, and that the present Deputy Chairman was so appointed, instead of being appointed by the ballot pursuant to the direction of the by-law. If this were the fact, both one and the other of those directors were guilty of a wilful breach of the by-law.

The *Chairman*.—“If the learned proprietor states that I claimed to appoint the Deputy Chairman, he states that which is not true.” (*Hear, hear! and some cries of “Order.”*)

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—“I did not give the rumour as my own; I spoke it only as one that was in circulation, but I did not say that it was correct.”

The *Chairman*.—“Wherever the statement came from, it is not true.” (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. *S. Dixon* submitted that the hon. proprietor was not justified in introducing idle rumours as matters of discussion in that court. (*Hear, hear!*)

The *Deputy Chairman* was unwilling to interrupt the discussion before the court, but he could not avoid saying a few words, as his name had been unnecessarily introduced into the debate. The appointment of the deputy chairman was solely in the court of directors, and not in the chairman, and he could assure the court there was no deviation from this course in his case. He was elected by the directors in the usual way, and not by the chair. (*Hear, hear!*) The learned proprietor had said that he felt himself as much at his ease in that court as if he were in his easy chair at home; but he was bound to consult the ease of others as well as of himself, and he (the Deputy Chairman) would appeal to the feelings of the court whether, in what the learned proprietor had yet said, he had advanced one step towards the question before them. (*Hear, hear!*)

Col. *Stanhope* said that, as one of those to whom the appeal had been made he must observe, that the hon. director should have made his appeal, not to the feelings, but to the reason of the court. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* proceeded. He would again call the attention of the court to their by-laws, and particularly to that which spoke of obtaining votes for directors by indirect means. In section I, chapter 7th it was ordained

“That if any member of this Company shall, by menaces or promises, collusive transfer or transfers

of stock, by any fee, present, or remuneration, under the plea of defraying travelling expenses, or under any other plea or pretence whatsoever, directly or indirectly obtain, or endeavour to obtain any vote for the election of himself or any other to be a director, and be declared guilty thereof at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall be incapable thereafter of holding any office, the qualification for which is subject to the regulation of the general court, and if he be a director, he be further liable to be removed from his office."

Thus the court saw how much value their by-laws attached to the independent election of their executive body, and how anxiously it endeavoured to guard against any undue influence in such election. He saw in section vi. of the chapter on elections, that

"A list shall be published thirty days before the annual election of directors, containing the names of such proprietors qualified agreeable to law, as shall signify in writing to the secretary their desire of becoming candidates for the direction, thirty-two days before such annual election."

He saw in another part of the book of by-laws, that there must be thirty days' notice before such election; and, indeed, the question he had put at the last court had reference to this matter. He had asked whether, in the event of any of the six gentlemen who were candidates along with him, being called to "Abraham's bosom," he should not be in a situation to walk over the course, as any other person coming later could not have given the requisite notice of thirty days. He took his chance, for such an occurrence when he put his name in as a candidate. (*A laugh.*) He thought he had another chance, if the laws were administered fairly. By the 9th section of the 6th chapter, it was ordained

"That any proprietor who shall have been elected a director of this Company within two years after having held any maritime office in the service of the Company, shall be liable to be removed from his office of director; provided always, that this by-law shall not effect any person at present in the direction, and now holding an office under the crown, or preclude his being re-elected to be a director, or subject him to be liable to be removed from the said office."

In the ordinary acceptance of this law, it would have the effect of rendering a person taking an office under the crown, liable to be removed from the direction; unless indeed they made the words "at present" apply to every time at which such an event might happen. This was, he believed, the construction which the directors put upon the law. It reminded him of a story he had heard of an old wife, who, if she had lived a century or two back, would have stood a chance of being burnt for a witch. This old lady kept a shop for the sale of whiskey, and over the door were these words: "The best whiskey under the sun; threepence a gill to-day, and to-morrow for nothing." The clowns in the neighbourhood came to her in great numbers, and paid for the whiskey, in the expectation of getting it the next day for nothing; but when they

then came, the old wife pointed up to her sign, and observed, "you must pay the threepence to-day, to-morrow has not come yet;" and with her it would never come; it would be always "to-day." In the same manner he believed it would always be "at present," in the interpretation which the directors would give to the law. Another by-law to which he wished to call the attention of the court, for the purpose of asking information it, was this. In section vii. of the 7th chapter, it was stated,

"That in all elections to be annually made of six directors, for four years, in pursuance of the act of Parliament, 13 Geo. III., cap. 63, each proprietor voting shall give in a list containing not more than six names of persons duly qualified to be directors; and if any list shall contain the names of more than six persons duly qualified, every such list shall be totally rejected."

Now what he wanted to know was, if a person should send in a list with a less number than six persons upon it, would that also be rejected.

The *Chairman*.—"No."

Dr. *Gilchrist* thanked the hon. *Chairman* for the information. He wished also to be informed whether the names of the six persons given in the present system of self-election were to be given in rotation? were they to be put in one list or not?

Mr. *Weeding* asked what had those questions to do with the motion before the court, which related only to the attendance of directors?

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he would shew they had to do with his motion, as he would connect them with it. He wished to know whether the whole were to be put in as one list, or could any lady or gentleman come forward, and let it be known whether she or he were putting in the house-list or otherwise?

Mr. *Twining* said there were six names on the list, and any proprietor might erase any name or names, and substitute those of any other persons whom they might prefer.

Dr. *Gilchrist* asked how this could be done without the knowledge of the directors, and then what became of the secrecy of the ballot?

A *Proprietor* observed, that any proprietor might take the list home with him, and make any alterations in it he pleased, where what he did could not be known.

Dr. *Gilchrist* went on. If they gave him patronage, he would get persons enough to vote for him; but, in the present state of the Company, he must protest against this mode of electing their members.

Mr. *Pattison* said the learned proprietor was mistaken if he imagined, that as a candidate, he had not a right to have a list. Undoubtedly he had a right to bring

bring a list of his own, and to put himself in that situation on it which no doubt he thought he ought to occupy, namely, at the head; but then, he must go to the expense of having it printed for himself, as it could not be expected that the Company would print one for him.

Dr. Gilchrist thanked the honourable director for this information, of which he was hitherto ignorant, and he would take the hon. gentleman's advice, except in placing his name at the head of the list. His name should be at the bottom, and he hoped that in this case, as in others, it would be seen that the first should be last, and the last should be first. He would now read for the court an extract from the *Oriental Herald*, a work he supposed they had heard of; but as he was impartial, he would have no objection to quote also from the *Asiatic Journal*. Here the learned gentleman read an extract from the *Oriental Herald* for April, 1826, on the subject of the "Election of Candidates." After noticing that part of the article which referred to some observations on the same subject in a former number, the learned proprietor read the following:

"It is known that the East-India Company is a body of professed traders, their title being 'The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.' On this pretended ground alone, that of carrying on a trade, by which it is notorious that they sustain a heavy annual loss, though they endeavour to make it appear that it could be carried on by no one else as advantageously as by themselves, they are privileged to hold a country as large as all Europe under their dominion; to usurp thrones, to destroy dynasties, to assess taxes, to make laws, and to appropriate revenues;—to engage in wars, and, in short, to rule by the most absolute and irresponsible despotism, the destinies of a hundred millions of subjects and tributary people, whose kingdoms, whose honours, whose wealth, and whose enjoyments they have despoiled as conquerors, giving them nothing but a most systematic and grinding system of exaction, and very lofty professions of an interest in their temporal and eternal welfare, in return. In a country so ruled, without a free public or a free press to expose abuses there, and at such a distance from all check and control here, there must doubtless be a number of good things to enjoy, and a number of favours to dispense. In the course of a long service in such a country, whether in a civil or military capacity, abundant experience must be had of the way in which these good things and these favours may be made to turn to account at home, and on the return of the fortunate individual who has outlived the liver, the cholera, and all the other enemies of an Indian residence, he naturally enough looks around him for the means of getting into the East-India direction, for the purpose of dispensing to his relatives, friends, and dependants, the blessings in which he himself has so largely participated before them; or if he has but few of these, of making his patronage a medium of exchange, for such advantages as he may be desirous of enjoying for himself. Such, for instance, as a seat in parliament, a baronetcy, or an elevation to the peerage, for all of these are within the reach of wealth and devotion to the higher powers combined, and none are beneath an India Director's continual care and ambition."

A Proprietor here observed, that the learned doctor had quite forgot his motion. What he was then reading had nothing to do with it.

Dr. Gilchrist said he was too old to require the hon. proprietor's suggestion

or advice. He would go on his own way.

Mr. S. Dixon said it was but fair to let the learned gentleman proceed. It should be recollected that he was a candidate for the direction, and he ought to be allowed an opportunity of showing to the court how well qualified he was for that office. (*A laugh.*)

Dr. Gilchrist thanked the worthy proprietor for his hint, and he would take advantage of it, by showing that he was fit for the office to which he aspired. He then went on with the extract.

"If the real motives which led men to seek this honour were frankly and openly avowed, it would in no degree lessen their chance of success, while it would be far more honourable to their permanent reputation, than the affection of motives which are scarcely believed when announced, and are soon entirely discredited, by the subsequent conduct of the individual being found to be completely at variance with his pledges and professions. Neither the candidates who offer themselves, nor the voters by whose support they succeed, care, in general, one straw about the good of the people of India, although this is so constantly put forth as the chief motive of both, that it is now discredited, even in the few cases in which it may be consistent with truth. The candidate enters the field, perhaps, three or four years before he can obtain his seat. He undergoes a pilgrimage through every street in London, more wearying and humiliating than a pilgrimage to Jerusalem or Mecca. He expends at least a thousand pounds on every occasion of coming to the ballot; and he is perhaps moderately successful, if he comes into the direction after three years of penance and three thousand pounds of expense; to say nothing of the risk of all this ending in entire failure."

Dr. G. continued.—Now, he would not spend a single shilling. He would make no canvas, but would put himself entirely on the support of the independent proprietors. He then went on to read another extract to show, that this anxiety to get into power, arose solely on the part of the candidate, from a wish to dispense the patronage, and on the part of the proprietors, by whose votes they were nominated, the wish was to share it.

"For this [the extract continued] each of them will endure fatigue, will undergo long journeys, will expend their money liberally, and will make the loudest vauntings of their independence; but let the Directors be divested of their salaries (paltry as they are admitted to be), and of all the patronage and power of dispensing places, in lieu of fortunes, on those whose advancement they desire, or exchanging them for other considerations with strangers, and we should soon observe but few candidates in the field, and equally few voters preferring India stock to any other description of landed property, to which no peculiar expectations, beyond a fixed dividend, were attached."

On this part of the subject (Dr. Gilchrist continued) he was anxious to call the attention of the court to the recent instance in which a writership had been given as a prize to be contended for in one of our public schools. If such an example were followed in many other instances, it would tend much to advance the interests of the Company, as it would stimulate hundreds to qualify themselves in those acquirements necessary to render them efficient servants of the Company. Too many persons in the Company's service had, he regretted, gone out without proper

proper instruction, and without any knowledge whatever of the native languages. On this subject the hon. Chairman had on a former occasion read a letter from Sir T. Munro, in which that officer did not appear to concur in the necessity of giving to cadets a proper instruction in the native language. Now he would read six letters from the same excellent authority, to show that Sir T. Munro was strongly in favour of giving to cadets a complete education before they left this country. Dr. G. was about to read the letters, when

Mr. *Trant* rose to order. If the learned proprietor proceeded in the course he was now pursuing, he (Mr. *Trant*) would feel it his duty to move that the court do adjourn, though he would otherwise rather that the question were met with a direct negative. It was really too much, that the time of the court should be taken up with matters which had nothing whatever to do with the motion before it. Surely it would not be in order to read letters which had no bearing whatever on the subject under consideration.

The *Chairman* decided that the reading of those letters would be irregular.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said then he would give up the letters.

He was then proceeding to read another extract from (we believe) the *Oriental Herald*, when

Mr. *S. Dixon* said, that if the learned proprietor did not come immediately to the motion, he would move the question of adjournment.

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he would come now to another letter, to the reading of which he thought there could be no objection. It was a letter addressed to a proprietor, and soliciting his vote for a gentleman who was a candidate for the direction. He omitted the name of the candidate in whose behalf it was written. The letter was written by the present Chairman (at that period their Deputy Chairman), was dated "India House, February, 1826," and signed "G. A. Robinson." It was to this effect:—

"Permit me to solicit your vote and interest for Mr. —, who is candidate for a seat in the East-India Direction, and who means to come forward to the ballot at the election, for supplying the vacancy caused by the retirement of your late worthy director Mr. Hudleston. Having been more than thirty years in the civil service of the Hon. Company at Bengal, and having held the station of a member of the Supreme Council, Mr. — possesses an extensive knowledge of their affairs. On these public grounds, I trust that you will think him deserving of your support, and I beg to assure you that in affording it you will confer a great obligation on myself.
(Signed) "G. A. ROBINSON."

Now this, he contended, was an interference in an election, or if it were not he could not tell what was. He had also in his possession a letter written by the hon. Chairman, soliciting the vote of a proprietor for another individual. This

he thought was very improper interference.

Major *Carnac* rose to order.—He objected to any proprietor making his speech a vehicle for personalities. Here was an attack upon their Chairman, who he would maintain deserved the confidence and respect of every member of that court as much as any individual who had ever held that important office. (*Hear, hear!*) He hoped the learned proprietor would not persist in that course, and that the court would see the necessity of preserving a due respect for their executive body. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* contended that he was quite in order in calling the attention of the court to this letter. His object was to shew from the letter of one of their own body that a by-law had been violated, and that the director by whom this breach of the laws had been committed had forfeited his seat in the direction, if this could be proved sufficiently to the Court of Proprietors.

Dr. *Gilchrist* was about to resume, when

Mr. *Trant* moved that the court do adjourn, *sine die*.

Col. *Stanhope* hoped the hon. proprietor would not press such a motion while such a question was before the court. The subject to which the learned gentleman had just called their attention was one intimately connected with their best interests, and though he would admit that the learned Doctor wandered occasionally from the main question, yet it was one of too much importance to be got rid of by a question of adjournment.

Mr. *Trant* did not mean to deny the right of any proprietor to introduce any matter which he might deem of importance to the notice of the court, but the learned gentleman had already occupied the attention of the court for nearly two hours and had not yet come to the subject of his motion. (*Hear, hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist* said it would appear that the hon. proprietor had never studied physic. He would not have him administer his medicine in a bolus all at once, he must first prepare the patient for it.

Mr. *Twining*.—"That might be a proper course, but the learned gentleman should not exhaust his patient too much before he administered the dose, which he believed was the case in the present instance." (*A laugh.*)

Mr. *Pattison* begged to put it to the great orientalist, whether in common sense he could for a moment suppose the letter he had alluded to could form the ground of an accusation against the hon. Chairman, whom they all had so much reason to respect? Had the letter contained any menace, or any promise

promise of reward, the case would be different: but the fact was simply that the hon. Chairman, who he regretted to state was going out by rotation at the next election, had recommended a gentleman whom he had known in the service for thirty years, and had recommended him on public grounds only. In doing this he had done only what was his right, as it was that of every member of that court, and it was really quite absurd to imagine that he had by that means violated a by-law, which clearly had reference only to the use of improper influence.— (*Hear, hear!*) If the learned gentleman thought he was proving his fitness for the office of director by the course he was now pursuing, he would perhaps find himself somewhat mistaken, and that the court entertained somewhat different notions of the duties and qualifications of a director from those which he possessed. That he (Dr. Gilchrist) was a great orientalist, he was free to acknowledge: but that he was qualified for the common business of an English court, he with all due respect for the learned gentleman must take leave to deny (*a laugh!*), and for this plain reason, that he believed him utterly unfit for such an office.— (*Laughter.*)

Col. Stanhope thought the hon director was out of order in such remarks.

Mr. Pattison said he had a right to make the remarks; they were called for by the charge on his hon. colleague, who was accused of the violation of a by-law.

Colonel Stanhope said if the learned proprietor was out of order, the hon. director had no right to make a speech on the same subject.

Mr. Pattison considered the learned gentleman out of order in the course he was pursuing.

Col. Stanhope replied, that that was no excuse for following his example.

Dr. Gilchrist said he could bear the laugh which the worthy director had raised against him, and could join in it, without being at all driven from his object. He would still be able to satisfy the court that the letter was a violation of the by-law, and he would read a part of that law.

The Chairman begged the learned gentleman would have the candour to read the whole of the by-law.

Dr. Gilchrist then read the law (cap. i. sec. 7):

"It is ordained that if any member of this Company shall by menaces or promises, collusive transfer or transfers of stock, by any fee, present, reward, or remuneration under the plea of defraying travelling expenses, or any other plea or pretence whatsoever, directly or indirectly obtain, or endeavour to obtain any vote for the election of himself or any other to be a director, and be declared guilty thereof at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall be incapable thereafter of holding any office, the qualification for which is subject to the regulation of the general court, and, if he be a director, he be further liable to be removed from his office."

The Deputy Chairman said, the learned gentleman was a candidate for the direction, and seemed anxious to make room for himself by bringing a charge which, in the view which the learned proprietor took of it, went to involve the whole of the twenty-four directors, for they all made it a practice to solicit the votes of the proprietors in favour of gentlemen whom they might consider to be eminently qualified to act in the direction. According to the doctrine of the learned gentleman the whole twenty-four directors had forfeited their seats: but that was a most erroneous construction of the law, for the directors had as much right as any other proprietors to interest themselves in support of those whom they knew to be fully qualified for the office of director.

Dr. Gilchrist said the director who spoke last was proving his (Dr. G.'s) case, for if all the others were as wrong as the Chairman, they ought all to go out together. He would maintain that this was a fair construction of the by-law, and he added that if defeated in his object in that court, he would bring the case before Parliament.

Mr. Pattison thought there could be no doubt whatever as to the meaning of the by-law if taken as a whole. He here read the law, and contended that the words "directly or indirectly" referred to the first part of the sentence, "by menaces or promises," &c. It was clear that the meaning of the law was, that no person should directly or indirectly obtain, or seek to obtain a vote by improper means; but this could never be meant to extend to the openly soliciting the support of proprietors, in behalf of those who were deemed fit to occupy a place in the direction.

Mr. Twining said, that as a member of the committee of by-laws, he had looked into the book and read the law in question, but he did not for an instant believe that there was any thing in its letter or spirit which could be brought to bear on the letter to which the learned proprietor alluded. If, however, any member of that court should entertain any doubt as to the construction of the law, the committee would give the matter the most serious consideration.

Dr. Gilchrist said, this shewed there was a doubt as to the legality of the practice to which he had referred.

Mr. Twining hoped he should not be misunderstood; what he had said was, that if a doubt existed in the mind of the learned gentleman, or any other proprietor as to the meaning of the law, it would, on a letter being addressed to the committee, be taken into their most attentive consideration; but he himself had no doubt whatever on the subject.

Dr. Gilchrist said, he would now submit his motion. He then handed in a motion,

motion, but it appeared not to be that of which he had given notice.

The *Chairman*.—"This course is still more extraordinary than the rest of the worthy proprietors proceedings; he departs from the notice he has given, and now puts another motion in its place.

Col. *Stanhope* rose to second the motion of which the learned proprietor had given notice.

The *Chairman*.—"He has not yet made it."

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he was in error in putting one motion for another. That which he had handed in to the chair was intended as a notice for another day. He now handed in the motion of which he had given notice.

It was read from the chair.

Mr. *Weeding* said that this was another step in the climax of folly.

Dr. *Gilchrist* rose to order. Such language was quite irregular. He was no more a fool than the proprietor who applied that appellation to him,

Mr. *Weeding* assured the hon. proprietor that he did not address the observation to himself personally, but to his motion, and to the grounds and reasons which were assigned for introducing and supporting it. While the hon. proprietor thought fit to bring topics into that court for public discussion, and they appeared to him (Mr. *Weeding*) to be irrational, he should not hesitate to designate them as such. The present motion was of the most frivolous kind, and was at all events an interference with the office of the Committee of By-Laws, which was composed of gentlemen chosen yearly from among the members of the general court, whose province it was to inquire into the duties of the Company's servants as they were performed in that house, and to see that the regulations of the Company were duly observed. If gentlemen, however, who introduced questions, were so wanton in their independence as to say "though you laugh at me, I will persevere, *populus me sibilat, at mihi plaudo*;" if this were the nature of the freedom they were determined to indulge in, one of two measures only remained to him and those who, like him, valued the reputation and the usefulness of that court, either to retire, and leave them to talk to empty benches, or to wait with patience—a hard task he admitted, but the least evil of the two—in order to prevent the mischief which their motions might be calculated to produce. (*Hear, hear!*)

Sir C. *Forbes* said that if the learned proprietor (Dr. *Gilchrist*) was correct in his application of the by-law, he thought it should apply to proprietors as well as directors. He would say one word as to an old custom in the Company, which he thought

would be much "more honoured in the breach than the observance." He meant that of the letter by the directors, recommending the election of six directors to supply the place of those who were to go out by rotation. He did not say that the use made of this was not, in most cases, fair, but he submitted that it was unnecessary. The merits of the ex-directors were well known to the proprietors; and he believed that, in general, those who had been found efficient in the discharge of the trust reposed in them, would be re-elected without any recommendation from the directors in office. But it was hardly fair to step in with such recommendation, as was sometimes the case, in favour of those who, from age or from their former mode of acting in the direction, would not be re-elected. He should therefore wish to see the practice of the "House List," as it was called, discontinued. He did not say that, in general, there was any inconvenience from it: but it was for the most part only so much waste paper, and it was therefore better the practice should be altogether abolished.

The *Deputy Chairman* said that the directors gave their recommendation, not as the Court of Directors, but as so many proprietors of East-India stock. Such recommendations were daily given by other proprietors, and he did not see why the directors should not be allowed the privilege, in common with all other members of the Company.

Sir C. *Forbes* observed that there was a little difference between the directors who acted as a body, and any other set of proprietors who might recommend any individual as a director. He did not, however, mean to deny the right of the directors, to recommend as well as other individuals: he merely threw it out as a suggestion whether it might not be better for the Company to discontinue (an old, he would admit, but) a very useless custom.

Capt. *Maxfield* thought that in the present discussion the court was wandering from the subject before them. He was sorry to hear such words in the course of debate in that court as "second step in the climax of folly," applied to any member. No proprietor ought to be put down by such abuse, and it could not be too strongly condemned. On the subject of the recommendation to seats among their body given by the Court of Directors, he entirely concurred with those who condemned it. He fully admitted the existence of the right, but he denied the prudence of its exercise on such occasions.

Col. *Stanhope* denied the existence of the right altogether. It was, he thought, contrary to reason and justice, and contrary to the by-laws of the Company; and

and nothing could remove from his mind the impression that the custom was extremely improper, and wholly unworthy of the Court of Directors.

After a few words from Dr. Gilchrist,

The question was put on his motion, which was negatived by a great majority, there being only *two* hands held up in its support.

He then gave notice that he would bring forward, on the next general court, another motion on the subject of the directors, and mode of election.

SALE OF WRITERSHIPS, CADETSHIPS, &c.—INDIAN DEBT.

Col. Stanhope gave notice that at the next general court he would submit the following motion.

"That the proprietors of East-India stock view with alarm the extent of their debt, and the increased and increasing patronage which place more than a half million's-worth of annual appointments at the disposal of their directors.

"That Mr. Dundas, a celebrated president of

the Board of Control, declared that the patronage of British India was of itself sufficient, if transferred to the King's government, to corrupt both houses of parliament, and to render the power of an ambitious minister superior to that of the crown.

"That though the dread of this extensive system of corruption was sufficient to upset Mr. Fox's India bill and his administration, and to change perhaps the course of events in Europe, still the proprietors observe, that a vast portion of this patronage is actually vested in the hands of their directors.

"That this Court cannot expect to escape untainted from that influence which was considered by the King and Peers of England as sufficient to destroy the constitution; and that with a view to avoid this evil they propose,—

"That all writingships, cadetships, surgeons, and other appointments should be openly sold to properly educated and qualified persons, and that the amount of such purchase-money be applied to a sinking-fund, for the purpose of gradually liquidating the existing India debt, which must otherwise eventually be added to the debt of the nation."

The Court then adjourned.

SHIPPING, BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, &c.

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

March 28. *North Briton*, Richmond, from Bengal 8th Oct.; at Liverpool.—30. *Moro Castle*, Smith, from Bombay 25th Oct.; at Liverpool.—also *Celia*, Sherwood, from Batavia; at Deal.—April 1. *Valiant*, Bragg, from the Mauritius 19th Dec.; at Gravesend.—2. *Hooghley*, Reeves, from Bengal 2d Nov., and Ceylon 10th Dec.; off Portsmouth.—5. *Nereus*, Clements, from N. S. Wales; at Liverpool.—7. *H. M. S. Stanley*, Thornton, from Ceylon 1st Dec.; at Portsmouth.—8. *General Harris*, Stanton, and *Canning*, Broughton, both from China 20th Dec.; at Gravesend.—also *Calcutta*, Moulin, from Bengal 26th Dec.; at Cowes (for Stockholm).—9. *Harriet*, Guthrie, from Bengal 30th Nov., and *Recovery*, Chapman, from Bombay 21st Nov.; both at Gravesend.—also *Earl St. Vincent*, Middleton, from the Mauritius; off Dartmouth.—10. *Sir William Wallace*, Brown, from the Mauritius; off Plymouth.—11. *Caroline*, Kidson, from Bengal 5th Nov.; at Portsmouth.—12. *Dorothy*, Garnock, from Bombay 1st Dec., and *Corsair*, Robinson, from N. S. Wales 5th Dec.; both at Liverpool.—14. *Providence*, Wauchope, from Bombay 1st Dec.; at Gravesend.—16. *Boyne*, Miller, from Bombay and Tellicherry, and *Atlanta*, Leigh, from V. D. Land; both at Gravesend.—26. *Norval*, Coubro, from Bengal 8th Dec.; at Gravesend.

Departures.

March 31. *Protector*, Waugh, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—April 3. *Princess Charlotte*, Godby, for V. D. Land and N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—4. *Rifleman*, Hawkins, for the Mauritius; from Liverpool.—5. *Mary*, Beachcroft, for Bombay; *Resource*, Fenn, for Madras and Bengal; *Governor Ready*, Young, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); and *Lang*, Luak, for V. D. Land and N. S. Wales; all from Portsmouth.—also *Lion*, Kenn, for V. D. Land and N. S. Wales; from Deal.—also *Ether*, Robinson, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—7. *Palambam*, Nash, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—8. *Enterprise*, Dillon, and *Charles Kerr*, Brodie, both for Bengal; from Deal.—also *Crown*, Plnder, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—9. *Oprey*, M. Gill, for Bengal, and *Sarah*, Maders, for Bombay; both from Liverpool.—11. *Darius*, Blair, for the Mauritius; from Deal.—also *Claremont*, Honner, for *Asiatic Journ.*, Vol. XXIII., No. 137.

Bombay; from Greenock.—also *Elizabeth*, Atherden, for N. S. Wales; from Liverpool.—12. *John Biggar*, Kent, for Bombay; *George*, Fulcher, for the Cape, Ceylon, and Bengal; and *Princess Victoria*, Mathews, for Batavia and Singapore; all from Deal.—13. *Roxburgh Castle*, Denney, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—15. *Bravebornebury*, Fewson, for China; from Deal.—16. *Lord Hungerford*, Heathorn, *Kellie Castle*, Ladd, *Alfred*, Pearson, and *Barossa*, Hutchinson, all for China; from Deal.—also *Persian*, Plunkett, for V. D. Land and N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—17. *Manius*, Jackson, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—18. *Marquis of Hastings*, Drake, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Portsmouth.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Recovery, from Bombay: Lady Lionel Smith; Miss Pottinger; Miss F. Pottinger; Capt. Gillam; Misses Forlanger, Barton, and Taylor; Colonel Turner; Colonel Jackson, H.M.'s 20th regt.; Capt. Sandwith and Sparrow; Lieut. Cooper, Queen's Royals; Lieut. Gambleton, 4th Lt. Dr.; Mr. Rickards; Masters Bell and Westley; 3 servants.

Per Nereus, from V. D. Land: Mr. J. H. Spain; Mr. W. Walkinshaw; Dr. Gray, surg. R.N.

Per Hooghley, from Ceylon and Madras: Capt. Simmons, Nat. Inf.; Mrs. Simmons and child; Capt. Storey, Madras N.I.; Mrs. Storey and child; Capt. Chichester, H.M.'s 50th regt.; two children of ditto; Lieut. Bolton, Bengal N.I.; Mrs. Waters, widow of Qu. Mast. Waters, 31st regt.; Assist. Surg. Crawford, Ceylon Staff; Master Rose, from Ceylon; one invalid.

Per Canning, from China: Jas. Banberman, Esq.; 12 discharged soldiers from St. Helena.

Per Calcutta, from Bengal: Mr. P. Begbie, merchant.

Per Harriet, from Bengal: Major Backhouse, H.M.'s 47th regt.; Mrs. Backhouse; Capt. Carter, country service; 2 servants.

Per Boyne, from Bombay: Major Thompson, Major Rogers, and Lieut. Holyoake, H.M.'s 6th regt.

Per Pero, from St. Helena: H. Heathorn, Esq.; Mr. Jas. Metcalfe; Master Metcalfe.

Per Atlanta, from V.D. Land: R. Martin, Esq., Mr. R. Stodhart; Mr. W. Keating.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Protector, for Madras and Bengal: Lieut. Whiteford and lady; Mr. Raikes; Miss Welch; Mrs. and Miss Smith; Mr. Gallen; Mrs. Price; Mrs. Bell and daughter; Messrs. Erskine, Davis, Jeffries, Best, Walker, Brind, Meyer, Turner, Frederick, Garrow, Brathwaite, Barlow, Welford, and Phillips.

Per Roxburgh Castle, for Madras and Bengal: Col. Noble; Miss Noble; Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, missionaries, and children; Mr. and Miss Ritchie; Lieut. Everest; Capt. and Mrs. Pearce; Mr. Woodward; Mr. C. Hunter, merchant; Mrs. Hunter; Mr. and Mrs. Dyer; Mr. Woodburn; Dr. Woodburn; Miss Newell; Lieut. Horne; Mr. D. Smith; Mr. and Mrs. Crisp; Mr. Shaw; Master Fleming; Lieut. Wootten; Lieut. Dyke; Mrs. O'Brien and family; Mr. Jas. Forsyth, writer; Mr. Stapleton and lady; Rev. Mr. Jennings and lady; Mr. Harrington, cadet; Mr. McLachlan; Miss Hutmore.

Per Charles Kerr, for Bombay: Mrs. Hamilton and family; Mr. Stewart and Mr. Pelly, cadets; Mrs. Marriott and family; Mr. Roberts; Mrs. Gray and family; Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, for the Isle of France; Mrs. Canham, for ditto; Mr. John Sinclair, cadet.

Per Medway, for N.S. Wales: Maj. Gray; Mrs. Gray and family; Mr. Legg and four Misses Legg; Mr. Conolly; Mr. and Mrs. Levy and family; Mr. Archer; Mr. Liscombe; Mr. Stacey; Mr. Wood.

Per Bolton, for Bombay: Mrs. Hamilton; Mrs. Paget; Mrs. Ramsay; Misses Hamilton, Phillips, Paget, Grant, Davies, and Maxwell; Major Moor, Bombay army; Lieut. Ramsey, do.; Dr. Thos. Stewart; Mr. Bell, C.S.; Messrs. Ramsey, Green, Pitcher, Westbrook, Hazlewood, Boyé, Turner, and Dent.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

March 20. At Edinburgh, the lady of Henry Harvey, Esq., of St. Audrie's, Somersetshire, of a daughter.

28. At Minto House, Roxburghshire, the Countess of Minto, of a daughter.

April 3. The lady of Capt. Andrew N. Riddell, 2d of Grenadier Regt. Bombay N.I., of a son.

3. At Cleasby, Yorkshire, the lady of Capt. Wray, late of the Bengal army, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

March 26. At Bright Church, P. O'Hanlon, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Louisa Alexander, youngest daughter of E. S.

Ruthven, Esq., of Oakley Park, county of Down, Ireland.

27. At Ipswich, Capt. Chas. Stewart, of the H.C.'s ship *Lord Louth*, to Harriet, eldest daughter of A. H. Stewart, Esq., of Stoke Park.

— At Preston, P. Dick, Esq., M.D., of Clifton, son of Gen. George Dick, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Jane, widow of the late T. Monkhouse, Esq., and daughter of S. Horrocks, Esq., of Lark-hill, Preston.

31. In South Audley Street, E. A. Hill, Esq., to Lady Georgiana Keppel, daughter of the Earl of Albemarle.

April 12. At Edinburgh, R. Davidson, Esq., late in the naval service of the Hon. E. I. Company, to Helena, eldest daughter of Wm. Smith, Esq., solicitor, Gayfield Square.

17. At Islington Church, Capt. H. Delafosse, of the Bengal artillery, to Miss Shield of Horsey, Highgate.

— At Leamington Priors, J. Alldrit, Esq., captain in the Madras artillery, to Jemima, only child of Capt. Northey, R.N.

21. At Christ Church, Mr. H. Jones, of Calcutta, to Miss Eliza Harris, of Walworth.

Lately. At Southampton, R. Woodward, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, to Lucy, eldest daughter of Maj. G. N. Gubbins.

— At Clifton Church, A. G. Kerr, Esq., youngest son of the late Lieut. Gen. J. Kerr, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Frances, youngest daughter of the late Thos. Freeman, Esq., Hon. Company's service.

DEATHS.

March 16. At Brompton, Mrs. Anne Hope, widow of the late Thos. Baillie, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

25. At the Parsonage, Newton St. Petrock, Devon, Mrs. Fowlkes, of Dawlish, widow of the late J. D. Fowlkes, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

27. At Edinburgh, Alex. Kennedy, Esq., M.D., formerly of the Madras medical service.

31. At Essch, near Inverness, Capt. Jas. Macdonnell, late of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

April 4. In Allsop's Buildings, Marylebone, Frances, widow of the late Robert Hughes, Esq., formerly of the Madras civil service.

— At Clifton, Charles William Henry, youngest son of the late Chas. Ranken, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

— At Woolwich, Lieut. Gen. R. Douglas, Senior Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regt. of Artillery, and Director General of the Field Train, in his 83d year.

19. At Clifton, aged three years, Tredway, only son of the late Tredway Clarke, Esq., of the Bengal civil establishment, and grandson of Lieut. Gen. Clarke, of Upper Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square.

Lately. At Moscow, the Georgian Princess, Derjia. She was the daughter of Prince Solomon, celebrated in the history of Georgia, to whom his subjects gave the name of the Great.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 8 May—Prompt 10 August.

Company's.—Saltpetre.

Licensed.—Saltpetre—Pepper—White Pepper—Mace—Cloves—Nutmegs—Cinnamon—Arrow Root—Sago—Cassia Ligna—Cassia Buds.

For Sale 10 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed.—Gum Amoniac—Gum Animl—Gum Benjamin—Gum Myrrh—Dragon's Blood—Camphor—Rhubarb—Aloes—Shellac—Orpiment—Terra Japonica—Columbo Root—Vermillion—Bees' Wax—Castor Oil—Cassia Oil.

For Sale 11 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed.—Gum Arabic—Gum Senega—Lac Dye

—Galls—Cochineal—Safflower—Turmeric—Mustard—Sapan Wood.

For Sale 15 May—Prompt 10 August.

Licensed and Private Trade.—Elephants' Teeth—Tortoiseshell—Horns—Horn Tips—Rhinoceros' Horns—Stag Horns—Hides—Seed Corn—Feathers—Grey Commercially Feathers—Paper—Ebony Wood—Black and White Bamboos—Cane Floor Mats—Mats—Soy—Mangoes—Tin—Ore of Antimony—Hemp—Jute Hemp.

For Sale 4 June—Prompt 31 August.

Tea.—Bohea, 850,000 lb.; Congou, Campou, Pekoe, and Souchong, 5,350,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson.

Hyson-Skin, 1,300,000 lb.; Hyson, 200,000 lb.—
Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 12 June—Prompt 7 September.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece
Goods.—Damaged Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Piece Goods.—Nankeens—Blue
Sallampores—Bandannoes—China Silk Piece Goods
—Wrought Silks.

For Sale 18 June—Prompt 5 October.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COM- PANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *General Harris* and *Canning*,
from China.

Company's.—Tea.

Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk—
Silks—Paper—Rhubarb—Seed Corn—Fish Coun-
ters—Black Bamboos—Table Mats—Floor Mats—
Wine.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ships' Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras	1827. May 7	Security	300	Johnston and Meaburn	Andrew Ross	W. I. Docks	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	May 17	Yonidia	370	Johnston and Meaburn	William Walsley	W. I. Docks	W. Abercrombie, Birchin-lane.
	May 17	Kington	340	James Allen and Co.	W. A. Bowen	E. I. Docks	Cockerill, Trail, & Co., & J. S. Brinley.
	May 17	Gravian	340	James Allen and Co.	James Allen	W. I. Docks	Henderson and Graham, Mark-lane.
	May 17	Lady Mac Neigh	550	George Lyall	William Faith	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-st.
	May 17	Henry Porcher	487	George Lyall	Robert Jeffery	W. I. Docks	John Groves and Robert Thornhill.
	May 17	Coriaria	350	David Sutton	David Sutton	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
	May 17	Clifford	350	William Tindell	James Roland	City Canal	John Lynne, jun. Birchin-lane.
	May 17	Clifford	350	Fairlie, Bonham, and Co.	Daniel N. Munro	E. I. Docks	R. Strachan, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	May 17	Prince Regent	300	Fairlie, Bonham, and Co.	W. B. Lamb	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 17	York	400	Samuel Moates	Hy. R. Wilkinson	E. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 17	June	330	John Pirie and Co.	Alexander Agnew	City Canal	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's-st., Cornhill.
	May 17	Mary Ann	370	Fraser, Living, and Co.	James Boucant	E. I. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	May 17	Diadem	370	George Mickle	William Kent	W. I. Docks	Barber & Co., and W. Redhead, jun.
	May 17	George Canning	320	Huddart and Co.	William Kent	W. I. Docks	J. Pirie and Co., and Lyall and Greig.
	May 17	Joseph	400	Henry Christopherson	H. Christopherson	W. I. Docks	J. Pirie and Co., and J. S. Brinley.
	May 17	Circassian	400	E. and A. Rule	G. R. Douthwaite	City Canal	E. and A. Rule, Lime-street.
	May 17	Oronty	310	John Gray	John Purdie	W. I. Docks	John Masson, Lime-street.
	May 17	Catherine	320	Joseph Hare	William Macintosh	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	May 17	Georgiana	400	John Chapman and Co.	William Haylett	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	May 17	Mountain	400	John Chapman and Co.	Thomas Canny	Deptford	J. Chapman, and Co., Leadenhall-st.
	May 17	Lady Nugent	510	John Campbell	Row. B. Colgrave	City Canal	W. Redhead, jun., or Barber and Co.
	May 17	Kath. Stear. Forbes	457	Aaron Chapman	Ingram Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman, and Co.
	May 17	Malina	350	James Murray	James Murray	Lon. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birchin-lane.
	May 17	Recovery	490	John Chapman and Co.	Henry C. Chapman	W. I. Docks	John Chapman and Co.
	May 17	Lady Rouena	350	Buckles and Co.	Bourne Russell	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 17	Victoria	390	James H. Southam	Jas. H. Southam	City Canal	J. S. Brinley.
	May 17	Arethusa	200	Robert Clark	Robert Hamilton	W. I. Docks	W. D. Dowson.
	May 17	Fredrick	300	C. G. Burrill	John Micalfe	W. I. Docks	J. S. Brinley, and Wm. Redhead, jun.
	May 17	Mary of Anglesa	350	John Wentmore	Thomas Legg	Rotterdam	Australian Company King's Arms
	May 17	Waterloo	410	Henry Barrick	James Stewart	London	Yarl.
	May 17	Mary	250	Thomas Brocklebank	Thomas Carter	Hamburgh	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	May 17	Woodlark	200	Buckles and Co.	S. Mac Beath	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 17	Ninrod	340	Thomas Harvie	Robert Brash	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	May 17	Courier	250	Arnold and Woollet	Arthur Cramond	Lon. Docks	John Cramond, Phillpot-lane.
	May 17	Orelia	380	William Hudson	William Hudson	Lon. Docks	Andrie and Stubbs, Great St. Helen's.
	May 17	George Home	447	B. Powis	J. F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robert Thornhill, Nicholas-lane.
	May 17	Albion	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Proctor	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.

26th April 1827.

PRICE CURRENT, April 27.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.							
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
Coffee, Java	cwt	2	6	0	2	18	0
— Cheribon		2	6	0	2	15	0
— Sumatra		2	2	0	2	5	0
— Bourbon							
— Mocha		3	0	0	6	0	0
Cotton, Surat	lb	0	0	5	0	0	6
— Madras		0	0	5	0	0	6
— Bengal		0	0	5	0	0	6
— Bourbon		0	0	9	0	1	0
Drugs & for Dyeing.							
Aloes, Epatica	cwt.	16	0	0	21	0	0
Aniseeds, Star		3	10	0			
Borax, Refined		2	4	0	2	6	0
— Unrefined, or Tincal		2	5	0	2	7	0
Camphire		8	10	0	10	0	0
Cardamoms, Malabar	lb	0	9	0	0	10	0
— Ceylon		0	1	0	0	1	4
Cassia Buds	cwt.	8	10	0	9	0	0
— Lignea		5	0	0	6	0	0
Castor Oil	lb	0	0	6	0	1	6
China Root	cwt.	1	10	0	2	0	0
Oculus Indicus		3	0	0	3	10	0
Dragon's Blood		5	0	0	24	0	0
Gum Ammoniac, lump		3	0	0	5	0	0
— Arabic		1	10	0	3	10	0
— Asafoetida		6	0	0	8	0	0
— Benjamin		3	0	0	50	0	0
— Aniini		3	10	0	8	0	0
— Gambogium							
— Myrrh		4	0	0	8	0	0
— Olibanum		2	0	0	4	15	0
Kino		14	0	0	16	0	0
Lac Lake	lb	0	1	0			
— Dye		0	4	4	0	4	8
— Shell	cwt.	2	10	0	5	0	0
— Stick		2	0	0	3	0	0
Musk, China	oz.	0	10	0	1	0	0
Oil, Cassia	oz.	0	0	5	0	0	6
— Cinnamon		0	9	0	0	12	0
— Cloves	lb	0	1	6	0	1	9
— Mace		0	0	2	0	0	3
— Nutmegs		0	2	9	0	3	0
Opium							
Rhubarb		0	1	6	0	3	0
Sal Ammoniac	cwt.	3	0	0	3	10	0
Senna	lb	0	0	9	0	2	0
— Turmeric, Java	cwt.	1	10	0	1	16	0
— Bengal		1	5	0	1	10	0
— China		1	10	0	2	2	0
Galls, in Sorts		4	0	0	4	10	0
Galls, Blue		4	10	0			
Indigo, Blue and Violet	lb	0	13	3	0	13	10
— Purple and Violet		0	12	9	0	13	0
— Extra fine Violet		0	12	6	0	12	9
— Violet		0	9	9	0	11	9
— Violet and Copper		0	9	0	0	11	3
— Fine Copper		0	10	0	0	10	9
— Copper		0	8	9	0	9	9
— Consuming sorts		0	7	0	0	11	6
— Benares and Oude		0	5	6	0	8	0
— Low and bad Oude		0	3	0	0	5	3
— Madras		0	5	1	0	8	11
— Do. mid. ord. and bad		0	13	0	0	16	0
Rice, Bengal White	cwt.	0	18	0	1	10	0
— Patna		1	10	0	7	10	0
Safflower		0	15	0	1	10	0
Sago		1	1	6	1	9	6
Saltpetre	lb	0	8	1	0	9	8
Silk, Bengal Skein		0	12	7	1	3	7
— Novi		0	11	0	1	0	0
— Ditto White		0	15	9	1	2	1
— China		0	3	3	0	6	8
Spices, Cinnamon	lb	0	1	0	0	3	6
— Cloves		0	3	6	0	5	6
— Mace		0	3	6	0	4	2
— Nutmegs		0	15	0	0	16	0
— Ginger	cwt.	0	0	4	0	0	3
— Pepper, Black	lb	0	1	9	0	2	6
— White		1	9	0	1	19	0
Sugar, Bengal	cwt.	1	12	0	2	1	0
— Siam and China		1	6	0	1	16	0
— Mauritius		0	1	6	0	2	1
— Tes, Bohea	lb	0	2	3	0	3	3
Congou							
Souchong							
Campol		0	2	10	0	3	9
Twankay		0	4	1	0	4	2
Pekoe		0	2	9	0	4	7
Hyson Skin		0	4	7	0	5	4
Hyson		0	4	3	0		
Young Hyson		1	10	0	2	10	0
Gunpowder		8	0	0	9	0	0
Tortoiseshell		1	10	0	2	10	0
Wood, Sanders Red	ton	8	0	0	9	0	0
AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.							
Oil, Southern	ton	30	0	0			
— Spermaceti		67	0	0			
— Head Matter		75	0	0			
Wool	lb	0	2	0	0	5	0
Wood, Blue Gum	ton	0	7	10	0	8	19
— Cedar		0	0	4	0	0	3

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,
From the 26th of March to the 25th of April 1827.

Mar	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N4 Pr. Ct. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.
26	—	—	82½	5-8	—	97½	7-3	—	59 60p	39 40p	82½
27	—	—	82½	5-8	—	97½	98	—	59 61p	40 42p	82½
28	—	—	82½	7-8	—	97½	98½	—	61 62p	40 42p	82½
29	—	—	82½	—	—	97½	98	—	62p	40 44p	82½
30	—	—	82½	—	—	97½	7-8	—	61 62p	41 43p	82½
31	—	—	82½	5-8	—	97½	7-8	—	62p	41 42p	82½
Apr 1	—	—	—	—	—	97½	98	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	82½	—	—	97½	98	—	63p	41 44p	82½
3	—	—	82½	—	—	97½	98	—	64p	43 45p	82½
4	—	—	82½	5-8	—	97½	98	—	65 66p	44 47p	82½
5	—	—	82½	—	—	97½	98½	—	66 67p	45 47p	82½
6	203 204½	81½	82	—	—	97½	98½	19 1-16	67 68p	46 48p	82½
7	202½	81½	82	—	—	97½	98	19	67 68p	46 47p	82½
8	—	—	—	—	—	97½	98½	—	67 68p	46 47p	82½
9	203	82	—	—	—	97½	98½	19 1-16	—	46 47p	82½
10	202½	82½	—	—	—	97½	98	19 1-16	69p	46 47p	82½
11	203	82½	—	—	—	98½	99	19 1-16	69 70p	46 47p	82½
12	203½	83½	—	—	—	98½	99	19 1-16	68 70p	46 48p	82½
13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	203	81½	82½	—	—	98½	—	19½	67 68p	46 48p	82½
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	203½	82½	—	—	—	98½	7-8	19 1-16	68p	46 47p	82½
19	202½	82½	—	—	—	98½	99	19 1-16	69 68p	46 48p	82½
20	202½	82½	—	—	—	98½	7-8	16 1-16	68 69p	45 47p	82½
21	203	82½	—	—	—	98½	7-8	19 1-16	68 69p	45 46p	82½
22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	202½	82½	—	—	—	98½	99	19 1-16	68 69p	45 46p	82½
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR
JUNE, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH COMMERCE WITH INDIA.

THE note of preparation seems to have been at length given: the motion of Mr. Wolryche Whitmore in the House of Commons, on the 15th May, for a select committee to inquire into the trade carried on between Great Britain and India (of which we have given an ample report*), is the first indication of the approach of that great and momentous question, the determination of which will probably decide whether the government of our eastern empire is to be in future administered by the corporate body under whose care and management (subject latterly to the immediate superintendence of the Ministers of the Crown,) it has reached its present size and prosperity; or whether that empire shall be placed upon the footing of our plantations and settlements in other quarters of the world, and be transferred, without any additional constitutional check, to the Crown. To us it appears that the two questions respecting commerce and territory are indivisible. If the Company's commercial privileges be entirely withdrawn, the mere investiture of political power, subject too to such control as almost entirely neutralizes it, is a burthen

* We may take this occasion to caution our readers against concluding, when our parliamentary reports differ from others, that we invent them. The little interest felt by the public in general in respect to Indian topics, accounts for the omission in the newspapers of many little circumstances which to our readers are interesting. We have often, therefore, upon great questions relating to India, some person specially present in the House to preserve such circumstances from being lost. In regard to a charge (for so we suppose it must be considered) in a contemporary work, that we mutilate parliamentary reports to suit our own objects, we may just state (although charges from that quarter deserve little attention) that we have not room for a full report of a debate in Parliament; and that we govern ourselves in making curtailments by the rule observed in our reports of debates elsewhere, which Col. Stanhope has been so candid as to admit are "distinguished for great correctness and rigid impartiality." The reasons for retaining or rejecting parts of the debate are too multifarious to be enumerated: statements which may have been repeatedly made, however important abstractedly, we retrace; the observations of an official speaker are entitled to preference before those of an individual whose assertions are often founded upon loose conjecture or mere hearsay. In short, an office like this is necessarily discretionary, and no person—no candid person—can justly charge us with abusing it. The curtailment of the speech of Sir C. Forbes, referred to by the writer to whom we allude, was owing to its unimportance compared with other speeches, and most of the topics had been urged by the speaker at the East-India House; the speech of Col. Lushington possessed the best possible claims to insertion, for it had been mistaken in all the daily papers, as well as ascribed to another person, and the report was furnished (as we should always wish it to be) by the party himself.

burthen instead of a boon, clogged as the authority would be by the heavy expenses and the heavy responsibility, which the government of a vast empire like India imposes upon its rulers.

Still we are ready to admit, that there is a consideration paramount to all questions of individual claims or the rights of a few, namely, that which relates to the welfare of the two countries concerned: the claims and the rights of the people of England, and the people of India stand first in order; no rule of prescription can be set up on the part of the East-India Company, if upon well-established grounds it shall appear that a change in the existing relations between Great Britain and India will be advantageous for both these countries.

Our humble office, at present, shall be that of mere pioneers, to remove obstructions, and to make the route to the result more easy and practicable. We have endeavoured, and shall not relax in our endeavours, not merely to clear away the impediments and the rubbish which certain active agents in the work of misrepresentation have strenuously laboured to cast on the path of inquiry, but to accumulate such authenticated facts, without regard to any preconceived or favourite theory, as tend to elucidate the various political topics which are involved in the great question we refer to.

With the same view we shall in this article submit to our readers, in a perspicuous form, some valuable data regarding the trade between this country and India, which were not accessible at the time when Mr. Whitmore's motion was discussed, and are yet, we believe, but in very few hands. Much is often alleged against figures, which persons of different opinions will sometimes, by a sort of magical process, employ to demonstrate very opposite theories. We have, however, no other guides on this question; and if we reject them, we are bewildered in the wide ocean of speculation and conjecture. We shall not encumber our statement with many remarks; they shall be only those which we conceive necessary for a right apprehension of the subject.

We lay before our readers, in the first place, an account of the total value of the imports into the United Kingdom from the East-Indies and China (including the Mauritius), for the last thirteen years, beginning with the year 1814, the year *previous* to the period when private-traders were admitted to a participation in the commerce with India.

Total official Value of the Imports into the United Kingdom from the East-Indies and China, including the island of Mauritius.

Year.	By the East-India Company.	By Private-Traders.	Total.
	£.	£.	£.
1814.....	3,986,523	2,311,863	6,298,386
1815.....	3,948,794	4,089,942	8,038,736
1816.....	4,591,172	3,719,525	8,310,697
1817.....	4,094,225	3,593,053	7,687,278
1818.....	2,944,626	4,393,063	7,337,689
1819.....	3,244,431	4,293,132	7,537,563
1820.....	3,907,789	3,654,858	7,562,647
1821.....	3,892,805	2,340,766	6,233,571
1822.....	3,160,742	1,945,658	5,106,400
1823.....	3,636,196	3,282,344	6,918,540
1824.....	3,618,425	3,693,930	7,312,355
1825.....	3,469,433	3,112,625	6,582,058
1826.....	3,696,960	4,305,878	8,002,838

Let us offer a few observations upon this account. The fundamental argument employed by Mr. Whitmore was the success of the experiment made at the last renewal of the Company's charter, in the extensive improvement of the trade between this country and India. Now it is very evident that Mr. Whitmore could not have been aware of the real state of the import branch of the trade, which, if it has increased at all, has not augmented in a *marvellous* degree. The average amount of the aggregate imports for the thirteen years (which is the fairest way of shewing the real state of the case) is £6,148,366, which, instead of shewing an increase, is *less* than the amount of imports in 1814 by just £250,000! Mr. Whitmore probably alluded to the state of the export branch, to which we shall hereafter refer; but it should be recollected that an increase in one branch of the trade whilst there is a falling-off in the other, gives room for suspicion that the former is artificially stimulated; we mean, that goods may be sent out on mere speculation, and may either lie a dead-weight in the hands of the consignees, or be sold at a ruinous loss to the shipper, as a less evil than that of their return with double freight.

We next proceed to dissect the items of the account, by shewing the imports of the principal articles: and we begin with that of tea, which is still in the hands of the Company, at least to a considerable extent. The following is the value of the tea imported from China during the years before-mentioned.

Year.	By the East-India Company.	By Private Traders.	Total.
1814.....	£24,303,758	£1,772,792	£26,076,550
1815	23,923,141	1,445,114	25,368,255
1816	33,912,322	2,322,049	36,234,371
1817	29,353,441	2,110,437	31,463,878
1818	18,847,594	1,218,134	20,065,728
1819	22,431,254	1,319,157	23,750,411
1820	28,476,231	1,671,763	30,147,994
1821	28,545,962	2,185,075	30,731,037
1822	25,746,437	1,616,152	27,362,589
1823	27,478,814	1,568,071	29,046,885
1824	29,761,662	1,920,315	31,681,977
1825	27,517,938	1,827,761	29,445,699
1826	28,003,559	1,836,842	29,840,401

Upon this article it is not necessary to make any remark. The next article is sugar, of which the following are the quantities imported from the East-Indies and China, including the Mauritius, for the same period.

Year.	By the East-India Company. Cwts.	By Private Traders. Cwts.	Total. Cwts.
1814	40,241	3,548	43,789
1815	8,322	115,996	124,318
1816	6,442	119,824	126,266
1817	16,765	106,607	123,372
1818	19,855	142,559	162,414
1819	21,359	182,546	203,905
1820	19,298	257,929	277,227
1821	39,983	229,175	269,158
1822	11,376	198,588	209,964
1823	57,285	162,295	219,580
1824	39,123	228,789	267,912
1825	20,866	223,202	244,068
1826	80,845	262,008	342,853

Upon this account some remarks seem necessary. Unaccompanied by observation and explanation, the account before us would afford every proof that could be desired in support of Mr. Whitmore's argument: a short statement of facts will set the matter upon its proper footing. Subsequent to the peace, but before the transfer of Java to the Dutch, which took place three or four years after, the produce of that island was sent to Holland *via* England, our laws not then permitting the produce of places situated within the limits of the East-India Company's charter to be shipped for foreign Europe: all such produce was then brought to England, warehoused here, and recorded as actual importations in the Custom-House books. The quantities of sugar as well as coffee so circuitously brought was very great, until the cause ceased to operate. This explains the *immediate* augmentation in the quantity of sugar imported from the East, and much of the large importations in succeeding years antecedent to 1817. At this period another cause had begun to operate in swelling the mass of sugar brought from India, namely, the accelerated cultivation of that article in the Mauritius. So large and so rapid has been that increase, that it forms one of the grounds upon which Mr. Buxton, Mr. W. Smith, and others, charge the authorities at that island with conniving at the clandestine introduction of slaves. We have no official data to show the quantities of Mauritius sugar imported, distinct from that of the East-Indies generally, with which it was classed in the customs books, till the year 1825; but from the account laid before parliament for another object than that contemplated by Mr. Whitmore, it appears, that the sugar imported into this country from the Mauritius, which, in 1810 (the period we took possession of it, and for some time after, produced only about 32,000 cwts.), amounted in 1825 to 93,723 cwts., and in 1826 to 186,245 cwts. If these quantities be subtracted from those in the preceding statement, the real increase in the quantity of Eastern sugar imported, since the opening of the trade, will be comparatively small.

The next article is indigo, imported during the like periods.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total lbs.
1814	—	6,752,302	6,752,302
1815	—	5,543,222	5,543,222
1816	—	7,238,114	7,238,114
1817	—	4,926,105	4,926,105
1818	—	5,456,645	5,456,645
1819	—	3,688,694	3,688,694
1820	119,979	4,802,771	4,922,750
1821	19,104	3,916,729	3,935,833
1822	100,904	2,382,571	2,483,475
1823	854,689	5,698,665	6,553,354
1824	519,913	4,065,056	4,584,969
1825	978,597	5,078,156	6,056,753
1826 ...	1,327,908	6,345,802	7,673,710

Here we have any thing but satisfactory evidence of increase. The trade, be it observed, was wholly in the hands of the private traders for five years after the opening of the trade, and it fell off to one-half, when the Company commenced importing; and whilst their importation has increased to 1,300,000 lbs., the private trade of last year, the largest by far for ten years before, is considerably under the amount of 1814!

The

The next item is coffee, of which the following statement exhibits the quantity imported during the period mentioned.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	491,568	7,452,877	7,944,445
1815	726,992	25,778,983	26,505,975
1816	1,114,624	17,602,834	18,717,458
1817	6,975,248	6,581,856	13,557,104
1818	169,120	1,876,856	2,045,976
1819	—	4,107,823	4,107,823
1820	149,520	5,348,201	5,497,721
1821	—	1,904,021	1,904,021
1822	—	4,476,785	4,476,785
1823	227,024	3,887,265	4,114,289
1824	302,400	5,458,512	5,760,912
1825	1,302,672	2,782,525	4,085,197
1826	275,296	5,245,058	5,520,354

In this account we perceive a striking corroboration of the remark we before made, explanatory of the large figures in the quantity of sugar imported in the years immediately succeeding 1814; namely, that the bulk of the imports of sugar and coffee consisted of Dutch property conveyed to Europe from Java in English bottoms, and which, by our absurd laws then in force, were required to be unshipped and then reshipped for their original destination. By this arrangement, our imports and our exports were artificially magnified to the total discomfiture of many an ingenious theory. The transactions referred to ceased in 1817, and accordingly we perceive that since that period the importation of coffee from the East-Indies has diminished. Even the quantity imported last year, which exceeded any year subsequent to 1817, is two millions and a half of pounds weight below that imported in 1814. This article therefore furnishes no proof that our import trade with India has flourished since the renewal of the charter.

Cotton wool is the next article; the quantity of which is as follows:

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	366,691	2,483,627	2,850,318
1815	1,023	7,174,220	7,175,243
1816	475,476	6,497,314	6,972,790
1817	1,697,100	29,310,470	31,007,570
1818	7,985	67,448,426	67,456,411
1819	715,161	58,141,100	58,856,261
1820	4,232,823	18,893,002	23,125,825
1821	4,633,013	4,194,094	8,827,107
1822	1,413,448	3,140,777	4,554,225
1823	1,037,307	13,801,810	14,839,117
1824	1,240,821	15,179,184	16,420,005
1825	1,702,604	18,591,658	20,294,262
1826	1,058,400	20,129,500	21,187,900

The extravagant speculations which have taken place in this article, and which are fully revealed by the astonishing fluctuations in the importations, render cotton a very unsafe criterion by which to judge of the state of our trade

trade with India. It will be seen that during the three first years in this statement the average importation was 5,666,000 lbs.; in the ensuing three years it rose to 52,440,000 lbs.; in the next three years it fell to 12,169,000 lbs.; in the four years following it rose again to 18,185,000 lbs. These extravagant and ruinous speculations were in the private trade. That an augmented importation of raw cotton has taken place we are fully aware; it is occasioned by the extension of our manufactories, and it is quite independent of the cause alluded to by Mr. Whitmore.

Silk, raw and waste, is the next article.

Year.	By the East-India Company. lbs.	By Private Traders. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1814	983,287	132,826	1,116,113
1815	825,750	251,758	1,077,508
1816	397,178	456,721	853,899
1817	471,792	187,087	658,879
1818	704,067	414,012	1,118,079
1819	698,863	402,081	1,100,944
1820	914,971	513,271	1,428,242
1821	934,654	390,934	1,325,588
1822	825,229	271,672	1,096,901
1823	878,682	740,675	1,619,357
1824	777,556	529,744	1,307,300
1825	637,011	392,335	1,029,346
1826	952,739	837,121	1,789,860

The increase in the trade with respect to this article is not very apparent. The reduction of the duty accounts for the amount imported in 1826.

We add, in the last place, the imports of cotton and herba piece goods, which offer as little evidence of a real increase as the foregoing article.

Year.	By the East-India Company. Pieces.	By Private Traders. Pieces.	Total. Pieces.
1814	1,357,608	724,520	2,082,128
1815	1,069,861	1,106,397	2,176,258
1816	1,230,613	309,348	1,539,961
1817	1,119,013	409,410	1,528,423
1818	1,088,123	513,797	1,601,920
1819	1,018,011	460,913	1,478,924
1820	809,711	840,762	1,650,473
1821	705,163	397,615	1,102,778
1822	324,429	140,224	464,653
1823	417,410	424,466	841,876
1824	232,747	1,247,767	1,480,514
1825	220,185	690,243	910,428
1826	204,257	887,563	1,091,820

We next proceed to show the amount of the export trade from England to India. We subjoin the following summary statement, which we have extracted with some labour from official sources, and which may be relied upon as accurate, of the *declared* (not *official*) value of the exports from Great Britain* to the East-Indies and China (including Mauritius), distinguishing the two principal manufactures of woollens and cottons:—

Woollen

* The exports from Ireland are not included; they are very trifling, amounting to a few hundred pounds.

Year	Woollen Manufactures.			Cotton Manufactures.			Total, including all other Articles.		
	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.	By the Company.	By Free-Traders.	Total.
1814	1,064,222	20,213	1,084,435	17,778	91,702	109,480	1,728,689	830,343	2,559,032
1815	1,006,005	54,761	1,060,766	4,948	137,463	142,411	1,744,456	1,422,504	3,166,961
1816	979,536	47,715	1,027,251	371	160,163	160,534	1,530,961	1,847,777	3,378,738
1817	724,720	103,007	827,727	35	422,779	422,814	1,305,760	2,716,862	4,022,642
1818	780,328	153,857	934,185	349	700,543	700,892	1,246,965	3,117,018	4,363,984
1819	894,669	112,549	996,218	110	461,065	461,195	1,354,144	1,671,806	3,025,950
1820	1,081,463	217,001	1,348,464	6,589	844,352	850,941	1,714,718	2,272,809	3,967,529
1821	1,046,274	275,220	1,321,494	10,740	1,111,324	1,122,064	1,978,712	2,830,996	4,809,708
1822	765,711	314,768	1,080,479	5,261	1,139,776	1,145,037	1,272,301	2,816,545	4,068,846
1823	760,234	284,552	1,044,786	6,092	1,161,420	1,167,512	1,167,974	3,189,491	4,357,456
1824	644,567	234,749	879,316	13,092	1,100,385	1,113,477	1,209,152	2,991,675	4,200,828
1825	700,413	196,470	896,883	2,965	1,034,073	1,037,038	1,317,372	2,643,047	3,680,320
1826	921,652	271,244	1,192,896	15,068	1,039,506	1,054,576	1,842,260	2,897,053	4,739,333

The foregoing account presents undoubtedly a very encouraging picture of our trade with India. It affords, also, the means of correcting some grievous misstatements, into which even Mr. Whitmore seems to have been betrayed, in respect to the ratio of increase in our exports to India since the opening of the trade, and which forms one of the strongest pillars of his argument. We have not inserted in our parliamentary report the figures which the hon. gentleman quoted to the house, because we found a discrepancy in the reports of them; but all agree in representing Mr. Whitmore to have stated, that the annual average of our exports of woollen manufactures, from 1814 to 1822, was £376,399; and that it had increased in 1823 and 1824 to £962,061. It is clear that in his statement an increase to some extent was assumed; yet this is totally opposite to the fact, as may be seen by examination of the account we have given. The real average of the exports of woollens from 1814 to 1822 was £1,081,331; and the real average of the exports in the years 1823 and 1824 was only £962,051; shewing a *falling-off* to the amount of one hundred thousand pounds. The exports in each of the years 1823 and 1824 were less than in 1814. The close approximation, in the last item, between the two accounts, shows that they are framed upon precisely the same principle, as to the periods and the articles included; we can only therefore attribute this mistake to negligence on the part of the person to whom Mr. Whitmore was indebted for the statement he made to the House, and which was received with cries of "*hear*," "*hear*!" If this be held a criterion of the question, it is clearly contrary to Mr. Whitmore's view of it.

The increase in the exports of cotton manufactures is very great; the impulse which has been given to that branch of our national industry is, however, perceptible in almost an equal degree every where: it has been owing to various causes distinct from any encouragement given to it in India. Our cottons have forced themselves into the Indian continent, as well as elsewhere, by means of the low prices at which they are procurable; but it is not reasonable

able to expect that we can supersede the native manufactures, in a country where these fabrics are still made in perfection, where the raw material itself is produced, and where human labour is little, if at all, dearer than the power of steam in England. Nay, the policy of promoting a competition which may extinguish one of the few branches of Indian industry, is very questionable. It would be more beneficial to the natives of India to encourage in that country the erection of cotton manufactories, worked by steam.

In looking over the petitions presented to Parliament during the last month respecting the India trade, which, with one exception, confine their prayer to the equalization of the duties on East and West India commodities, we could not avoid being struck with the uniformity of language observed between some of them, shewing that they proceeded (as Mr. Huskisson observed, respecting the petitions against the navigation system,) from the same manufactory. One or two peculiarities, however, occur, which deserve notice. The petition presented by Sir Thomas Lethbridge from Frome, in Somersetshire, states that "since the partial opening of the East-India trade, the value of British exports to India has been much increased, having risen from upwards of *two millions* in 1815, to upwards of *four millions* in 1825; and that as the exports to China have not greatly varied, the augmentation is to be chiefly referred to British India." The reader has only to look at the account we have given, and he will see the little accordance of this statement with the fact: the exports in 1825, instead of being two millions in excess of those in 1815, exceeded them by less than £800,000. These mistakes are serious, because they discover the fallacy of the arguments which seem to have satisfied those who commit them; and they sometimes excite a suspicion that misrepresentation is at work.

We must not overlook the statement on behalf of unrestricted trade to India in the Birmingham petition (which recognizes, as a fundamental argument for a free-trade, the increase in the items of exports), of "the advantages to which an extended trade to India would confer on its inhabitants, by lessening the superstition, ignorance, and idolatry which prevail in that country." Although we are far from undervaluing the moral benefits accruing from commercial intercourse between nations, it is the first time, probably, that it was proposed as a *panacea* to cure the inveterate evils which the moralist deplures in the system of Hindostan. There seems in this argument an endeavour to enlist religious and moral feelings in the controversy respecting the question of free-trade with the East: that such a project exists is the more impressed upon our minds from observing that the writers on behalf of negro emancipation are beginning, most indiscreetly we think, to overstep their province of discussion, and apparently to seek an opportunity of indemnifying themselves, as they suppose, for their disappointments in the West by what they can get in the East.

THE BRITISH TERRITORIES IN THE DECCAN.

(Continued from p. 620.)

THE first of the states mentioned as within our general limits is that of Sattara. After the death of Sahoo Rajah, his successor remained close prisoner in Sattara. He was the son of Sewajee, son of Rajah Ram, and in him the real line of Sewajee became extinct, for on his death in 1777 he was succeeded by Sahoo, his adopted son, who was born of a remote branch of the family, and had been a common horseman. This prince retained the active habits which he had learned before his imprisonment; and on some relaxation of his confinement, early in Bajee Rao's reign, he declared his intention to act for himself, and began to assemble an army. The weakness of the Peishwa's government gave him some months to gain head, and he had collected about four thousand men when his force was dispersed by Purseram Bhow and Madhoo Rao Rastia. Chetter Sing, the brother of the Rajah, who had principally instigated the disturbance, escaped, and after long wandering in Hindoostan and the Deccan, was treacherously seized by Trimbuckjee Danglia, and died in confinement during the late war. His son is now at Sattara. His cause appears to have been popular; and an impostor, who raised a rebellion in his name, succeeded in baffling the Peishwa for several years. He was captured by Colonel Cunningham at Prucheetgurh, and is now in confinement.

The territory subject to the Rajah of Sattara yields 13,75,000 rupees of direct revenue, and about 3,00,000 enjoyed by Jagheerdars, besides 3,00,000 of alienations. Subsequent to the subversion of the Peishwa's authority it has been managed exactly as a province of our own.

The founder of the petty state of Colapore, was Sumbajee, son of Ram Rajah, and grandson of Sewajee. The territory he possessed was early reduced by Sewajee, and seems to have been a principal residence of his son. The date of its first assignment to Sumbajee does not appear; but in 1728 that prince was confederated with the Nizam, and accompanied his army to Poona, and in 1731 a treaty was concluded between Sahoo Rajah and Sumbajee, by which it was agreed that all north of the Kistna should belong to Sahoo, all between the Kistna and Warna and the Toombuddra to Sumbajee, and that all conquests south of the Toombuddra should be equally divided. The territory assigned to the Rajah was partly held by the Moguls, and partly by Dessyes who had set up for themselves. Some progress was made in subduing it under Ballajee Bajee Rao, but it was not till the reign of Madhoo Rao, about 1762, that it was effectually reduced. Checkoree and Manowlee were then given to the Rajah: they frequently changed masters, sometimes by treaty and sometimes by force, until 1804, when they were conquered from the Rajah by Appa Dessye for the Peishwa. This led to a long struggle, in which the Rajah's government was on the point of extinction when rescued by the interposition of the British Government, in 1812. The Rajah's subsequent fidelity procured him the restoration of those districts, which are valuable in themselves, and which had long been the object of his ardent wishes. The state of Colapore has remained in perfect tranquillity since it was delivered from Appa Dessye, and as it is now in a state of as high prosperity as it ever attained, it may be considered as well disposed to the present order of things. It has been a maxim, never, on any account, to interfere in its internal affairs, and the plan has hitherto been attended with excellent effects; but as the

Rajah has been a minor, and the power in the hands of a party which adhered to our interests and made use of our name, the trial has not been so complete.

The Nizam has but few possessions remaining within the Mahratta frontiers, but there are various possessions and numerous claims of the Peishwa's Government within his. The districts within the Nizam's country and the choute actually possessed by the Peishwa and his jagheerdars, at the breaking out of the war, yielded in former times an annual amount of forty-five lacs, but the recent receipts amounted only to nine lacs and a half. This is, however, independent of the enams and charitable assignments, and also of the expense of collection, which must have been extremely heavy to the Peishwa, although the Nizam can now collect them without additional expense; allowing for this, the gain to the Nizam is computed at twelve lacs. The amount claimed by the Peishwa for choute and other dues withheld, in addition to the sum actually possessed, was thirty lacs, besides undefined claims; and the arrears amounted to an enormous sum. The choute of Bedar alone is seventeen lacs, and the arrears, since the late Nizam's death, would be 2,38,00,000 rupees.

With respect to the advantages reaped by the Nizam from the overthrow of the Mahratta Government, Mr. Elphinstone observes as follows:—"The acquisitions of the British Government by the war in Hindostan are, probably, compensated by the obligation to which it is subject in that quarter and in the Deccan. It has been obliged to make considerable additions to its regular army and has strong forces to maintain in a state of preparation for the security of its conquests and the Nizam's, besides providing for the Rajah of Sattara, the Peishwa and his family including Amrut Rao, the whole of his jagheerdars, ministers, chiefs, and a considerable portion of his army. If all these expenses be deducted from our acquisition in this part of India, the balance at present, and for some time, will be but little in our favour, and the profit we are ultimately to derive will depend on our own management. On the other hand, the Nizam receives his share free of every kind of expense; begins to enjoy the fruits of it from the moment when it is put into his hands; and has as much the power of improving as we, since the sources of revenue ceded to him once yielded five times their present amount. The contract is rendered quite clear by the fact that (after the provision for the Rajah and all other permanent charges have been provided for) the civil and military expenses which we incur in addition to those of former times, will nearly swallow up our whole revenue by the conquest; and if any further addition is required to our army they will much exceed it, the expenses of the auxiliaries and of the former subsidiary force being provided for by former treaties, and not included in the above calculation. So far is the Nizam from being entitled to plead the absence of all connexion on his part with the expenses we think fit to keep up, that if his highness's territory were in a flourishing condition and his government efficient, a large portion of those expenses might with perfect safety be avoided."

The territories belonging to different Mahratta chiefs intermixed with ours are generally those which belonged to the princes who now hold them before they had any possessions beyond their own country. The inconveniences arising from them, especially those belonging to Scindia, consist chiefly in their affording a harbour for robbers, and a receptacle for stolen goods; in petty disputes and petty privileges, such as those of levying customs and feeding cattle on our lands, and that of coining money; and in the resistance offered by our subjects to the authority of those states. For these inconveniences it is not easy to propose an effectual remedy.

The

The Jagheerdars may be differently classed, according to their relations to the old government, their standing, the duties they had to perform, and their claims on the British Government.

In the first classification, it is only necessary to notice those who possessed some degree of independence, the relations of the others to the Government depending on the nature of their duties. The Prittee Nedhee, the Senaputty, and the eight Purdhans, especially the Punt Suchem, together with Angria, are the whole who fall under this description.

The Prittee Nedhee was originally the prime minister under the Rajah of Sattara. When the Peishwa acquired that situation he fell into insignificance, but was allowed to retain his jagheers. As late as Bajee Rao's time he had a jagheer valued at eighteen lacs a year, but the present Prittee Nedhee being of a wild and unsettled disposition, twice rebelled against the Peishwa, and was wounded, taken prisoner, and deprived of the whole of the jagheer but a tract nominally yielding two lacs, which has still been left to him.

The Senaputty was general: he was a Mahratta, though the ministers were all Brahmins. After his unsuccessful opposition to the Peishwa, the head of the family fled to the Mogul country, and the house sunk into complete obscurity. It still possesses a small jagheer; and the Senaputty lately thought himself fortunate in forming a matrimonial connexion with Scindia, whose low family would, in other circumstances, have rendered such an alliance very degrading. He now resides at Gwalior.

The eight Purdhuns were ministers under the Prittee Nedhee, as was usual in Hindoo Governments. These officers were hereditary, and they were all supposed to be quite equal, but they have all fallen into neglect except the Peishwa and the Punt Suchem. The latter has a territory yielding two lacs of rupees, immediately to the south and west of Poona, and extending to the Concan. It contains the strong forts of Bhoorup, Toong, Tekona, Rajghur, Toona, and Rohera, and is now to form part of the Rajah of Sattara's territory. The Suchem was never considered as more than a dependent, or rather than a subject of the Peishwa's, and as he submitted very early he ought to be secured against any loss of authority by his transfer to the Rajah.

Angria is a Mahratta chief; he was among the earliest supporters of Sewajee. His family at one time possessed almost the whole of the Concan, and his ancestor was the principal means of establishing the government of Rajah Sahoo and the authority of the first Peishwa. He has, however, been reduced by gradual encroachments to a very small compass, his whole revenue not exceeding three lacs. He received investiture from the Peishwa on the Rajah's behalf, but was otherwise independent.

The other Jagheerdars are divided into military chiefs, and Mutsuddies or ministers. The military chiefs are either Sirdars who furnished a contingent of troops which they themselves commanded; Belladars, who furnished troops in the same way, but without the same rank; and Paga chiefs, who had commands in the household or stable horse. There is also a class of immediate servants or dependents of the Rajahs called Hoojrant, and another of Killadars (commandants of forts belonging to the Moguls, who gave up their charge for a provision of this nature).

Of these different classes, a few are the heirs of old Jagheerdars of the Mahomedan monarchies (for the custom of paying services by grants of lands is known to have been usual with all the Indian governments, Mussulman as well as Hindoo). These old families which have survived so many revolutions have been left undiminished by us. The principal are Jaun Rao, Naik Nan-

balkur of Futton, the family of Duffy in Jut, the two families of Ghoorpeny at Moodholi and Bailgee, the chief of Ramdroog and Neergoond (though these last were rather branches of one of the little independent governments under Dessyes, that sprung up on the downfall of the Beejapore monarchy).

These are all Mahratta except the two last, who are Brahmin usurpers of a Mahratta principality.

The next class who hold lands from the Rajah of Sattara are all Mahrattas except a few ministers.

The third class are the Jagheerdars of the Peishwa. These are generally Brahmins or Mahrattas of low family raised by the Peishwa. These deserve equal consideration with the last-mentioned, for though inferior in antiquity, they have had recent possession of power, and therefore suffer particularly by the revolution.

Mr. Elphinstone next considers the country directly under our own Government in reference to military arrangements, revenue, police, criminal justice, and civil justice.

The details concerning the military arrangements relate to the number and distribution of the British forces in the Deccan.

With respect to the revenue, the principle adopted by Mr. Elphinstone was to preserve unimpaired the established practice; and although more changes were introduced than he intended, that principle has been followed to a considerable extent. Mr. Elphinstone, accordingly, gives a sketch of the Mahratta system, previous to an account of that which has superseded it. We subjoin his account of the village government.

"In whatever point of view we examine the native government in the Deccan, the first and most important feature is the division into villages or townships. These communities contain in miniature all the materials of a state within themselves, and are almost sufficient to protect their members if all other governments were withdrawn. Though probably not compatible with a very good form of government, they are an excellent remedy for the imperfections of a bad one; they prevent the bad effects of its negligence and weakness, and even present some barrier against its tyranny and rapacity.

"Each village has a portion of ground attached to it, which is committed to the management of the inhabitants. The boundaries are carefully marked and jealously guarded. They are divided into fields, the limits of which are as exactly known; each field has a name, and is kept distinct even when the cultivation of it has long been abandoned. The villagers are almost entirely cultivators of the grounds, with the addition of the few traders and artisans that are required to supply their wants. The head of each village is the Pottai, who has under him an assistant called a Chougula, and a clerk called a Kool-kurnee. There are besides twelve village officers, well known by the name of Barra Ballootee. These are the astrologer, the priest, the carpenter, barber, &c.; but the only ones who are concerned in the administration of the government are the Sowar or Potedar, who is silversmith and assayer of money; and the Mhow, who, in addition to various other important duties, acts as watchman to the village. Each of these classes consist of one or more individuals, according as their original families have branched out. The Mhows are seldom fewer than four or five; and there are besides, where these tribes are numerous, very frequently several Bheels or Ramoosees employed also as watchmen, but performing none of the other duties of the Mhow."

With a few exceptions, all the villagers are cultivators, who (as there are few labourers) are distinguished by their tenures into two classes, *Mecraasces*, or

or landed proprietors, and Ooprees, or farmers. On the subject of tenures in this part of India, Mr. Elphinstone collected all the information he could obtain from various public officers of great ability who were conversant therewith. "The result of those reports and of my own inquiries," says Mr. E., "is, that a large portion of the Ryots are the proprietors of their estates, subject to the payment of a fixed land-tax to Government; that their property is hereditary and saleable, and they are never dispossessed while they pay their tax, and even then they have, for a long period (at least thirty years), the right of reclaiming their estate on paying the dues of Government. Their land-tax is fixed; but the late Mahratta Government loaded it with other impositions, which reduced that advantage to a mere name. So far however was this from destroying the value of their estates, that although the Government took advantage of their attachment to make them pay considerably more than an Oopree, and though all the Meerassadars were in ordinary cases obliged to make up for failures in the payment of each of their body, yet their lands were saleable, and generally at ten years' purchase. This fact might lead us to suppose that, even with all the exactions of the late Mahratta Government, the share of the Ryot must have amounted to more than half the produce of the land; but experience shows that men will keep their estates, even after becoming a losing concern, until they are obliged to part with them from absolute want, or until oppression has lasted so long that the advantages of proprietorship in better times have been forgotten. The Meerassadars are perhaps more numerous than the Ooprees all over the Mahratta country. In the Carnatic I am informed by Mr. Chaplin that they do not exist at all. Besides Meerassadars they are called Thulkurree about Poona.

"An opinion prevails throughout the Mahratta country, that under the old Hindoo government all the land was held by Meerassees, and that the Ooprees were introduced as the old proprietors sunk under the tyranny of the Mahomedans. This opinion is supported by the fact, that the greater part of the fields now cultivated by Ooprees are recorded in the village books as belonging to absent proprietors, and affords, when combined with circumstances observed in other parts of the Peninsula, and with the light land-tax authorized by Menu, a strong presumption that the revenue system under the Hindoos (if they had an uniform system) was founded on private property in the soil.

"All the land which does not belong to the Meerassees belongs to Government, or those to whom the Government has assigned it. The property of the Zemindars in the soil has not been introduced, or even heard of, in the Mahratta country."

An indefinite number of villages composed a turruf, several of which made a pergunnah, under a Daismook or Zemindar, who corresponds with the Pottail of a village. He is assisted by a Daispandee (who answers to the Koolkurnee) and a Daischaugulla. It is universally believed in the Mahratta country that these were all officers appointed by some former government; and it seems probable that they were the revenue officers of the Hindoo Government, and being hereditary, possessed too much knowledge and influence to be displaced by the Mahomedans. These officers still hold the lands and fees originally assigned them as wages, and are still considered as servants of the Government, though the duty they perform is trifling. The Daismook's profits are very great,—about five per cent. on the land as well as on the revenue, and one-twentieth of the collection, besides claims upon the artizans, &c. All these fees are levied by the owners distinct from the Government revenue. Daismooks and Daispandees, as well as Potails and Koolkurnees, sell their own

own land and fees, but neither pretends to any property in the rest of the lands. It is thought that they cannot sell their offices (though Potails and Koolkurnees can), and it is even doubtful if they can sell their fees, though they may pawn them.

Formerly, a number of pergunnahs composed a circar, but this division is now disused; and that into pergunnahs and turrufs is not always the real revenue division: to explain this would require an investigation of the complicated system of the Mahrattas, which is now, as far as possible, laid aside.

The Mahratta officers of revenue were the chiefs of a division, called Mamlutdar in a large district, and Camavisdar in a small one. Under them were Turrufdars or Karkoons, and Shaikdars, who had charge, the former of a large, the latter of a small number of villages. The government named the Mamlutdar, who appointed the inferior agents. In some provinces, an officer, called Sirsoobadar, intervened between the Mamlutdar and the Government.

The Mamlutdar raised the revenue of his district in the following manner. At the commencement of the rains, he had an interview with the Potal, who proceeded to his village, to encourage the ryots to cultivate, promising them takauvee (advances from the Mamlutdar), &c. When the harvest was ready to be cut, the Mamlutdar moved out into his district attended by the Potails and Koolkurnees, with their papers containing particulars of the surveys, rates and assessments heretofore paid, the accuracy of which the Mamlutdar is enabled to judge by the knowledge possessed by his Shaikdar; and he forthwith proceeds to settle the revenue of the ensuing season on a consideration of the amount paid in former years, combined with a regard to the actual state of things. The Potal had generally settled with the ryots the share each of them had to bear before this; and if any thing occurred to derange his settlement, he returned to his village to re-consult his ryots. If the Potal rejected the Mamlutdar's offer, and no means of adjustment were found, the Mamlutdar would offer to recur to what seems to have been the original principle in all settlements, namely, for the Government to take half, and leave half to the cultivator.

When the time of payment arrived, the Mhow summoned the ryots, who paid their rent to the Potal, for which a receipt was given by the Koolkurnee. The Potal sent the money, when collected, to the Daismook by the Mhow, and received a receipt from the Mamlutdar. If a ryot refused or was unable to pay his revenue, the Sebundy sent by the Shaikdar to assist the Potal, pressed him for it, confined him in the village chokey, exposed him to the sun, put a heavy stone upon his head, and prevented his eating and drinking until he paid. If this did not succeed, he was carried to the Mamlutdar, thrown into prison or put in irons, and his cattle were sold. This rigorous treatment was seldom necessary to raise the regular revenue; it was more frequently employed in exacting extraordinary taxes, and under the farming system it was frequent and severe. This system was thus conducted:—The office of Mamlutdar, instead of being conferred as a favour on a person of experience and probity, was put up to auction amongst the Peishwa's attendants, for a year, and was then frequently transferred to a higher bidder. The Mamlutdar thus appointed, let his district at an enhanced rate to underfarmers, who repeated the operation till it reached the Potails, who, if they farmed their own villages, became absolute master of every one in it. If the Potal refused to farm the village at the rate proposed, the case was perhaps worse

worse, as the Mamlutdar's own officers undertook to levy the sum determined on with less mercy than the Potal. In either case, the actual state of the cultivation was entirely disregarded: a man's means of payment, not the land he occupied, formed the rule of assessment. Every pretext for fine and forfeiture, every means of rigour were employed, to squeeze the utmost out of the people before the day when the Mamlutdar gave up his charge.

The leading principles of the present revenue system, adopted since our acquisition of the country, are to abolish farming, but otherwise to maintain the native system; to levy the revenue according to the actual cultivation; to make the assessments light; to impose no new taxes, and to do none away unless odious and unjust; and above all to make no innovations, except such as were unavoidable. Thus, instead of Mamlutdars, with very unequal extent of territory and power, the country was placed under five principal officers. The revenue was simplified; the assessments were lighter and better defined; the authorities of the Mamlutdars (placed over compact districts) were limited, and the system of fixed pay and no perquisites was introduced. The duties of the Mamlutdar are to superintend the collection of the revenue, to manage the police, and receive civil and criminal complaints, referring the former to punchayets, and sending up the latter to the collector. The Mahratta practice is the foundation of the systems of all the collectors: the basis for the assessment was the amount paid by the village in times when the people considered themselves to have been well governed, with deductions for diminution of cultivation, or on specific grounds. The amount to be paid is partitioned among the ryots, by the village officers, and if all are satisfied, pottahs are given and the settlement is made. All the collectors kept up the principle of the ryotwar settlement.

The system of criminal justice has been materially altered: under the Mahrattas the administration was vested in the revenue officers, their powers varying with their rank. The right of inflicting punishment was, however, extremely undefined: one potal would flog, fine and put in the stocks for many weeks, and another would not venture to imprison. There was no prescribed form of trial: a principal rebel or a head of banditti would be executed at once, on the ground of notoriety; any Bheel caught in a part where the Bheels were plundering the road, would be hanged immediately. In doubtful cases the chief authority would order some of the people about him to inquire into the affair. The prisoner was interrogated, and if suspicions were strong, he was flogged to make him confess. Witnesses were examined, and a summary of their evidence and the statement of the accused were taken down in writing. In crimes against the state, the prince made or directed such inquiries as he thought proper, and gave such orders as the case seemed to require. Torture was employed to compel confession and disclosure of accomplices. Law was seldom thought of in these trials, except in cases connected with religion, where Shastrees were sometimes consulted; the only rule seems to have been the custom of the country and the magistrate's notion of expediency. The Hindoo law was quite disused. Punishments were cruel and arbitrary: upon the whole, the criminal system of the Mahrattas was in the last state of disorder and corruption.

It might be expected from such a system of criminal justice, and from the impunity with which crimes might be committed, by means of bribery, that the country was a scene of violence and anarchy. "No picture," says Mr. Elphinstone, "could be further from truth. It is of vast importance to ascertain the causes that counteracted the corruption and relaxation of the police, and

and which kept this country in a state superior to our oldest possessions amidst all the abuses and oppressions of a native Government. The principal causes to which the disorders in Bengal have been attributed, are the over population, and the consequent degradation and pusillanimity of the people; the general revolutions of property, in consequence of our revenue arrangements, which drove the upper classes to disaffection and the lower to desperation; the want of employment to the numerous classes, whether military or otherwise, who were maintained by the native Government; the abolition of the ancient system of police, in which besides the usual bad effects of a general change were included the removal of responsibility from the Zemindars; the loss of their natural influence, as an instrument of police; the loss of the services of the village watchmen, the loss of a hold over that class which is naturally disposed to plunder, and in some cases the necessity to which individuals of it were driven to turn robbers, from the resumption of their allowances; the separation of the revenue, magisterial, judicial, and military powers, by which all were weakened; the further weakness of each from the checks imposed on it; the delays of trials, the difficulties of conviction, the inadequacy of punishment, the trouble and expense of prosecuting and giving evidence; the restraints imposed by our maxims on the assumption of power by individuals, which, combined with the dread of the Adawlut, discouraged all from exertion in support of the police; the want of an upper class among the natives, which could take the lead on such occasions; and to conclude, the small number of European magistrates who supply the place of the class last mentioned, their want of connexion and communication with the natives, and of knowledge of their language and character.

“ The Mahratta country presents in many respects a complete contrast to the above picture. The people are few compared to the quantity of arable land; they are hardy, warlike, and always armed till of late years: the situation of the lower orders was very comfortable, and that of the upper prosperous. There was abundance of employment in the domestic establishments and foreign conquests of the nation. The ancient system of police was maintained, all the powers of the state were united in the same hands, and their vigour was not checked by any suspicions on the part of the Government or any scruples on their own. In cases that threatened the peace of society, apprehension was sudden and arbitrary, trial summary, and punishment prompt and severe. The innocent might sometimes suffer, but the guilty could scarcely ever escape. As the magistrates were natives, they readily understood the real state of a case submitted to them, and were little retarded by scruples of conscience, so that prosecutors and witnesses had not long to wait. In their tax system, men knew, that if they were right in substance they would not be questioned about the form; and perhaps they likewise knew, that if they did not protect themselves, they could not always expect protection from the magistrate, whose business was rather to keep down great disorder than to afford assistance in cases that might be settled without his aid. The Mamlutdars were themselves considerable persons, and there were men of property and consideration in every neighbourhood; Enamdars, Jagheerdars, or old Zemindars. These men associated with the ranks above and below them, and kept up the chain of society to the prince; by this means the higher orders were kept informed of the situation of the lower, and as there was scarcely any man without a patron, men might be exposed to oppression, but could scarcely suffer from neglect.”

Our present system of criminal justice differs greatly from the Mahratta practice.

practice. The power of punishing is taken entirely from the Potal, and the Mamlutdar can only fine two rupees and confine for twenty-four hours. According to our practice, a prisoner is formally and publicly brought to trial. He is asked whether he is guilty; if he admits it, pains are taken to ascertain if his confession be voluntary; if he denies it, witnesses are called without further inquiry, and are examined in the presence of the prisoner, who may cross-examine them, and call witnesses in his own defence. If there is any doubt, the prisoner is acquitted; if he is clearly guilty, the Shastree is called on to declare the Hindoo law. It often happens that the law is unreasonable: if the error is on the side of severity, it is modified; when on the side of lenity, it is acquiesced in. In Candeish, a regular jury is generally assembled, who question the witnesses and pronounce on the guilt of the accused.

Mr. Elphinstone thinks that our system is better calculated for protecting the innocent from punishment, and the guilty from undue severity, than for securing the community by deterring from crimes; and he adds that our imprisonment is so carefully divested of all circumstances of terror, that there is nothing in it, except the fetters, likely to make the least impression on a native. "In fact, it appears that the imprisonment ordered by our officers is far from being looked on with dread; and the natives think that, with the regular subsistence and comfortable blankets they get in gaol, they are better off than they would be in their own villages."

The civil administration is treated by Mr. Elphinstone at great length; we think it better, therefore, to reserve this and the remaining topics till next month.

FROM THE CHINESE.

TO THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.*

Fair flower! for whose beauties kind nature united
 Her deep purple shade, and her bright tints of snow;
 In her gold she then deck'd thee, and lastly invited
 Her carnation along the soft surface to glow.

By what hand wert thou flung from Elysium to earth?
 And as thus through the lattice, sweet flower, thou art peeping,
 Must thou waste all thy bloom for a lone maiden's mirth,
 Whilst the sage that should court all thy beauties is sleeping?

What a calm is around—'tis the stillness of heaven;
 All liberty's soul seems to swell in my breast,
 And I feel as if now to my spirit 'twere given,
 To fly to some holier region of rest.

Few—few are the hours from the world I can steal,
 To forget all its cares 'mid the balm of thy breathing;
 Oh, give me on earth nought to see or to feel,
 Through the long endless day, but thy fragrance and wreathing.

* From the English translation of the "Yü-kseou-ke."

ON THE ERA OF THE BUDDHAS.*

THE Era of Buddha is a subject of as much uncertainty in Tibet, as it is in India and Europe. We learn from Mr. De Körös,† that the different opinions prevalent in Tibet were collected in the sixteenth century by Padma Karpo, a celebrated Lama of Bhutan, who wrote a short disquisition on the subject, which is still extant. The dates then advanced were twelve in number, to which the author of the tract added a thirteenth: the four first of these, according to Mr. De Körös, were those usually followed by writers of the seventh century; but the tenth is at present the date advocated at Lassa. The following are the intervals that have elapsed from the time of Sakya to the year 1825, agreeably to the data furnished by the above-named authority:—

Years.	Years.
1.....4245.	8.....2369.
2.....3971.	9.....2703.
3.....3958.	10.....2660.
4.....3962.	11.....2390.
5.....3123.	12.....2707.
6.....2575.	13.....2883.
7.....2476.	

According to the average of the first four numbers, the existence of Sakya Sinha, or Buddha, dates 2,959 years before Christianity; the average of the last nine is 820 years before our era, which nearly corresponds with that adopted at Lassa, or A. C. 835. Neither of these periods, however, corresponds with those which have been hitherto received from other oriental sources. The date assigned by Padma-Karpo himself, which places Buddha 1,058 years before the Christian era, is nearer that which rests upon Chinese authorities, and which there is great reason to believe refers to an Elder Buddha, one who is called in the Tibetan translation of the *Amera Cosha*, according to Mr. De Körös, Buddha Gan tang Khas-pa, or Buddha, an old and wise man.

The dates of this Buddha's existence, as reported or estimated by various writers, are thus collected:

Abulfazl,	A.C. 1366
Couplet, from Chinese historians,	1036
De Guignes, ditto,	1027
Giorgi,	959
Bailly,	1031
Sir Wm. Jones,	1027
Bentley, on one occasion,	1081
The same, on another,	1004

Of these, Giorgi gives the period of his death, and is therefore not so irreconcilable as he at first appears to be with the other authorities. The author of the history of Cashmir, Kalhana Pundit, nearly agrees with Abulfazl, placing Buddha 1,332 years before the Christian era.

Klaproth, in his life of Buddha, states the following dates upon the authorities specified:

Jachrig, from a Mongol chronology, as published by Pallas, ... A.C. 991
Japanese

* Abridged from a dissertation on the language and literature of Tibet, &c. in the Quarterly Oriental Magazine of Calcutta, No. VII.

† A native of Transylvania, who has travelled and resided in Tibet. See Asiat. Journ. Vol. XXI. pp. 214, 753.

Japanese Encyclopædia (birth of Buddha),	A.C. 1029
Ditto, his death,	960
Ma-touan Lin, a Chinese historian of the twelfth century,	1027
Beizawi,	1022

Klaproth himself concurs with Sir Wm. Jones in giving the preference to the year before Christ 1027, not only as resting upon the best Chinese authorities, but because it corresponds with the chronology of the successors of Buddha, as preserved in the books of the Chinese—as shewn by M. Remusat in the *Journal des Savans* for 1821—M. Remusat himself places the death of Buddha 970 years before Christ.

Besides these dates, which for the greater part agree as nearly as could be well expected (and which certainly point to the existence of a Buddha between ten and twelve centuries anterior to the Christian era), there is an equally extensive and consistent series, which bears testimony to the existence of a similar personage—a Buddha, or revival of that legislator, in a more recent period—thus placed :

By the Burmese,	A.C. 546
the Siamese,	544
the Cingalese,	619
the Peguers,	638

and the Chinese writer cited by Klaproth gives as a second date 688

To these may be added, information given by Dhermadhar Brahmachari, who has lately been introduced to public notice as the Raj Guru of Asam, and who is well versed in Bauddha literature. According to him, the Nirvan of Sakyamani took place in the eighteenth year of Ajātasatru, and 196 before Chandragupta or Sandrocoptos, the cotemporary of Alexander; consequently the death of the Bauddha legislator occurred about 520 years before the Christian era.

The near concurrence of these dates, and the extent of country through which they prevail, scarcely permit us to look upon them as altogether fanciful; and the dissemination of the Bauddha religion, as far as we can trace the imperfect information yet collected, harmonizes better with the latter than the former period: at the same time the former series is equally consistent, and is so far equally entitled to credit. There is no way of reconciling them but by supposing that they relate to different individuals. The Bauddhas enumerate more than one Buddha: according to the Cingalese, as stated by Capt. Mahoney and Dr. Davy, there have been four, and a fifth is to come; according to the *Hemachandra Cosha*, Sakya Sinha, the Buddha of the present era, was the seventh: there is nothing therefore to militate against the notion that the dates, current chiefly in China and Tibet, relate to one of his predecessors, who perhaps confined his objections to the destruction of animal life, and the divine authority of the Vedas. At the same time nothing further is known of any such prior legislator; for all the legends gathered by Klaproth, Pallas, and Remusat, from the Chinese, Tibetan and Mongol writers, are referable to the later Buddha, and agree precisely with the traditions of India, Ceylon, and the Eastern archipelago. They relate uniformly to the Buddha named Sakya Sinha, the same with Gautama, the son of Sudhodana and Maya, a man of the military caste, and prince of Magadha or South Behar, the Mo-ko-ti of the Chinese, and Magata-kokf of the Japanese: this reformer appears to have been of a more determined character than his predecessors; and, by abolishing the distinction of caste, he attacked the Brahmanical hierarchy in their strong hold, and confirmed their overthrow by establishing an order of the

priesthood open to persons of every description. It would appear, therefore, that the Bauddhas of the south have been more consistent than their brethren of the north, and have applied their history and chronology to the same individual; whilst those of China and Tartary refer their legends to one Buddha and their dates to another: at the same time it may be admitted, we are yet scarcely provided with materials to form an unquestionable conclusion, and it will be necessary to this end, that the literature of Tibet on the one hand and that of Ava on the other be further investigated, to determine with satisfaction the date of Buddha, and, which is more important, to elucidate the origin and progress of the Bauddha faith.

Mr. De Körös has slightly touched upon this subject, and Remusat and Klaproth have both attempted partially to trace the history of the Bauddha religion. They have added, however, little to what has been effected by former inquirers, particularly by Giorgi, or more properly Pennabella and Desideri, in Tibet, and Kœmpfer and De Guignes in China and Japan; and the original authorities must be had recourse to before the investigation can be undertaken with any confidence.

It is universally admitted that the Bauddha religion originated in India, in Magadha or Behar. In the early centuries of the Christian era, frequent intercourse with the surrounding nations was maintained, having for its object the dissemination of the Bauddha doctrines: the immediate channels to the north and south appear to have been Cashmir and Ceylon.

In the *Paraijka Attakatha*, a celebrated Bauddha work in Pali, composed in Ceylon, it is said, about ten centuries after the death of Buddha, or in the fifth century of the Christian era, it is stated that four chief Sangáyanas, or missions, took place after that event. The first, six months afterwards, was to Rajagriha, in Behar, now in ruins; the second, 100 years after the same occurrence, to Visala, or Oujein; the third was to Patna, or Pataliputra, 218 years from the Nirvana of Buddha; and 236 from the same date a mission on a more extended scale took place, and amongst other countries was addressed to Cashmir and Ceylon.

These dates may not be very accurate, but they are in harmony with other accounts: thus we find the year 250 before Christ assigned by M. Joinville as the date at which Bauddhism penetrated into Ceylon. From that island, the people of Laos assert that they received it, in the third or fourth century before the Christian era; and they maintain that the Siamese acquired the art of writing from them, as well as the language of their holy books. According to De Guignes, the religion of Fo was introduced into China in the sixty-fifth year after Christ.

From these traditions it seems probable enough that the religion of Buddha was transported into Ceylon about the middle of the third century before Christ, and that it shortly afterwards began to spread across the Indian ocean to the east. In Laos and Siam it took early root; but although it continued to be suffered in China, it did not make much way there before the sixth century, when the teacher Dherma, or To-mo, as he is called by the Chinese, fled into China from India: the annals of Japan confirm this occurrence, which they place in 519, and add that the religion of Fo consequently spread through Corea and Japan. The Chinese annals notice an immense influx of foreigners, particularly from Ceylon, about A.D. 527. Mr. Crawford mentions that Brahmans professing a new faith arrived at Bali in 566, and Sir Thos. Raffles states that the sixth and seventh centuries are remarkable in the annals of the east for the surprising emigration of priests and people, bringing with them their idols.

idols. These occurrences are adverted to in the introduction to the Sanscrit and English dictionary; and it is there advanced that the sixth and seventh centuries form probably the period at which the Bauddha religion, if not persecuted, was much depressed, by the ascendancy of other systems in the Peninsula.

The introduction of the Bauddha religion into Cashmir, at the date assigned to it by the authority cited, agrees very well with the view of its extension through the regions of Turkestan and Western Tibet, derived by M. Remusat, in his *Recherches sur les Langues Tartares*, from Chinese historians. According to them the country west of the Lop Lake, extending to Bokhara, and including Khoten, Yarkend, Kashgher, Bishbalik and Bokhara, was filled with the worshippers of Fo, who, with the Hindu alphabetical system, emigrated into Tartary some time anterior to Christianity, and by the fourth century after it formed every where the predominating sect.

With respect to Tibet, now the head-quarters of the faith, there seems reason to conclude that it followed the more western countries in adopting the faith and literature of the Buddhas: the Chinese writers, M. Remusat observes, are unanimous in asserting that up to the fifth century of the Christian era the natives of Tibet, whom they call Kiang and Thang-chang, or founders of the state known in Europe as Tangut, had no letters whatever, and that, even to the end of the sixth, their only religion consisted in assembling once in three years to offer to heaven a sacrifice of sheep and oxen. In opposition to this, however, we have the Chronicle of Tibet by the missionary Pennabella, published by Giorgi, which asserts that the religion of Buddha was introduced by Sam-ton-putra into Tibet in the reign of Tzong-tzong Chambo, in the year of our Lord 60; and that some of the most important missions, which finally established the national belief, took place in the reign of Tri-srong-teu-tzen in the year 225. M. Remusat endeavours to reconcile these differences by supposing that, although the Bauddhas might have made some converts, and erected some temples, in the western parts of Tibet, in the first century of Christianity, yet the greater part of the nation, particularly the inhabitants of the eastern districts, remained in a state of ignorance and barbarism, until the end of the sixth or beginning of the seventh.

In this diversity of opinion, Mr. De Körös comes very opportunely to our assistance, and removes every difficulty by shewing that the chronology of the chronicle is erroneous by seven centuries. A Tibetan annalist, the author of the *Gyel raps salve melong*, who wrote about five centuries ago, states, upon the authority of a Chinese work named *Zhoo-Hoo-hou*, that 1,511 years after Buddha, Namri-Srong-tran, the King of Tibet, was contemporary with Thang Emperor of China, and that Srong-tran Gambo, the son of the Tibetan prince, was contemporary with Taitson, the son of Thang. Srong-tran Gambo, it is universally admitted, introduced the religion of Buddha into Tibet. He was married to the princesses of China and Nepal, who were both educated in the faith of Buddha. His minister, Sem-bo-ta (or a good or excellent Tibetan), was of the same persuasion, and the influence of these persons invited and encouraged Bauddha missionaries from the neighbouring countries, and made it the national religion. Supposing the date of Buddha to have been as usually reckoned in China, or 1,027 years anterior to the Christian era, Namri Srong-tran reigned about 539. His son is said to have enjoyed a long reign, having succeeded at the age of thirteen. He must have patronized Bauddhism, therefore, at the end of the sixth or commencement of the seventh century. This is confirmed by the dates of the Chinese Emperors. Thang, according to

Du

Du Halde, founded a new dynasty about the end of the sixth century ; and he was succeeded by Tai-tsong, who began his reign, according to Remusat, in 626, to De Guignes in 649, and to Morrison in 631 : these dates, therefore, leave no doubt of the error of Giorgi's chronology, and establish the seventh century for the period at which the religion of Buddha was first domesticated in Tibet.

ON POTAILS.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE head inhabitants of the villages in Central India,—in the Deckhan, and in Mysore, are denominated Potails. The term is now used to designate the head inhabitant of every village, whatever may be the caste of the resident inhabitants or their head. The term was introduced by Sir Thomas Munro ; and, under his influence and authority, as commissioner for the revision of the judicial system at Madras, the head inhabitants, by whatever designation known, were appointed village judges, village magistrates, village superintendants of police, and were to be also collectors of the revenue ; or where that arrangement could not be adopted, whoever collected the village revenue was to be the village judge and magistrate, in order that the weight and consideration belonging to the collector might be united to the office of judge and magistrate.

In page 179 of the history of the Adawlut, or Judicial System, the author observes : “ It is the nature of all influence to extend its limits. The influence of Potails may be insignificant at the first creation of their authority, but the habits of command will imperceptibly give it strength. At present it is little ; but nothing should be regarded as unimportant which touches the springs of Government.”

The following characters of heads of villages, given by collectors anterior to the project formed in 1816, of giving them, by law, such powers as are to be found in the code of 1816, may lead many to concur with the author of the work alluded to above, as to the effect of the influence such powers will produce ; and others, who have the opportunity, to ascertain whether the Potails now abuse the power granted to them, as they appear to have done when they enjoyed power on a less extensive scale.

A collector under the Madras presidency writes, in 1807 : “ Every head of a village who had a dispute with a neighbouring one, was at liberty, on paying a small sum, to march with his adherents against him, and put him to death if he fell into his hands.”

“ There is hardly a Potal who cannot muster a party of armed peons at a few hours' notice, for there are few villages which do not either now keep, or which have not of late years kept, an establishment of these men to protect them, not only from an enemy, but at times from the servants of Government. The possession of enam land (land exempt from revenue), attached to the office of Potal, gave rise to endless feuds. One man, aided by a party of peons, drove out his relation and partner, and seized the whole for himself ; but he was obliged to be continually on his guard against his rival, who often, after a lapse of several years, surprised and murdered him, and took forcible possession of the enam.”

Another collector states, in 1813, that, in the Ceded Districts, the Curnums (or village Registrars) are generally Bramins, “ whose superiority over the

the Potails, both in regard to knowledge and influence, is so conspicuous, that it is by no means uncommon to see the Curnum on his way to the cutcherry (collector's office) from his village, accompanied by the Potal, *who is charged with a load of brass pots and other articles of travelling necessities*, the property of the Bramin : such being the debased condition of many of the Potails, their inaptitude to undertake the management, and to fulfil their engagements to Government, without the aid of the Curnum, may be readily imagined."

Another collector writes, in 1805 :—" I have now the honour to forward the report promised in my letter of the 28th Sept. last, which will perhaps exhibit as melancholy a picture of the sufferings of the lower cultivating class, and of the oppression exercised over them by the Gramatara,* or heads of villages, as ever was recorded. The villages most lightly assessed have of course suffered most by these cormorants ; but the evil, with few exceptions, has been general, and where the Ryot has not been able to meet both the regular demand of the Circar and the illegal one of the Gramatar, he has either been obliged to supply the deficiency by fraud, or to abscond with the refuse of his property to some other district."

In a paper written by Col. Munro, and printed in the Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Affairs of the East-India Company (page 745), it is stated that districts are divided into villages, under the management of Potails, or head farmers, who are from long habit capable of making the settlement of their respective villages ; and the Ryots, from having been long accustomed to be guided by them, readily agree to what they (the Potails) fix or propose, as it is usually what they themselves know to be the proper rent. That every village is in fact a small collectorate, and when the Potal does his duty, the collector has only to confirm what he has already done. That there is perhaps no Curnum who in any one year ever gives a perfectly true statement of the cultivation of his village. That when the ploughing season begins the Potal ascertains what land each Ryot can cultivate ; that he permits those who have met with losses to relinquish a part of their land, which he distributes to others who may be willing to take it ; and to such as require none he continues their former lands. That the Potails and Curnums of villages are the persons most capable of making the revenue settlements correctly : but that they cannot be trusted because they are cultivators themselves, and have always friends and enemies among the Ryots. That the Potails and Curnums, when they know that the Aumildar, or native collector, diverts part of the public revenue to his own emolument, always follow his example, and thereby augment the outstanding balance. That when private creditors are permitted to seize the property of the Ryots before their rents are paid, it is always to be inferred that they have bribed the Aumildar ; and when the Potails are allowed to assess on account of general bonds, it may be concluded that the Aumildar has been guilty of speculation, and that he cannot support the cultivators lest the Potails should infer against him. That their own enmities are the most common source of over-assessment ; for one Potal often exaggerates the produce of the village of another, and offers more for it than it is really worth, with the intention of supplanting his rival, and making the Ryots pay the loss. That the Curnums' accounts are always false ; that the Ryot is privately encouraged by the Potails to give as much opposition as possible, because they (the Potails), in their turn, all intend to do the same, in the hope that if he (the Ryot) can obtain a reduction of his rent, they may also, under the same pretences, expect the same indulgence.

* Gramatar is the Potal of South Arcot.

indulgence. That in villages where both the poorest and most substantial Ryots are found, the assessment is for the most part unequal; and is always most favourable to the relations of the Potail and to such other Ryots as hold out most stubbornly. That in the case of the village settlement being once fixed, that of the cultivators is greatly facilitated; because the Potails and Curnums, knowing that a certain sum must be levied, give every assistance, except perhaps in a case of a few of their own relations, to make a fair distribution of it. In page 752, Appendix to Fifth Report, Mr. Ravenshaw observes that the lamentable influence of the heads of villages over the lesser Ryots, from whom they have always been in the habit of extorting considerable sums above the Government demand, was a ruinous evil under the late Government, and that the continuance of it in this has certainly contributed to reduce the Ryots to their present state. That the plan of making a distinct settlement with every individual, tends more than any thing to give the lesser Ryots a confidence in those who govern them, independent of the Curnums and heads of villages, at whose mercy they have hitherto lived. That by it the frauds hitherto practised by the Curnums will be in a great degree prevented. It has also been stated officially that the Potails of the Ceded Districts are so ignorant, that they are in almost all cases influenced by the advice of the Curnums, who, in those provinces, are Bramins.

It is provided in page 72, India Papers of 1819, that Potails, where they cannot read or write, may mark and seal their decrees as judges, and may mark their awards when members of a village punchayet: it is also provided that the person who collects the revenue shall be the village judge. The native collector, who, under this rule, may frequently be other than the head inhabitant, is liable to dismissal for misdeeds and neglect of duty in his revenue office, and must then resign his judicial offices: so if dismissed from his judicial offices for gross corruption or partiality, or gross neglect as a police officer, or abuse of power as a village magistrate, he must vacate his revenue office. It is also provided that the duties of village judge, village magistrate, and superintendent of village police, shall be annexed to the office of the person "who collects the revenue," even should such person not be a head inhabitant, but the manager on the part of a native holding a lease or grant of the village.—See page 69 of printed Papers presented to the House of Commons in 1819.

C. R.

QUERIES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR:—Perhaps you will oblige me by affording a corner in your work for the following questions, which some of your readers may be competent to answer:

1. Is it probable that any particulars of Mr. Moorcroft's journeys in Tartary will be given to the public? and where are his papers?

2. Are we likely to receive any account of Mr. Crawford's mission to Siam and Cochin China, from the pen of that gentleman, as intimated in Mr. Finlayson's book?

3. Does Mr. Klaproth intend (and when) to favour the world with a History of China, a prospectus of which he issued several years ago, and for which he procured subscribers' names in England?

Your's, &c.

E.

CHINESE NOVELS.

A GREAT part of the literature of China consists of novels or romances, a species of composition which is peculiarly valuable to foreigners who desire to gain a knowledge of Chinese manners, since its pictures of those manners no other vehicle, if we except the drama, could convey. It is esteemed a condescension beneath the dignity of history to exhibit a portrait of domestic character; and there is no other didactic composition calculated to transmit its traits. The novel or familiar tale, founded upon the events of private life, displays, incidentally, inartificially, and without adulteration, facts which not only acquaint us with national manners, but with the various shades and hues they may have acquired through the lapse of time, or by the transfusion of imported fashions, according to the period in which the works were written.

Several specimens of the Chinese novel have appeared of late years in the European garb. The first volume of the *Asiatic Journal* contains a Chinese tale, translated by Mr. Davis, called "San-yu-low; or, the Three Dedicated Rooms."* In a succeeding volume is given a copious review of a novel (unpublished), translated by Mr. Thoms, entitled "the Affectionate Pair;"† and more recently we noticed a tale in verse, translated by the same author, entitled "Hwa-tsëen, or the Flower's Leaf."‡ M. Abel-Remusat has just made us acquainted with another Chinese novel, already known by name to European scholars, from the notices of the Jesuits, and from the abstract given of it in the appendix to Sir George Staunton's "Narrative of the Chinese Embassy to the Khan of the Tourgouth Tartars;" it is entitled "Yü-ke-ou-le," or, as M. Remusat writes it, according to the pronunciation of his nation, "Iu-kiao-li."

Whilst we were endeavouring to procure a copy of M. Remusat's translation, which it is surprising should be so scarce in England, a version of that translation into English fell into our hands. This performance is obviously by a person entirely ignorant of the Chinese language, and of the orthography and pronunciation of Chinese words. All the proper names are given according to the French pronunciation, which is sometimes misapprehended: thus the name of the work, which is printed in the first page "Iu-kiao-li," is in the running title throughout the volumes printed "Ju-kiao-li." There occur other slight hallucinations, owing to the defect to which we at first alluded; and we cannot speak of the translation, in other respects, in very favourable terms. We make use of this work, therefore, for want of a better.

M. Remusat has prefixed to his translation a dissertation on Chinese novels, in the form of a preface. He observes, antithetically, that whilst all other Asiatics, influenced by a taste for the marvellous, have disfigured their traditions, and introduced romance into history; the Chinese, on the contrary, are historians even in their romances. "They never exhibit to us princes engaged in combat with genii, all-powerful talismans, and incessant transformations. The persons whom they introduce are men and women, acting naturally within the circle of their passions and their interests. Integrity is seen in contact with intrigue, and honest men involved in the snares of knavery." In this point of view, these romances fill up, he remarks, an important chasm.

No

* Vol. I, pp. 37, 132, 342, and 332.

† Vol. XIII, p. 365.

‡ Vol. XX, p. 402.

No traveller can paint a people so well as they can paint themselves. "One-half of society, too, and by no means that portion most easily known, travellers have scarcely been able to see at all. Little can be really known of the manners and way of thinking of a nation without some acquaintance with its women."

One of the defects of Chinese novels, the minuteness of its details, may, therefore, justly be enumerated amongst its advantages to European readers. M. Remusat compares them, in this respect, to the novels of Richardson. A Chinese novelist produces his effect by reiterated strokes of the pencil. His characters "stand before you, their motives of action are exposed, you hear them speak for themselves, and learn to trace even their minute peculiarities of manners and conversation." Another advantage accruing to the European philosopher, from Chinese novels, arises from the rank of the characters, which are seldom taken from high stations, where the modes of life are more artificial and less characteristic of the nation; but are generally persons of the middling or intermediate classes, such as magistrates, governors of towns, judges, counsellors of state, and private men of letters. The hero of a celebrated romance is a rich druggist, who raises himself to authority by means of his wealth. "Some of these works," says M. Remusat, "more especially merit the title of 'Historical Romances,' the story being founded on the annals of a reign or of an entire dynasty. In these, some real events form the text: princes, magistrates, and commanders, who have really existed, are introduced by name, and made to act according to their recorded character and qualities, mental and personal. In a word they rank with certain productions among ourselves, which are called *historical*, because their authors would not confess that they dealt in fiction." M. Remusat observes, in another place,—

In the greater part of the Chinese romances, every thing is contained within the bounds of the possible and even the probable. We might be tempted to regard most of them as the private memoirs of some particular families, compiled by an accurate and faithful observer. Visits and the formalities of polished statesmen; assemblies, and above all, the conversations which render them agreeable; repasts and the social amusements which prolong them; walks of the admirers of beautiful nature; journeys; the manœuvres of law-suits; literary examinations; and in the sequel, marriage,—form their most frequent episodes and ordinary conclusions. I know a Chinese romance which presents a complete society of men and women, who represent the various relations which spring out of civil life, and who are beheld successively occupying all the situations which in such a state can be experienced. The translation of this romance would render every other work upon Chinese opinions and habits superfluous; but it is unpleasant to be obliged to add, that a great number of passages in the book could not be translated into an European language.

M. Remusat was led to select the novel of "Yüh-keou-le," or "the Two Female Cousins" (a copy of which he found in the oriental department of the *Bibliothèque Royale*), from the commendation bestowed upon this tale by two of the Jesuit missionaries. He found in it, he says, "a fable simple and well conceived, an easy and agreeable development, characters skilfully introduced and duly sustained to the end." The leading feature in the work, namely, the love which the hero openly professes towards *two* women, who, as openly return his affection, and both of whom he eventually marries, however repulsive to European taste, is exactly conformable to Chinese manners, and is therefore no defect in the work. This is, indeed, as M. Remusat remarks, to be transported to another world: "we must go to China to witness bigamy justified
by

by sentiment, and the most exacting of passions accommodate itself to participation and arrangement, without losing its force or its vivacity." M. Remusat adds the following playful remarks:—

A man sentimentally loving two women at once, is a monster only to be found in the extremity of Asia. In the West two simultaneous passions cannot be endured; even when successively experienced, their admission into a romance is a point of some difficulty. Writing as a novelist, rather than a moralist or a philosopher, I may be allowed to dwell upon a few of the advantages which a writer may derive from the Chinese mode of thinking. In the first place it is thereby easy to make every one happy at the end of the tale, without having recourse to the hopeless depressions, and fatal consumptions, which European scribes are obliged to have recourse to, in order to dispose of a supernumerary heroine, whom our fastidious notions will allow neither to surmount nor survive a misplaced predilection. The Chinese process would have spared many tears to the *Corinna* of De Stael, and to the *Clemestina* of Richardson, and have saved much lively regret to the indecisive Oswald, and possibly also to the virtuous Grandison himself.

The learned French translator has, moreover, inserted in his preface some judicious reflections upon the poetry which is interspersed throughout the novels of the Chinese, and upon the monotony of its images and embellishments; he has also treated of the peculiarities of the style, the varieties of names and titles, the modifications of Chinese politeness, the character of Chinese metaphors, and other topics, which initiate the reader into the arcana necessary to afford a relish for this department of the literature of China. We hasten, however, to the tale.

In the reign designated by the epithet *Universal Honesty* (from A.D. 1436 to 1450) there lived a learned magistrate, whose family name was Pae; his surname was Heuen, and his name of honour Tae-heuen. For political reasons, he had withdrawn from court, and lived at Nan-king in retirement and learned ease: his only gratifications were derived from wine* and poetry. He had attained his fortieth year and had no son, which was a great affliction to him; but he had a daughter of exquisite beauty: "her eye-brows resembled the autumn willow-leaf, and her eyes were like the crystal of the autumnal fountains." The qualities of her mind were still more extraordinary; and at the age of fifteen, "she might have ranked with the first literary characters of the empire." Hwân-yŭh (that was the lady's name) was fond of poetry, and very soon excelled in it.

A revolution having taken place at court, by the accession of a new emperor, Pae was made master of the ceremonies of the first class, and recalled to the capital, whither he proceeded with his daughter. He there formed a select circle of friends, fond, like himself, of wine and poetry; "and they amused themselves in expatiating upon the beauties of willows and flowers."

Upon one occasion, whilst he was musing over some pots of the Kō-sŭh-keuē-hwa (*Chrysanthemum odoratum*) he was visited by Gō (his brother-in-law), a doctor of the imperial academy, and Sze and Yang, two imperial inspectors-general. After some conversation, the four friends began to compose verses on the flowers before them. The cups had gone freely round, and Pae had been compelled to take so large a share, that he was unable to bear his part in verse-making, and fell asleep. His daughter, hearing of this, dexterously supplied him, by means of a servant, with some verses of her own, which, upon comparison

* By which it must not be understood that he was addicted to intemperance: cups of wine are introduced amongst the Chinese as concomitants of, and provocatives to, poetical effusions.

parison with those of the guests, bore away the palm. Pae confessed who the author was, and all were surprized at her talents, especially Yang.

Yang had a son (not remarkable for brilliancy of parts), and he resolved to get him married, if possible, to Pae's paragon of a daughter. Whilst he was perplexing himself how to effect his object (for Pae was somewhat self-willed), an astrologer, named Leaou-ta-ming, introduced himself, by virtue of a letter of recommendation from a fellow minister; and Yang forthwith communicated to him his views respecting his son, and prevailed upon the astrologer to act the go-between.* Leaou accordingly waited upon Pae, and uttered so many encomia upon young Yang, that Pae (though suspicious of a trick) resolved to see the youth. His brother-in-law, Gō, to whom he mentioned the occurrence, agreed to invite the Yangs to an entertainment at which Pae was to be present; and old Yang, full of glee at the apparent success of his scheme, hastens with his son to the scene of trial; taking the precaution to advise the young gentleman (lest he should expose his ignorance) to parry any request to compose verses by replying: "in the presence of my father, how should I presume to take such a liberty?" The result may be easily conjectured; the stupidity of the son was apparent, and his parrot-like quotation of the above words exposed him to ridicule and contempt.

Old Yang, however, blinded by partiality, thought otherwise, and subsequently asked Pae's daughter formally in marriage for his son; he received a refusal, which so mortified and irritated him that he contrived that poor Pae should be recommended to the emperor to go on a perilous embassy to Tartary.

Pae was soon aware of the intrigue to which he was to attribute this *honour*; he set out, however, upon his journey, leaving his daughter under the protection of her uncle Gō, who soon after took her away from the capital, where she was exposed to the artifices of Yang, and placed her with his own daughter at his house at Nan-king. This young lady's name was Woo-yen, and Dr. Gō recommended that Hwăn-yüh should pass as her younger sister, and assume the name of Woo-keaou.

Dr. Gō, having formed one of a party of magistrates, who made an excursion from Nan-king to the temple of the Valley of Immortals to see the plum-trees in blossom, observed the following verses "lightly traced as if by a flying dragon," on one of the walls:

With his body at ease, and his mind tranquil, moderate in his wishes, the poet filled this gallery with the fruits of his fancy. The scent of the flowers delighted and betrayed away my soul. No language can impart the illusion which they have breathed over me. Their whiteness awakens a thousand vague thoughts. The faint light of the moon makes me think of marriage. This moment methinks I beheld a troop of damsels before my eyes. My mistress is the blossom of the peach-tree, and her companions the branches of the willow.

These verses were subscribed with the name of Sze-yew-pae of Nan-king. Gō read them over and over with admiration, and took immediate measures to discover the person of the author, for he already conceived a plan of obtaining him as a husband for his niece. Gō found him to be a student of the city college: and as the young gentleman proves the hero of the piece, we quote the portrait of him: "his cap and clothes were simple, but he was as beautiful as the jasper in a crown, and brilliant as a ruby. He seemed to have been formed of the air of the mountains and rivers. His mind, like a glittering ornament,

* Matches in China are generally brought about by the intervention of persons who act the part of go-between, which is a profession both honourable and lucrative.

ornament, was worthy of his person." He was twenty years of age, and but just out of his three years' mourning for the death of his mother, who left him an orphan.

Gō employed a female go-between, who waited upon Sze-yew-pae, and was astonished to find that he looked coldly on the proposal. He wished to see the lady, however, and accordingly stationed himself near Gō's garden. Presently he saw Woo-yen approach, and as he concluded this was the lady referred to, he was heartily glad he had seen her before he engaged himself, for she bore the same relation in respect to attractions to her cousin as "a magpie to a dove." Sze was apprehensive of displeasing a man of such influence as Gō; he therefore pretended he had not seen the lady, when the go-between visited him again, and firmly refused, on the score of humility, to seek an alliance with so high a family.

Gō, when the result was communicated to him, concluded that the old go-between had mismanaged the affair; and he consulted a fellow student of Sze, who offered to conduct the negotiation.

The new negotiator, however, met with as little success as his predecessor; Sze excused himself, on account of the importance of the subject, the risk of lightly undertaking such an engagement, &c.

Gō was so exasperated at the refusal, that he flew into a rage, and actually wrote to the examiner at the college to dismiss poor Sze (who had attained the degree of bachelor) from the rank he enjoyed. Le, the examiner, prevailed upon the principal of the college to expostulate with Sze, and endeavour to reconcile him to the match, his rejection of which had given so much umbrage to Gō. All, however, was to no purpose: the young bachelor resolutely persisted in his refusal. Whereupon Le, the examiner, notified to the college that Sze had proved intractable, obstinate, confident, vain, proud, and uncivil; and he was forthwith erased from the list of candidates. Thus, says a Chinese poet, "Three-parts of obstinacy and seven of imprudence ferment together to form the character of a poet."

The tale now narrates the return of Pae from his embassy, and the promotion of Yang, his enemy. Gō was also advanced to be a superintendant of the literary examinations at the imperial college. When the latter related the affair of Sze-yew-pae, so far from partaking of his brother's anger, Pae entertained a high opinion of the young man's firmness.

Whilst Sze was consoling himself in his disgrace with drinking, and commemorating the beauties of willows and flowers, he received a message from his uncle, an inspector-general of the province of Ho-nan, who requested him to come and live with him.

An incident on the road brought Sze-yew-pae acquainted with the magical powers of a certain hermit, whom he visited in order to learn his fortune. Upon inquiry he was told by the hermit that the temple in which he dwelt was built by a person named Pae, as the means of obtaining a progeny, and that he consequently had a daughter, the description of whose charms and talents inflames our hero. He was told that the best mode of obtaining access to the lady was to address verses to her, but that her taste, as well as her father's, was fastidious. Accident brought him in company with two young men, who were composing verses to gain the affections of a beauty, whom he discovered to be no other than Pae's daughter, mentioned by the hermit. They told him the young lady had made a vow that she would marry the person who could vie with her in poetry, and write a piece corresponding in rhyme to some stanzas of her own upon "the willows of spring." Sze struck

struck off at once two copies of verses in succession conformable to the conditions, and resolved to accompany the two other suitors to the lady's residence, leaving his uncle in the lurch.

Meanwhile the two strangers began to perceive that they had plotted their own ruin by their communication to Sze. One of them, Wang, determined therefore to counterwork him, and bribed Pae's porter to substitute other verses for those he should receive from Sze and his companion Chang.

The reader will already have surmised that the young lady is their old acquaintance Hwän-yüh. Pae had in fact retired into the country owing to indisposition, with a nephew, of fifteen, whom he had adopted as his son, though his understanding was weak.

Pae, when he read the verses attributed to Sze-yew-pae, was disgusted; but admired those which bore the signature of Chang. The young lady was likewise delighted with them; and Pae determined to invite the author, and try his capacity, at which news Sze was confounded. Chang was near discovering himself to be an ignoramus, when, on being required to produce another poem on the "willows," he wrote out from memory the other copy of verses composed by Sze. This trick disarmed Pae of suspicion, and Chang left in high glee. He reflected, however, that he might be subjected to further trials, and therefore determined to detain Sze near him.

Pae now proposed that Chang should educate his nephew, and a close intercourse took place between Pae and his future son-in-law. In order that he might have a supply of verses, Chang prevailed upon Sze to write a collection, which he performed with ease, and accident enabled Chang to impose them upon Pae as his own.

Meantime the young lady was curious to get a sight of her lover, whom her servant had described as extremely ugly; and in her efforts to gain her object she mistook Sze for him, but of course thought he had been slandered as to his personal qualifications. The maid went to Sze, and interrogating him, found that he was the (supposed) author of the unfortunate verses, which had excited so much ridicule. He gave her his genuine verses for her mistress's inspection.

When Hwän-yüh cast her eyes upon the manuscript, she found that the stanzas were the same as those of Chang; she readily penetrated the fraud, and prepared to take measures accordingly.

In the meanwhile Mr. Yang, the inspector-general, travelling near, paid a visit to his quondam friend Pae; and during the engagement of the family, a correspondence takes place between Sze and Hwän-yüh, which reveals to both the tricks they had been played. Fearful of the consequences of too early a discovery, Sze, by advice of his mistress, quits the place, with the intention of taking up his residence with her uncle, Gō. In his peregrination he met an acquaintance, named Sze-yeaou-tae, whom he made a confidant of all his affairs, and who advised him to get a letter of introduction to the lady's father from her uncle at the capital, although he knew that Gō was still in the country. This deception Sze-yeaou-tae employed for objects of his own, as he had cherished hopes of Miss Pae himself. When Yew-pae was gone, Yeaou-tae set off to Dr. Gō's, where he represented himself as Yew-pae's younger brother, and strove to exasperate Gō (supposing that Hwän-yüh had really been his daughter) by stating Yew-pae's intention respecting Miss Pae. Gō was, however, delighted, and told Yeaou-tae (thus made the dupe of his own artifice) that his daughter was in reality the person whom Yew-pae was now smitten with. Yeaou soon bethought himself that he might still convert the incident to his advantage; and professing himself actuated by a desire to promote

promote his brother's interest; he procured a letter of introduction to Pae from his relation, promising that Yew-pae should come and strike his forehead at the threshold of Gō's door. By a fortunate accident, the letter spoke only of "young Sze," without addition of the surname.

He forthwith set out for Pae's dwelling, where Chang still kept his footing, upon the strength of the verses he had obtained from Sze-yew-pae. Pae gave Yeou-tae a good reception, for the latter was a young man of good air: in short, "all his merit lay in the *five externals*." When Hwān-yūh heard of the visit, and observed the name of "Sze" on the *visiting card*, she concluded the person was Sze-yew-pae, who had been originally recommended by her uncle, whose letter introduced the present visitant. Chang fell at first into the same mistake; and Pae was fully impressed with the belief that it was the same individual who had been formerly selected by his brother-in-law.

The *denouement* of all these perplexities involves the discovery that Chang was a pretender to poetry and not the author of the successful verses, and that Sze-yeou-tae was an impostor. The act of knavery was traced to the porter, who confessed the crime and the author of it; and Pae, through vexation at the injustice with which Sze-yew-pae had been treated, fell dangerously ill.

A series of accidents befel Sze-yew-pae in his journey towards the capital. A romantic adventure brings him into an acquaintance with a blooming youth named Lo-meng-le, to whom he imparted the object of his journey, and the name of his mistress. This blooming youth was, in reality, no other than a female. The tenderest feelings of friendship soon grew up between them, and at length Lo confessed that he had a twin sister, exactly like himself, who had seen Sze in the garden, and "could not prevent herself from thinking of the fall of the plums," i. e. the season of marriage. Yew-tae was very well disposed to take opportunity by the forelock, and, suspending his journey, to "conclude the business immediately." But Lo recommended him to proceed to the capital.

On his way, whilst he was recreating his imagination with the thought of this double marriage, he passed his uncle, by whose servant he was recognized. Sze visited his uncle at his mansion, was graciously received, and adopted as his son. He forthwith made his new parent acquainted with his principal adventures, and it appeared that Sze's uncle had been the fellow-collegian of Pae.

Under the auspices of this relation, Sze went to the capital, and obtained successive literary honours; at length, at the general examination, he gained the very highest class, and was placed on the list of doctors. His advancement excited the envy and enmity of two disappointed candidates, by whose secret influence, Sze was nominated a judge in the province of Chih-keang, to get him out of the way. Before he set out for his province, Dr. Gō arrived at the capital, who, meeting with Sze-yew-pae, spoke to him of his brother, Sze-yeou-tae. This led to an *eclaircissement*: Sze-yew-pae found that he had been duped by his pretended friend, and also that Pae's daughter was no other than the lady he was enamoured of; and that he had travelled a hundred *le* to solicit what he refused when offered to him. In his way to the province of Ho-nan, his birth-place, to offer a propitiatory sacrifice to his ancestors, he called at the residence of his young friend Lo-meng-le, but the family had left their mansion, and the account given of this youth appeared mysterious, though he did not yet perceive that this person was a lovesick lady in disguise.

We now return to Pae and his daughter: they were visited by Mrs. Lo, (who proves to be Pae's sister) and her daughter, the lady who had captivated Sze as master Lo-meng-le. Pae, who had heard of Sze-yew-pae's success, wished to find him out, for the purpose of securing him for a son-in-law; but not knowing where to seek him, as "the print of his footsteps had disappeared from the surface of the waves," he resolved to visit the Western Lake, in the province of Chih-keang, which was generally frequented by all the poets and wits of the empire;"—the Chinese *Lakists*. Mrs. Lo begs he will leave his daughter to her care, and in return for this office, requests her brother to look out for a husband for Miss Lo, who not only understood embroidery, carpet-making, and needle-work in general, but had a taste for literature, and made verses.

The two fair cousins, left to themselves, soon communicated to each other their respective knowledge regarding our hero Sze-yew-pae. So far from experiencing the jealousy of European damsels at discovering that he was an object of their equal love, "from that moment the two cousins felt their mutual esteem and affection redoubled."

Whilst the young ladies were thus solacing themselves, their lover was on his way to the house. On his arrival, finding that Pae was at the Western Lake, he determined to follow him thither. Now it so happened that Pae, recollecting that his old acquaintance Yang was the governor of Chih-keang province, and fearing some impediment to his journey if his name was known, changed it to Hoang-foo, and passed for a private person; so that Sze's inquiries after Pae (whose person he did not know), on his arrival at the lake dedicated to wine and poetry, were as fruitless as those of Pae respecting Sze.

The latter, having visited Wang, the governor, was immediately fixed upon by him as a husband for his daughter. Sze declined the honour on account of his engagement with Miss Pae; but Wang, finding out the pseudo-poet Chang, who had resorted to the Western Lake, to improve his fancy, employed him to break off the match. Chang accordingly called upon Sze-yew-pae, and supposing he knew nothing of the state of Pae's family, ventured to assert that Miss Pae was dead; and after a decent time, endeavoured to reconcile him to Yang's offer. Sze, penetrated with grief, refused it: and Wang, to shew his resentment, oppressed Sze, in his capacity of judge, with the most difficult cases, and annoyed him by reversing his decrees, &c. until Sze was compelled to resign his post of judge. Leaving the place, and wandering through the country, he accidentally met with the *Hermit of Gratitude*, who, by his power of divination, told him that he should gain a high literary rank, and marry two ladies related to each other; and he directed him to proceed to a place called Kan-ying.

Sze, concealing his real name under that of Lew, went to the place mentioned, where he met with Pae, and in the course of conversation they mutually made inquiries concerning each other. This leads to an amusing series of *equivokes*. The two become extremely intimate; at length Pae determines to offer both his daughter and niece in marriage to Lew; and as the latter was struck with the accordancy of this circumstance with the hermit's prediction, and moreover considered that of his two mistresses, one was *non existens* and the other *non apparens* (or, as he expressed it, one was a broken lute, and the other a lost pearl), he closed with the proposal. Pae returned home to arrange the affair, and was followed by Lew, who, in the mean time, was nominated by the emperor to a post appertaining to the court, which he should have had

had instead of being sent to Chih-keang, through the devices of his enemies : another accomplishment of the hermit's prophecy.

The elevation of Sze, or Lew, was a thunderstroke to his foes, Yang and Chang, who bestirred themselves to repair the effect of their ill offices by every means in their power. Yang overwhelmed Sze with kindness, and Chang waited upon him, and confessed penitentially the false report he had given of Miss Pae's death. Sze, though overjoyed at the news, was somewhat embarrassed, owing to his new engagement. He, however, determined to write to Hoang-foo (or Pae), candidly telling him his circumstances.

Let us now pay a visit to the young ladies : during the absence of Pae, they received a letter from Dö, and another from the uncle of Sze ; both recommending Sze-yew-pae as a husband to Miss Pae. In the midst of their felicitations, Pae arrived and communicated the news of the new marriage project, which "stupified" the ladies. The letters were read, and seemed to shake Pae's purpose ; till Mrs. Lo declared for Lew, and all the entreaties of Dr. Gö, who came in the nick of time, were unable to move Pae's inflexibility. At length the repentant Chang arrived with news of Sze's advancement, and a letter addressed by him (as Chang supposed) to Hoang-foo. Pae took the letter, under pretence that Hoang-foo was his relative, and therein read the obstacles to the union he was so intent upon.

We are now informed that Lo-meng-le had formerly despatched a note to Sze-yew-pae desiring him to inquire at Pae's house for news of his young friend and mistress. This note fell into the hand of Sze-yeaou-tae, who, provoked at another marriage being offered to Sze-yew-pae, at first thought of again trying to supplant him. At length he decided upon serving him, and endeavouring thereby to obliterate the memory of his former conduct. Hereby Sze-yew-pae recovered a clue to his other mistress. He now set off to Pae's village, but was perplexed how to act : he wished to call upon Hoang-foo, in the character of Lew, and upon Pae as Sze ; and he learned that Hoang-foo and Pae were relatives, and lived near each other, which might lead to a discovery of his deception.

He first paid his visit to Pae as Hoang-foo ; for by the precautions of the latter, he was conducted to his house. Here, Sze (or Lew) explained that the lady *rediviva*, whom he now proposed to marry, was Pae's daughter, and that his own name was Sze. Pae, overjoyed, suspended his own discovery, to give further scope to the young doctor's embarrassment, and declared his readiness to give way to Pae. All was at length disclosed, amidst the laughter of both parties ; and Sze-yew-pae found his other mistress and his friend in the person of Miss Lo. The nuptials took place soon after, and the two young ladies, (for Sze married them both) clothed in golden stuffs and ornamented with precious stones, appeared like "daughters of the king of the immortals." Chang and Tze-yew-tae were included in the number of persons invited to the banquet, and all matters were adjusted to general satisfaction.

Such is the tale of Yü-h-keou-le : it is more abundant in incident and interest than Chinese novels in general. Its grand defect is a total want of discrimination in the characters.

ACCOUNT OF THE MISMEES.

THE following particulars of the tribes settled about the sources of the Brahmaputra, and in the Bor Kamti country, to the eastward of Asam, is from the *Calcutta Government Gazette*.

The Mismees, who inhabit the country upon the banks of the Brahmaputra, towards the commencement of its course, are collected in small but frequent villages, the houses of which are built along the steep faces of the mountains, in such a manner, that the rock forms a side of the mansion, and supports one end of the rafters of the floor, the other and outer extremity resting upon wooden posts: the space beneath the floor is occupied by their fowls and cattle. Besides hogs and their own hill cattle, individuals of wealth have in store for eating, the small cattle of Asam, and the chowri-tailed ox of Tibet (*bos grunniens*); young dogs are also held in estimation. Each chief kills an animal in succession, and invites his neighbours, so that a continual round of feasting is kept up amongst them, and a record of these entertainments is preserved in the skulls of the cattle, which are blackened and hung in rows round the interior of their houses until the death of the head of a family, when these memorials of his wealth and liberality are heaped upon his grave, and surrounded with a palisade. The vegetable diet of the Mismees consists chiefly of Indian corn and a small grain called bubissia: they also cultivate small quantities of a fine white rice. Their dress consists of a piece of a thick coarse cotton cloth, which they have no notion of shaping into a garment, and all their better clothing comes from Asam and Tibet. They are exceedingly uncleanly, and rarely, if ever, have recourse to water for the purposes of ablution. The Mismees work rudely in iron and brass; but their utensils are mostly of copper, and are obtained from the Lama's country, with which they keep up an active trade. They bring from thence smoking pipes, straight swords, dyed woollens, beads, rock salt, and chowri-tailed cows, in exchange for which articles they export musk, various skins, a bitter medicinal root, some ivory, and other articles. They formerly added to the list slaves captured in Asam. The pipes are commonly inscribed with Chinese characters, and they, as well as the swords and beads, are probably the manufacture of China. The Mismees on the heads of the Dihong, as well as those along the Brahmaputra, and the Abors at the sources of the Dibong, all trade with Lama Des, or the country of the Lama of Lassa.

Bor Kamti is a country situated beyond the Langtan mountains, which give rise to the Bor Dehing, or southern arm of the Brahmaputra. The south-east portion of the Langtan mountains, covered with snow, is visible from Sadiya. After taking a south-easterly bend, in which the range nearly reaches the Irawadi, it runs southwards, parallel with that river, nearly to Bhanmoh. Bor Kamti therefore lies along the upper part of the course of the Irawadi, being a province of Moonkong, or Mogoun, and tributary to the Burman Phokun of the latter. It is separated on the east from China, and on the north from Tibet, by lofty mountains covered with snow; although accessible from the south by the course of the Irawadi, the river here is not navigable. The mountains are inhabited by the Khunoong Mismees, who trade with both China and Tibet. They find silver in large quantities in the north-east, and iron in great abundance in the south-east parts of their mountains: of the iron they fabricate the Kamti dhaos, which are held in high estimation. The

Kamtis

Kamtis are said to have come from that part of Sham which is situated E. or S. E. of Moon-kong, or Mogoun.

Considerable light has also been thrown of late upon the sources of the Irawadi, which is the more important at present, as now that the Sanpo cannot be considered as the same with the Brahmaputra, the *Savans* of the continent revert to D'Anville's supposition, and identify it with the river of Ava. The Irawadi, however, takes its rise apparently much to the south and west of where the Sanpo is lost in the Jesuits' maps, and its most northern branch, the Toonong, rises nearly in the same parallel with the heads of the Dehing, and at no great distance from them.

The following particulars respecting the same subject appear in a subsequent number of the Gazette :

We learn that an attempt has lately been made to prosecute the inquiry along the Brahmaputra, towards its source, which succeeded in penetrating amongst the mountains, for five or six days' march, beyond the Brahma Koond, into the country of the Meezhoo Meesmee tribe, and within four days' journey of the first Lama village. At the point at which the party arrived, strong grounds of suspicion arose, with regard to the intentions of one of the mountain chiefs, and their strength being judged insufficient for their security, it was thought advisable to fall back into the district of the Taen Meesmees, whose conduct entitled them to implicit confidence. We trust that this check will not be suffered to suspend the progress of discovery in so highly interesting a career. We hope to be able to give some particulars hereafter of the route pursued on this occasion.

NAVIGATION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND ASIA,

*Including the East-Indies, China, the Mauritius, Timor, New Holland, and the South-Sea Islands.**

Years.	British.		Foreign.		Total.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1787 ...	27,741	24,537	400	380	28,141	24,917
1790 ...	27,122	26,408	—	—	27,122	26,408
1802 ...	65,718	61,500	835	—	66,553	61,500
1817 ...	80,686	109,404	—	2,938	80,686	112,342
1822 ...	68,169	86,912	—	1,348	68,169	88,260
1825 ...	77,311	101,198	—	2,171	77,311	103,369

* From Mr. Moreau's "Past and Present State of the Navigation of Great Britain."

DR. FREYTAG'S EDITION OF THE *HAMĀSA*.

THE *Hamāsa*, of which the first part, with an excellent commentary by *Tabrizī*, is now published,* is a justly celebrated collection of ancient Arabic poems, many of them being attributed to authors who existed before the time of *Muhammad*. This collection, which comprises more than 800 poems of various lengths, is divided into ten books; the first book only being properly called *Hamāsa*, which word the commentator *Almarzūki*, as well as the author of the *Kāmūs*, explains by another word meaning valour, and *Tabrizī* by one denoting fortitude: the second book is that of elegies; the third, of ethics; the fourth, of the beauties of women and the love of them; the fifth, of satire; the sixth, of guests; the seventh, of descriptions or attributes; the eighth, of travelling and drowsiness; the ninth, of narrations; and the tenth, of the censure of women.

Antecedent to this publication, Alb. Schultens had printed some poems of the *Hamāsa*; but the whole is too choice a collection not to be desired throughout by Europeans of the present age: and the accomplishment of this task, which Dr. Freytag has undertaken, arduous as it is, not only to print correctly the original text with *Tabrizī's* commentary and historical illustrations, but also to give a Latin translation, will serve greatly to extend our acquaintance with Arabic poetry, as well as with the customs and character of the Arabs. The verses selected in the compilation of this work, are not so much the production of the professed poet, as the effusions of various persons of various ages, whom circumstances could excite to use the true language of poetry: and the poems seem to have been generally the immediate consequences of striking events. They are, too, the productions of original poets in a most copious and energetic language, where the radical meanings of the words used, as well as the peculiar application of them, would engage the attention of the Arabians: an advantage which can be but partially enjoyed in mixed dialects, where the imports of words are usually limited to their common acceptations. In Arabic poetry, a verse may often have various, yet even appropriate significations, according as the general sense of some word, regard being had to the root, is intended, or a peculiar acceptation of it. This greatly facilitates allusion, and opens a wide field to the play of the imagination in those who comprehend well the language; but it renders truly difficult the transmission of the Arabian poets' conceptions into other tongues. With the customs, too, and many other things alluded to in these poems, Europeans are often not acquainted. These are hinderances of no little magnitude to the right understanding, by Europeans, of Arabic poetry; and without a commentary they cannot, in most cases, accomplish a faithful translation of it: as far as regards the *Hamāsa*, however, every explanation which can be desired by the European scholar, is now likely to become easy of access by this publication of the text itself along with the scholiast of *Tabrizī*; and those who read not the original, may gain an acquaintance with its import by means of the Latin translation intended subsequently to be given.

The collecting of the poems is attributed to one who was himself a celebrated poet. The Arabian biographer, *Ibn Khallikān*, speaking of *Abu Tammām Habīb*, son of *Aus*, says that he was a famous poet, the unequalled of his age

* *Hamases Carmina, cum Tabrizii scholiis integris, indicibus perfectis, versione Latina et commentariis perpetuis, primum editit G. W. Freytag, Dr. Professor linguarum orientalium in universitate Borussiae Rheland. Textus Arabici pars prima. Sumptibus auctoris. Bonnæ, typis Regiæ. 1836.*

age in the splendour of his diction, the richness of his verse, and the beauty of his method. To him also belongs the book of the *Hamāsa*, which, by the goodness of his choice, evinces the copiousness of his learning and the solidity of his judgment. He was, moreover, the author of another collection, called by him *Fukūl-ush-shu'arā* (princes of poets), in which he assembled a great number of poets who had existed in the time of ignorance (that is, before *Muhammad*), in *Hadhrāmūt*, and after the mission of *Muhammad*: as well as of a book of selections from poets. In recollection he was unrivalled; so that he is said to have kept in memory 14,000 Arabic poems of the sort of verse called *rajaz*, besides odes and short pieces. He wrote verses in praise of the Khalifs, and obtained rewards from them. When he recited to *Abu Dulaf Alijī*, a celebrated commander under *Almāmūn* and *Almu'tasam*, some poem of his, *Abu Dulaf* was so delighted that he gave the poet 50,000 dirhems, saying at the same time, "by God, it is beneath thy verse:" then he said, "by God, there is nothing so beautiful as this except thy elegy on *Muhammad*, son of *Hamid Attūsī*," which he described, and said, "I wish to God thou hadst composed it on me." The poet replied, "be myself and family devoted for the *Amīr*! certainly I shall be his forerunner (to death):" the other answered, "but he never dies who is commemorated in this poem." The birth of *Abu Tammām* is variously recorded to have happened in the year of the *hijra* 190, or 188, or 172, and his death in 231 or 228.

The same biographer supplies us, likewise, with some account of *Abu Zakariya Yahyā At-tabrizī*, whose commentary on the *Hamāsa* Dr. Freytag is editing. Speaking of him, the biographer says, that he studied under *Abu-l-Alā Almar'arrī* and other renowned masters; that he had a perfect knowledge of grammar, the meanings of words, &c.; that he wrote commentaries on many works, and, among others, three on the *Hamāsa*, namely, a greater, a middle one, and a less. This author was born in 421 of the *hijra*, and died in 502.

The writer of these remarks possesses an ancient copy of the *Hamāsa*, with the notes of *Abu Alī Ahmad Almarzuki*, which are less copious than those of *Tabrizī*, and antecedent, as is shewn by the reference of the latter to them: but many other learned men have thought the *Hamāsa* so deserving of their attention, as to write commentaries on it. *Tabrizī*, in his preface, as given by Dr. Freytag, says, the poems of them (the Arabs) are multitudinous, and the chiefs of language as well as the sages of verse have selected the choicest of them; but of all they have thus chosen, the selection of the *Hamāsa* is among the most excellent. The Arabs also said, that *Abu Tammām*, in his selection of the *Hamāsa*, exhibited more of the poet than in his own compositions. The history of his forming the selection, as well as of *Tabrizī's* commentaries, is thus related:—

Abu Tammām made a journey to *Abdullah ibn Tahir*, who was then in *Khurasān*, and wrote verses in his praise; but it was the practice of *Abdullah* to reward no poet unless *Abu-l-Amaithal* and *Abu Sa'īd Addharīr* approved of him: *Abu Tammām*, therefore, addressed himself to these two, and began to recite to them a certain poem, on hearing the beginning of which they censured it; having, however, prevailed on them to examine the poem throughout, they were so well satisfied with other parts of it, as to present it to *Abdullah*; and they received from him for the poet a thousand dinars. From *Khurasān* the poet returned towards *Irāk*; and on his arrival at *Hamadan*, *Abu-l-Wafā ibn Salama*, thinking it a blessing to receive him, prevailed on him to be his guest, and shewed him great respect. Whilst he was there, a great snow fell, which blocked up the ways, and arrested all passengers. Though this hinderance grieved

grieved *Abu Tammām*, yet it rejoiced his friend; who said to him, "familiarize thyself to the place; this snow will not be removed for some time." *Abu-L-Wafā* then brought the poet to his library, which the latter began to inspect, occupied himself in it, and compiled five books on poetry; of which were the *Hamāsa* and *Wahshiyāt*, these (the latter) being long poems.

As to the book of the *Hamāsa*, it was preserved with such care in the treasures of the family of *Salama* as to be brought forth to no one, till reverses befel them, when a certain man of *Dinūr*, named *Abu-L-Awādhil*, got possession of it and conveyed it to Isfahan; where the learned turned their attention to it so much as to neglect all other works of the like kind. The fame of it spread not only among the learned of that place, but also among their friends; and many wrote explanations of it: some, indeed, proceeded but little in the matter: some attended only to the pointing (or correct reading) of certain places, without adducing the meanings: some cited the histories that related to the work, but avoided all mention of the meanings (of the work itself): and others attended to the meanings without the reading and the histories. *Tabrizi*, too, first wrote on it, as he informs us, a full commentary, without quoting the whole of all the pieces of poetry; then he explained it summarily without separating the verses in his comments; but perceiving that most people who read the book after him were anxious for an explanation of each verse after it, and were inclined to this (method), that the knowledge of what was difficult in each verse might be rendered easy to them, and the meaning of the poet unfolded, he set about commenting on the work soundly from beginning to end, verse by verse in succession, as well as explaining the derivations of the names of the poets and others mentioned in the *Hamāsa*, with whatever is extraordinary in each verse, the right reading and the sense; mentioning too, the differences of learned men on the passages where differences occurred; and introducing the histories (on which the poems are said to be founded) in their (proper) places. As the commentary, edited by Dr. Freytag is conformable exactly to the process last described, it is doubtless the third, or that which crowned the endeavours of *Tabrizi* to elucidate the poems of the *Hamāsa*.

Truly conscious though the writer of these remarks is, that he cannot do justice to the poems of the *Hamāsa* in any attempt to translate them; yet he is himself so sensible of the many and rare beauties they possess, that he ventures to give a version, even as nearly verbal as possible, of a few odes taken from the first and second books.

Ta'abbata Sharran said:

1st Verse. Truly by the praises I sang, I was guide to the son of the uncle of *Assidk*, *Shams* son of *Mālik*;* then I directed my steps with them to him.

2d. In the assembly of the tribe, I agitated with them his side, as he agitated mine by the (gift of the) white high-bred camel fed on *arāk*.

3d. Sparing (is he) of complaint for any calamity that may befall him, abundant in attention (to weighty matters), various in methods and ways:

4th. He passes a desert by day, and continues his course through another at night, alone, riding unsaddled the backs of dangers:

5th. And wherever he tends, he outstrips the foremost of the wind, in (its) blast with violence striving to overtake.

6th. When drowsiness sews together his eyelids, he fails not of a guardian in a heart, cautious, intrepid:

7th. And (when awake) he constitutes his eyes the watch of his heart, till the drawing forth of the smooth, cutting blade:

8th.

* Sovereign of *Barra* and *Kāfa*.

8th. When he moves that in the bone of his adversary, the grinders of the mouths of the smiling fates glitter.

9th. Solitude he regards as an intimate acquaintance; and he proceeds unerringly (in his course) wherever is directed the mother of the clustered stars.*

Abdu-l-Malik, son of *Abdu-r-Rahīm Alhārūhī*, said : (and the ode is attributed also to *Samau'al*, son of *Ādiyā Alyahūdī*.)

1st. When the character of a man is not stained with dishonour, whatever garment he wears is becoming :

2d. And, if he imposes not violence on self,† there is no way for him to the glory of renown.

3d. If (self) reproaches us (saying) that small is our number : I reply, can the generous be (accounted) small ?

4th. And, small are not they whose residue, like us, strive to outstrip to glory.

5th. What injury, too, does it occasion us that we are few, when our ally is powerful, and the ally of the more numerous despised ?

6th. To us belongs the mountain,‡ on which those we protect fix their abode, (so) high (that) it repels the eye, which is dazzled (in gazing at it).

7th. Its foundation is established beneath the earth, and its summit, too lofty to be attained, mounts to the stars.

8th. And we are a people that regard not death a dishonour, when *Āmir* and *Salūs* view it (as such).

9th. The love of death draws near to us our terms of life ; but, their fates abhor it, and are long.

10th. Never does a prince of us die a natural death ; nor does (one) of us fall unrevengeed, wherever he is slain.

11th. Our lives flow away on the edge of the sword, and on swords only do they flow.

12th. We are pure, we are not muddy (in blood) ; the females that bore us legitimately and the males of genuine descent have kept pure the glory of our race.

13th. We ascended to the best of loins, and at (the same) time to the best of wombs ; (our) descent brought us down.

14th. Like the water of the clouds, therefore, are we : in our pedigree not one weak exists, nor among us is a miser numbered.

15th. We deny, if we will, to (other) men their assertion ; but they deny not the assertion when we speak.

16th. When a prince passes away from us, (another) prince arises, eloquent, acting according to that which the generous utter.

17th. Nor is our fire extinguished against the nightly traveller, nor does a guest censure us among those who alight (for hospitality).

18th. And famous are our days among our foes : they have the well-known stars in their forehead and the white feet.¶

19th. And our swords in every west and east, notched from the battering of the mail-clad (warriors),

20th. (Are) exercised : never may their blades be drawn and sheathed till the multitude of various races (opposed to us) be extirpated !

21st. Ask, if thou art ignorant, people respecting us and them ; and the knowing and the ignorant are not equal :

22d.

* By the mother of the clustered stars is meant the sun or the milky way. He is so much accustomed to the solitude of deserts, that he has no dread of them ; and he is as little likely to err in journeying through deserts, as the sun or the milky way in the skies : or, he proceeds unerringly wherever the sun or the milky way appears, that is, in all places.

† If he forces not himself, contrary to the inclination of his nature, to endure labour, hunger, and thirst in the execution of heroic achievements.

‡ The glory and eminence of his tribe.

§ Names of two tribes.

¶ Famous are our deeds among our enemies : they are well known or notable, as horses, that have stars in their foreheads or their feet white, are distinguished among other horses.

22d. For the sons of *Daīyān* are the axis* of their tribe, on which their millstone turns round them and revolves.

Alashtar-un-Nakha't said :

1st. May I hoard up wealth, and may I turn aside from (the path of) glory, and may I receive my guests with a gloomy countenance,

2d. If I pour not out on *Ibn Harb*† an invasion, which shall never cease from the plunder of lives—

3d. Horses like dragons, slim and fleet, with men whose characters admit no stain, who frown (at every danger) in battle,

4th. The iron armour upon whom burns, so that it is as it were the flash of the lightning or the beams of the sun.

The three odes above translated are from the first book, peculiarly called that of *Hamāsa* ; and the following are from the second book, or that of elegies.

Abda, son of *Attabih*, said :

1st. On thee, *Kais*, son of *Āsim*, be the blessing and mercy of God as long as it pleases God to display mercy !

2d. (Is) the benediction of him whom thou hast left the butt of perdition. When from afar he visits thy land, he thus blesses thee.

3d. For the fall of *Kais* was not the fall of an individual ; but in him the structure of the whole people fell.

Abu Alā Assindī said :

1st. Ha ! surely the eye that poured not out over thee, on the day of *Wāsīl*, the flowing tear, was incapable of weeping :

2d. On the evening that the female mourners arose, and the vests and cheeks were torn by the hands of the wailing throng.

3d. If thou art now banished the court (of thy mansion), yet oft have companies after companies resided in it :

4th. And, though thou never absented'st thyself from thy guest, yet all who are (sunk) beneath the earth are (for ever) absent.

Duraid, son of *Assimma*, said :

1st. I admonished the commander, and the associates of the commander, as well as the band of the sons of *Assaudā*, when the people were present before me ;

2d. And I said to them, "be assured that the enemy are coming upon you with two thousand men in armour, the best part of them in firm coats of mail :"

3d. Yet, though they opposed me (in counsel), and I saw their error, and was aware of not being guided aright, I still continued (one) of them.

4th. I committed to them my guidance in the bend, where the sand-drifts close, and they would not admit good counsel ; but the sunshine of the morrow (exposed their error) :

5th. (For) of what tribe am I but of *Ghaxda* ? If it errs, I err ; and if *Ghaxda* goes right, I go right (too).

6th. They cried out to one another ; then they said, "the horsemen have overthrown a warrior !" I exclaimed, "is that *Abdullāh* (who is) perishing ?"

7th. I hastened to him whilst the spears were piercing him, like the penetration of the weaver's pins‡ in the outstretched web :

8th.

* The chiefs, or those to whom others have recourse for protection : or those by whom the affairs of the tribe are conducted.

On the margin of an old copy of the *Hamāsa* are inserted two verses ; but whether intended as a part of the text or not is doubtful : their import is,

When our swords fall short of the enemy, we make our steps the joining with them, and they are long :

We give, but are not given to ; and we confer benefits, but have not benefits conferred on us : and, what are men but the beggar and the begged ?

† By *Ibn Harb* is meant *Mu'awiya*, son of *Abu Sufyan*.

‡ The pins or pegs that separate the threads when extended on the loom.

8th. And I became, like the female camel, allured by the stuffed young one's skin, that hastily comes and goes to the lacerated hide of its colt.*

9th. Then I strove to repel from him the horsemen, till they were dispersed, and till the dark-coloured gore had covered me :

10th. With the exertion in battle of one who devoted himself for his brother, and who knows that man is not eternal.

11th. Though *Abdullāh* has (now) vacated his station, yet he was not dilatory (in his affairs) or deviating from the mark in (what) his hand (was directed to) ;

12th. Expeditious in his dress, (in height such that) half his leg was out (of his attire), remote from (all) diseases, meditating great affairs,

13th. Rare in complaint for misfortunes, to-day guarding against the consequences of events to-morrow.

14th. Thou wouldst see him slender in the waist, though provisions were at hand ; ready for enterprise, though in a torn vest.†

15th. If want and hardship touched him, (that only) increased his readiness to give and dissipate whatever was in his grasp.

16th. Whilst youth lasted, till grayness invaded his head, he acted like a youth ; but when that came upon him, he said to vanity, " be no more."

17th. It delights my soul that I never said to him, " thou hast spoken falsely," and that towards him I never was a miser in what my hands possessed.

Taabata Sharran said ; and the poem is otherwise attributed to *Shanfarā*, the son of *Taabata Sharran's* sister.

1st. In the valley between the two mountains, under the cleft of the rock, lies the slain, whose blood shall not pass unrevenged.

2d. He has left, he has bequeathed, the charge to me : I have taken his charge on myself.

3d. (He said) but in pursuit of revenge for me is the son of my sister, mighty in battle, whose knot (of determination) will not be loosened :

4th. Silent he sweats death, as the basilisk in silence vomits forth poison, against which there is no charm.

5th. The intelligence of what had happened to us was direful ; it was so important that (other) the most important affairs were trifling through it.

6th. Fortune prevailed over me and plundered me, was unjust towards one who disdains to yield, whose comrade shall not be vilified.

7th. (Grateful was he as) the sun in winter ; but when *Sirius* blazed, coolness and shade :

8th. Dry on the sides, though remote from want ;‡ moist in the hands ;§ quick of apprehension ; trusting to self :

9th. Journeying with prudence, till when he alighted, prudence alighted where he took up his abode.

10th. An extended rain that covers the surface of the earth when he gave ; a lion that dreads not opposition when he rushed to the attack :

11th. Loose in attire among his tribe ; dark-lipped ; negligent of dress ;|| but, when he went forth to war, a lean-haunched *Sima*.¶

12th.

* The skin of a dead young camel is stuffed and preserved, that being shewn to the mother, it may induce her to give her milk more freely. The poet likens himself, in defending his slain brother, to the camel that shews the same attention to the skin of its deceased offspring as if it was alive.

† Studious to gain the affections of others by entertaining them with what he had, rather than to apply it to the feeding or adorning of his own body.

‡ Rather giving what he had to others than expending it on himself. The Arabs, too, glory in being lean.

§ Liberal, as if the hands dripped with gifts.

|| Too conscious of his dignity among his tribe to study nicety in dress.

¶ An animal said to be generated of the wolf and hyena, lean in its haunches, and accounted by the Arabs to be the most ferocious and destructive of beasts.

12th. Two flavours had he, honey and colocynth;* and both (his friend and his foe) tasted (respectively) the two flavours.

13th. Terror he would mount alone; no one accompanying him save the knotted yemania (sword).†

14th. Oft the generous youths travelled in the mid-day sun, continuing their journey through the night, till, when (the darkness) was dissipated, they alighted:

15th. Each one persevering in enterprise, arrayed with a penetrating sword, like the flash of the lightning when drawn forth:

16th. Then they would sip up the draughts of sleep, and when they became drunken (with it) thou wouldst rouse them; and they would hasten forward impetuously (to invade the enemy).‡

17th. If, indeed, the tribe *Hudhail* has broken his edge, it is in return for the impression he had (before) made on *Hudhail*,

18th. And by way of retaliation for his having obliged them to take up their abode in a rugged station, where the soles of their camels were broken.

19th. Through me is *Hudhail* scorched (in the fire of war) by one famed for liberality, who will not feel disgust for bloodshed till they nauseate it.

20th. He will give his spear to drink its full; yet, when it has done so once, its draught shall be repeated.

21st. The hyæna laughs at the slain of *Hudhail*, and thou seest the wolf exulting on account of them:

22d. And the birds of prey flutter with the distention of their maws, treading on the slain, and unable to rise aloft in the air.

23d. (Now) the wine, though before prohibited (by my vow) is allowable: what was once interdicted, is through patience become lawful:§

24th. Hand it me, therefore, *Sawād*, son of *Amru*; for my body is become emaciated, since (the fall of) my uncle.

J. S.

* He was kind as honey is sweet to his friends, but bitter as colocynth in enmity to his foes.

† He would alone undertake that which is terrible, and subject it to himself, as the horse or camel is mounted and swayed by the rider; at least, he would take no comrade or assistant but his sword of Yemania, notched by frequent use.

‡ Intimating that he was the leader of the band of generous youths.

§ It was customary with the Arabs, when some one of their family was slain, to interdict themselves the use of wine, as well as the purification of the body, and the cutting of the hair, till revenge was taken: by calling for wine, therefore, the poet intimates that he had fully avenged the blood of his relative, and absolved himself from the obligation of his vow.

DISTICH FROM THE ANWĀRĪ SOHAILĪ.

Wise men esteem a prophet and a king,
But as two seals set in the self-same ring.

EPIGRAM.

From the Italian.

Mævius tries poetry by simple rules;
He lauds dead bards, and calls the living, fools.
To be abused by Mævius, and to live,—
Gods! for such boons what can a poet give!

R.

JUDICIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CEYLON.

As our Indian administration, especially the judicial branch of it, is becoming, from peculiar circumstances, a subject of increasing interest, a statement, from authentic sources, of the important experiments which have been successfully made at Ceylon, accompanied by an exposition of the principles upon which they were adopted, and the advantages which they have already been attended with, cannot but be gratifying.

Sir Alexander Johnston, the then chief justice and first member of his Majesty's Council in Ceylon, after a very long residence on that island, a very attentive examination of all the different religious and moral codes of the various descriptions of people who inhabit Asia, a constant intercourse for many years, as well literary as official, with natives of all the different castes and religious persuasions which prevail in India, and a most careful consideration of every thing which related to the subject, recorded it as his official opinion, in 1808, that the most certain and the most safe method of improving the British government in India, of raising the intellectual and moral character of the natives, of giving them a real interest in the British Government, and of insuring the continuance of their attachment to the British empire, was to render the system of administering justice amongst them really independent, efficient, and popular; and that the wisest method of gradually attaining these objects, was by granting to the natives of the country themselves, under the superintendence of European judges, a direct and a considerable share in the administration of that system.

As a very general opinion prevailed, both in India and in England, that the natives of India, from their division into castes, from their want of intellect, from their want of education, and from their want of veracity and integrity, were incapable of exercising any political or any judicial authority, either with credit to themselves or with advantage to their countrymen, it was for many reasons deemed prudent by Sir Alexander Johnston, that the experiment of allowing natives of India to exercise the same rights and privileges in the administration of justice in India, as are exercised by Englishmen in Great Britain, should be first tried on the island of Ceylon.

The intellectual and moral character of the inhabitants of Asia is formed, in a great degree, if not altogether, by the different systems of religion, and the different codes of morals which prevail amongst them, and which may be ranked (viewing them not according to the purity and truth of their doctrines, but according to the number of persons who are subject to their influence,) in the following order:—

First, The Hindoo religion and code.

Second, The Buddhist religion and code.

Third, The Mahomedan religion and code. And

Fourth, The Christian religion and its system of morals.

Considering them, therefore, with a view to the peculiarities of their intellectual and moral character, the inhabitants of Asia may be divided into the four following great divisions, each division practically exhibiting, in the character and conduct of the different classes of people who belong to it, the intellectual and moral effect of their respective religious and moral codes:

First, Those who profess the pure Hindoo religion, or some of its modifications.

Second, Those who profess the Buddhist religion, or some of its modifications.

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Third,

Third, Those who profess the Mahomedan religion, or some of its modifications. And

Fourth, Those who profess the Christian religion, whether according to the doctrines of the reformed or of the Catholic Church.

The population of Ceylon consists of a considerable number of inhabitants of each of the four following descriptions of people, *viz.* 1st, of about half a million who derive their descent from the inhabitants of the opposite peninsula of India, who profess the same modification of the Hindoo religion, who speak the same language, have the same customs and laws, and the same division of castes, as those inhabitants; 2dly, of about half a million other inhabitants who claim their descent from the people of Ava and Siam, who have the same religious and moral code, and who profess the same modification and the same customs of the Buddho religion as the inhabitants of those two countries; 3dly, between 50,000 and 60,000 Mahomedan inhabitants, who are partly of Arab and partly of Mogul descent, who have the same customs and laws, and who profess the same modifications of the Mahomedan religion, as prevail amongst the different classes of Mahomedans who inhabit the peninsula of India; and, 4thly, of a very considerable number of what in the rest of India are called half-castes, descended partly from Portuguese, partly from Dutch, and partly from English Europeans, some of them professing the Catholic, some the reformed religion, and all of them resembling in character and disposition the half-castes in the rest of India. As it was therefore obvious that the population of Ceylon was composed of a great number of each of the four great divisions of people of which the population of the rest of India was composed, Sir Alexander Johnston conceived that, should the experiment of extending the rights and privileges of Englishmen, in as far as they relate to the administration of justice, to all the different descriptions of half-castes and other natives on the island of Ceylon, be attended with success, it might therefore be acted upon with great moral and political advantage in legislating for the different descriptions of half-castes and other natives on the continent of India.

From the year 1802, the date of the first royal charter of justice, to the year 1811, justice had been administered in the courts on that island according to what is called, in Holland, the Dutch-Roman law, both in civil and in criminal cases, without a jury of any description whatever, by two European judges, who were judges both of law and fact, as well in civil as in criminal cases. In 1809, it was determined by his Majesty's ministers, on the suggestion of Sir Alexander Johnston, that the two European judges of the Supreme Court on Ceylon should for the future, in criminal cases, be judges only of law, and that juries, composed of the natives of the island themselves, should be judges of the fact, in all cases in which native prisoners were concerned; and, in November 1811, a new charter of justice under the great seal of England was published on Ceylon, by which amongst other things it was in substance enacted, that every native of the island who was tried for a criminal offence before the Supreme Court should be tried by a jury of his own countrymen, and that the right of sitting upon juries in all such cases should be extended, subject to certain qualifications, to every half-caste, and to every other native of the island, whatever his caste or religious persuasion.

This experiment of extending the rights and privileges of Englishmen having, after sixteen years' experience, been found to be productive of the greatest security to Government, and of the greatest benefit to the people of the country, it has become a subject of serious consideration both in India and

and in England, whether the same rights and the same privileges, as since the year 1811 have been exercised with the most beneficial effects by the natives of the island of Ceylon, may not also be exercised with the same good effect by all the natives of the East-India Company's dominions in India; and Sir Alexander Johnston, at the request of the President of the Board of Control, wrote to him, in the year 1825, the letter, of which the following is a copy, explaining to him the reasons which originally induced Sir Alexander to propose the introduction of trial by jury amongst the natives of Ceylon, the mode in which his plan was carried into effect, and the consequences with which its adoption has been attended.

“ 26th May 1825.

“ Dear Sir: I have the pleasure, at your request, to give you an account of the plan I adopted while chief justice and first member of his Majesty's Council on Ceylon, for introducing trial by jury into that island, and for extending the right of sitting upon juries to every half-caste native, as well as to every other native of the country, to whatever caste or religious persuasion he might belong. I shall explain to you the reasons which induced me to propose this plan, the mode in which it was carried into effect, and the consequences with which its adoption has been attended. The complaints against the former system for administering justice on Ceylon were, that it was dilatory, expensive, and unpopular. The defects of that system arose from the little value which the natives of the country attached to a character for veracity, from the total want of interest which they manifested for a system, in the administration of which they themselves had no share, from the difficulty which European judges, who were not only judges of law, but also judges of fact, experienced in ascertaining the degree of credit which they ought to give to native testimony, and finally from the delay in the proceedings of the court, which were productive of great inconvenience to the witnesses who attended the sessions, and great expense to the government which defrayed their costs. The obvious way of remedying these evils in the system of administering justice, was, first, to give the natives a direct interest in that system, by imparting to them a considerable share in its administration; secondly, to give them a proper value for a character for veracity, by making such a character the condition upon which they were to look for respect from their countrymen, and that from which they were to hope for promotion in the service of their government; thirdly, to make the natives themselves, who, from their knowledge of their countrymen, can decide at once upon the degree of credit which ought to be given to native testimony, judges of fact; and thereby shorten the duration of trials, relieve witnesses from a protracted attendance on the courts, and materially diminish the expense of the government. The introduction of trial by jury into Ceylon, and the extension of the right of sitting upon juries to every native of the island, under certain modifications, seemed to me the most advisable method of attaining these objects. Having consulted the chief priests of the Budhoo religion, in as far as the Cingalese in the southern part of the island, and the Brahmins of Remissuram, Madura and Jafna, in as far as the Hindoos of the northern part of the island, were concerned, I submitted my plan for the introduction of trial by jury into Ceylon to the Governor and Council of that island. Sir T. Maitland, the then governor of Ceylon, and the other members of the council, thinking the object of my plan an object of great importance to the prosperity of the island, and fearing lest objections might be urged against it in England, from the novelty of the measure (no such rights as those which I proposed to grant to the natives of Ceylon

Ceylon ever having been granted to any native of India), sent me officially, as first member of council, to England, with full authority to urge, in the strongest manner, the adoption of the measure, under such modifications as his Majesty's ministers might, on my representations, deem expedient. After the question had been maturely considered in England, a charter passed the great seal, extending the right of sitting upon juries, in criminal cases, to every native of Ceylon, in the manner in which I had proposed, and on my return to Ceylon with this charter in November 1811, its provisions were immediately carried into effect by me.

" In order to enable you to form some idea of the manner in which the jury trial is introduced amongst the natives and half-castes of Ceylon, I shall explain to you, 1st, what qualifies a native of Ceylon to be a jurymen; 2dly, how the jurymen are summoned at each session; 3dly, how they are chosen at each trial; and 4thly, how they receive the evidence and deliver their verdict. Every native of Ceylon, provided he be a freeman, has attained the age of twenty-one, and is a permanent resident in the island, is qualified to sit on juries. The fiscal, or sheriff of the province, as soon as a criminal session is fixed for his province, summonses a considerable number of jurymen of each caste, taking particular care that no jurymen is summoned out of his turn, or so as to interfere with any agricultural or manufacturing pursuits in which he may be occupied, or with any religious ceremony at which his caste may require his attendance. On the first day of the session the names of all the jurymen who are summoned are called over, and the jurymen, as well as all the magistrates and police officers, attend in court, and hear the charge delivered by the judge. The prisoners are then arraigned; every prisoner has a right to be tried by thirteen jurymen of his own caste; unless some reason why the prisoner should not be tried by jurymen of his own caste can be urged to the satisfaction of the court by the Advocate Fiscal, who on Ceylon holds an office very nearly similar to that held in Scotland by the Lord Advocate; or unless the prisoner himself, from believing people of his own caste to be prejudiced against him, should apply to be tried either by thirteen jurymen of another caste, or by a jury composed of half-castes, or Europeans. As soon as it is decided of what caste the jury is to be composed, the register of the court puts into an urn, which stands in a conspicuous part of the court, a very considerable number of the names of jurymen of that caste out of which the jury is to be formed; he continues to draw the names out of the urn (the prisoner having a right to object to five peremptorily, and to any number, for cause), until he has drawn the names of thirteen jurymen who have not been objected to: these thirteen jurymen are then sworn, according to the form of their respective religions, to decide upon the case according to the evidence, and without partiality. The Advocate Fiscal then opens the case for the prosecution (through an interpreter if necessary) to the judge, and proceeds to call all the witnesses for the prosecution, whose evidence is taken down (through an interpreter if necessary), in the hearing of the jury, by the judge; the jury having a right to examine, and the prisoner to cross-examine, any of the above witnesses. When the case for the prosecution is closed, the prisoner states what he has to urge in his defence, and calls his witnesses, the jury having a right to examine, and the prosecutor to cross-examine them; their evidence being taken down by the judge: the prosecutor is seldom or never, except in very particular cases, allowed to reply or call any witnesses in reply. The case for the prosecution and for the prisoner being closed, the judge (through an interpreter when necessary) recapitulates the evidence to the jury

jury from his notes, adding such observations from himself as may occur to him on the occasion, the jury, after deliberating upon the case, either in the jury box, or, if they wish to retire, in a room close to the court, deliver their verdict through their foreman in open court, that verdict being the opinion of the majority of them; the most scrupulous care being taken that the jury never separate, nor communicate with any person whatever, from the moment they are sworn, till their verdict, having been delivered as aforesaid, has been publicly recorded by the register. The number of native jurymen of every caste on Ceylon is so great, and a knowledge before-hand what persons are to compose a jury in any particular case is so uncertain, that it is almost impossible for any person, whatever may be his influence in the country, either to bias or to corrupt a jury. The number of jurymen that are returned by the Fiscal or Sheriff to serve at each session, the impartial manner in which the names of the jurymen are drawn, the right which the prisoner and prosecutor may exercise of objecting to each jurymen as his name is drawn, the strictness which is observed by the court in preventing all communication between the jurymen when they are once sworn, and every other person, till they have delivered their verdict, give great weight to their decision. The native jurymen being now judges of fact, and the European judges only judges of law, one European judge only is now necessary, where formerly, when they were judges both of law and fact, two, or sometimes three, were necessary. The native jurymen, from knowing the different degrees of weight which may safely be given to the testimony of their countrymen, decide upon questions of fact with so much more promptitude than Europeans could do, that, since the introduction of trial by jury, no trial lasts above a day, and no session above a week or ten days at furthest; whereas, before the introduction of trial by jury, a single trial used sometimes to last six week or two months, and a single session not unfrequently for three months. All the natives who attend the courts as jurymen obtain so much information during their attendance, relative to the modes of proceeding and the rules of evidence, that, since the establishment of jury trial, Government have been enabled to find amongst the half-castes and native jurymen, some of the most efficient and respectable native magistrates in the country, who, under the control of the Supreme Court, at little or no expense to Government, administer justice in inferior offences to the native inhabitants. The introduction of the trial by native juries, at the same time that it has increased the efficiency and despatch of the courts, and has relieved both prisoners and witnesses from the hardships which they incurred from the protracted delay of the criminal sessions, has, independent of the savings it enabled the Ceylon Government to make immediately on its introduction, since afforded that Government an opportunity of carrying into effect, in the judicial department of the island, a plan for a permanent saving of ten thousand pounds a year, as appears by my report quoted in page 8 of the printed Collection of Papers herewith sent. No man whose character for honesty or veracity is impeached can be enrolled on the list of jurymen, the circumstance of a man's name being upon the jury roll is a proof of his being a man of unexceptionable character, and is that to which he appeals in case his character be attacked in a court of justice, or in case he solicits his Government for promotion in their service. As the rolls of jurymen are revised by the Supreme Court at every session, they operate as a most powerful engine in making the people of the country more attentive than they used to be in their adherence to truth: the right of sitting upon juries has given the natives of Ceylon a value for character, which they never felt before, and

and has raised in a very remarkable manner the standard of their moral feelings. All the natives of Ceylon who are enrolled as jurymen, conceive themselves to be as much a part, as the European judges themselves are, of the Government of their country, and therefore feel, since they have possessed the right of sitting upon juries, an interest which they never felt before in upholding the British Government of Ceylon. The beneficial consequence of this feeling is strongly exemplified in the difference between the conduct which the native inhabitants of the British settlements on Ceylon observed in the Kandian war of 1803 and that which they observed in the Kandian war of 1816. In the war between the British and Kandian Government in 1803, which was before the introduction of trial by jury, the native inhabitants of the British settlements were, for the most part, in a state of rebellion; in the war between the same governments in 1816, which was five years after the introduction of trial by jury, the inhabitants of the British settlements, so far from shewing the smallest symptom of dissatisfaction, took, during the very heat of the war, the opportunity of my return to England, to express their gratitude through me to the British Government for the valuable right of sitting upon juries, which had been conferred upon them by his present Majesty, as appears by the addresses contained from page 16 to page 50, in the printed papers herewith sent. The charge delivered by my successor, the present Chief Justice of the island, in 1820, contains the strongest additional testimony which could be afforded of the beneficial effects which were experienced by the British Government from the introduction of trial by jury amongst the natives of the island. (See that charge in pages 289 and 290 of Vol. X. of the *Asiatic Journal*.) As every native jurymen, whatever his caste or religion may be, or in whatever part of the country he may reside, appears before the Supreme Court once at least every two years, and as the judge who presides delivers a charge at the opening of each session to all the jurymen who are in attendance on the court; a useful opportunity is afforded to the natives of the country, by the introduction of trial by jury, not only of participating themselves in the administration of justice, but also of hearing any observations which the judges, in delivering their charge may think proper to make to them with respect to any subject which is connected either with the administration of justice, or with the state of society or morals in any part of the country. The difference between the conduct which was observed by all the proprietors of slaves on Ceylon, in 1806, which was before the introduction of trial by jury, and that which was observed by them in 1816, which was five years after the introduction of trial by jury, is a strong proof of the change which may be brought about in public opinion, by the judges availing themselves of the opportunity which their charging the jury on the first day of session affords them, of circulating amongst the natives of the country such opinions as may promote the welfare of any particular class of society. As the right of every proprietor of slaves to continue to hold slaves on Ceylon was guaranteed to him by the capitulation under which the Dutch possessions had been surrendered to the British arms in 1795, the British Government of Ceylon conceived that, however desirable the measure might be, they had not a right to abolish slavery on Ceylon by any legislative act. A proposition was however made on the part of Government by me to the proprietors of slaves in 1806, before trial by jury was introduced, urging them to adopt some plan of their own accord for the gradual abolition of slavery; this proposition they at that time unanimously rejected. The right of sitting upon juries was granted to the inhabitants of Ceylon in 1811. From that period I availed myself

self of the opportunities which were afforded to me, when I delivered my charge at the commencement of each session to the jurymen, most of whom were considerable proprietors of slaves, of informing them of what was doing in England upon the subject of the abolition of slavery, and of pointing out to them the difficulties which they themselves must frequently experience, in executing with impartiality their duties as jurymen, in all cases in which slaves were concerned; a change of opinion upon the subject of slavery was gradually perceptible amongst them, and in the year 1816, the proprietors of slaves of all castes and religious persuasions in Ceylon, sent me their unanimous resolutions, to be publicly recorded in court, declaring free all children born of their slaves after the 12th of August 1816, which in the course of a very few years must put an end to the state of slavery which had subsisted on Ceylon for more than three centuries.”*

Sir Alexander Johnston was fully aware, when he first introduced trial by jury into Ceylon, that the degree of confidence which the people of the country might be expected to repose in that institution would be proportionate to the conviction which they entertained, that they themselves would be always consulted, as to the character and qualifications of those persons whose names were to be enrolled in the list of men qualified to act as jurors, and that neither the Local Government nor the Supreme Court would ever attempt to exert any undue influence, either in the original formation of that list, or in the subsequent selection from it, of such jurors as might from time to time be required to serve at any criminal session which might be held by the Supreme Court in any part of the island. The great object, therefore, which Sir Alexander Johnston had in view, in all the regulations which he made upon this subject, was not only to render it extremely difficult, but to convince the people of the country themselves that it was extremely difficult, if not impossible, either for the Local Government or the Court to exert any undue influence as to the jurors, without their attempt to do so becoming directly a matter of public notoriety and public animadversion.

It appeared to Sir A. Johnston that the surest method of attaining this object was to limit, as far as he could by public regulations, the power of the Court and that of its officers; and to place them in every point which was in any way connected with the jury, under the constant inspection and control of the people of the country. He accordingly, after much consultation with some of the most enlightened natives of the island, published a regulation, declaring that every man on the island, whatever might be his caste or religious persuasion, had a positive right to act as a jurymen, provided he was a man of unexceptionable character, a free man, a permanent resident on the island, and had attained the age of twenty-one. Also declaring that the people of the country themselves should be the judges whether a man had or had not those qualifications which by this regulation gave him that positive right. Sir A. Johnston, at the same time, published another regulation, directing the fiscal or sheriff of each province on the island, publicly to make and return to the Supreme Court a correct list of all persons in his province who were qualified as required by the former regulation to act as jurymen. To prevent the possibility of abuse on the part of the fiscal of any province; the following mode of proceeding was observed by the court:—As soon as the fiscal of a province had made out and returned to the court a list of all
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* See pages 15 and 16, of the Eleventh Report of the Directors of the African Institution, and from page 93 to page 100 of the Appendix of that Report.

persons in his province who were duly qualified to serve as jurymen, this list was by order of the court published and circulated through every part of the province, for the specific purpose of enabling every inhabitant of the province to make such remarks on it as might occur to him, and to prefer, when necessary, an immediate and public complaint to the court against the fiscal, if it should appear that the fiscal either had omitted out of the list the name of any person whose name he ought to have inserted in it, or had inserted in the list the name of any person whose name he ought to have omitted. After the list had undergone this public scrutiny, it was publicly ordered by the court to be considered by the fiscal as the list of all persons who were duly qualified to act as jurors in his province, and that out of which he was bound to return, by rotation, all persons who were required to serve as juror at the criminal sessions held by the Supreme Court in his province. Independent of these precautions against any abuse on the part of the fiscal, every person in a province in which the court was about to hold a criminal session, had public notice given him long before the session was held, that the list in question was always liable to be publicly revised by the court at the commencement of the session, upon any complaint which might be publicly made to the court by an inhabitant of the province, either against the fiscal for any impropriety of conduct in making out the list, or against any individual on the list for any impropriety of conduct in getting his name inserted in that list. Although, therefore, the Supreme Court and its officers, the fiscals, are allowed, for convenience-sake, to be the instruments through which the list of persons on the island qualified to act as jurymen is obtained, it is hardly possible, considering the manner in which all their proceedings in this point are watched and controlled by the people of the country, that either the court itself or its officers can exert any undue influence in the selection of jurors without such conduct being immediately known, and becoming a subject of public and general animadversion.

We subjoin the following authentic fact, which is not merely curious in itself, but is illustrative of the benefits of the jury-system.

After the introduction of juries into Ceylon, a wealthy Brahmin, whose unpopular character had rendered him obnoxious to many, was accused of murdering his nephew, and put upon trial. He chose a jury of his own caste; but so strong was the evidence against him, that twelve (out of thirteen) of the jury were thoroughly convinced of his guilt. The dissentient juror, a young Brahmin of Ramisseram, stood up, declared his persuasion that the prisoner was the victim of a conspiracy, and desired that all the witnesses might be recalled. He examined them with astonishing dexterity and acuteness, and succeeded in extorting from them such proofs of their perjury, that the jury, instead of consigning the accused to an ignominious death, pronounced him innocent. The affair made much noise in the island; and the Chief Justice (Sir A. Johnston himself) sent for the juror who had so distinguished himself, and complimented him upon the talents he had displayed. The Brahmin attributed his skill to his study of a book, which he called "strengtheners of the mind." He had procured it, he said, from some pilgrims at Ramisseram, who obtained it from Persia; and he had translated it from the Sanscrit, into which it had been rendered from the Persian. Sir A. Johnston expressing curiosity to see this work, the Brahmin brought him a Tamul MS. on palm leaves, which Sir Alexander found, to his infinite surprise, to be the *Dialectics of Aristotle*!

ON THE NAMES OF CHINA.

By M. KLAPROTH.*

THE name of "China," which we give to the largest country in Eastern Asia, is not in general use there: we received it from the Malays, who call it چین *China*. The pilots and some of the seamen who navigated the first Portuguese vessels that visited China, being of Malay origin, it was natural enough that the Portuguese themselves should adopt the name which their guides gave to that country. The Malays had known the Chinese ever since the latter part of the third century before our era, when Tsin-che-hwang-te (their first supreme monarch) subjected the southern part of China, as well as Tonquin, and pushed his conquests as far as Cochin China. The natives of the Malay islands, having direct commercial relations with these countries, were consequently acquainted, from that period, with the Chinese, who then bore the name of Tsin: the Malays not having the aspirated *ts*, pronounced this word *China*, appending to it the *a*. It is equally well established, that the first intercourse of the Chinese with India bears date in the Tsin dynasty.† This name was converted by the Hindoos into चीन *China*, for the same reason as with the Malays, since the Devanagari alphabet and its derivatives are equally destitute of the aspirated consonant *ts*, for which when necessary the च *ch* is substituted. In the Bauddhist books, the name is also written *China*; it has even been adopted in the Chinese translations made from these books; and the Chinese themselves have affected the use of two characters (*Che-na*) which express the same sounds. It was from India, moreover, that the Arabians acquired the word جين *Jin*, as they were obliged to write it, not having the Persian چ *ch*. They speedily perceived, however, that this letter, چ was not exactly adapted to express the name Tsin; they accordingly exchanged the initial letter for ص and wrote سين *Sin*. Hence some German scholars, not very conversant with the subject, have concluded that we ought rather to write *Sina* than *China*; forgetting that in their mother tongue the letter *s* represents the *z* of the dialects derived from the Latin; and that it is much too soft to express the sound of the Chinese *ts*, which is the German *z* aspirated.

The Sanscrit name महचीन *Mahá China*, contracted in the Hindoo dialects into Machín माचिन, and adopted under this latter form by the Persians, is not very ancient; it seems not to be of an earlier date than the middle of the twelfth century, the period when the emperors of the Sung dynasty were forced to withdraw into the southern portion of their empire, and cede the northern provinces to the Kin or Jurjab, the ancestors of the Mandchūs of the present day. The northern part of China then received, amongst foreigners, the name of China or Chin; before that period it had also been called Cathay, from the name of the Khitans, a Tungouse-Mongol tribe, who ruled there.

Notwithstanding the monstrous configuration which Ptolemy has given to the

* *Journal Asiatique*, n. 55 p. 53.

† Which ended B.C. 180.—Ed.

the south-eastern portion of Asia, we can easily recognize upon his charts the Ultra-Gangetic peninsula, the Gulf of Tonquin, and the southern coast of China. He calls the inhabitants of the latter, and those of Tonquin, *Sinae*, *Sinae*, because they were then under Chinese dominion. Their capital, Thine (ἡ μητρόπολις θιναι) is most probably the present Canton, or at least a town which existed in its neighbourhood, for Canton has several times changed its place, as we find from the history of China. Ptolemy has prolonged the southern coast of China towards the south, although in fact it extends from west to east, so that his chart is completely twisted; but it is only necessary to turn it about in order to discover the site of Canton in Thine, and the Bocca Tigris, or estuary of the Tiger, in the τῶν Σινῶν κόλπος, or *gulf of the Sinae*. Even the Ta-keang, or Se-keang (river), may be perceived, on the northern bank of which Canton, or the capital of the Sinae, is situated. The notions which Ptolemy entertained respecting this country were probably more ancient than his age; or, what is equally probable, the name of Tsin, given to China, was already common throughout India, beyond the Ganges, and amongst the inhabitants of the Sunda islands. Cosmas Indicopleustes, a Christian of the Latin church, who travelled over India in the early part of the sixth century, has left a very curious *Christian cosmography*, wherein he names China Τζινίτζα, *Tzinitza*, compares it with India, Persia, and the Roman states, and asserts that there is no navigation beyond that country: he adds, in another part of his book, that Tzinitza was washed by the sea to the eastward.

Although the ancients, the Arabian navigators, and the early Portuguese who visited India, had adopted the Sanscrit and Malay name of *China* for northern China; the southern part of this country, not bearing the same name amongst the neighbouring people, was differently denominated in the west. Under the Han dynasty, that is, in the two centuries before and after our era, the Chinese had subdued the whole of central Asia, as far as the banks of the Oxus and Jaxartes. They had established military colonies there, and their traders traversed those countries to barter their merchandize for the products of Persia and the Roman empire. They brought chiefly raw silk and silk stuffs, which met with an excellent market in Persia and Europe. According to the Greek authors, the word *σε* denoted the *silk-worm*, and the inhabitants of *Serica*, the country from whence silk was brought. This fact demonstrates that the name of *Seres* was given them from the precious commodity which the people of the west came to them in search of. In the Armenian language, the insect which produces silk is called *sheram*, a name which bears a strong resemblance to the *σε* of the Greeks. It is natural to believe that these two words were borrowed from people more eastern; this we are enabled to prove by means of the Mongol and Mandchū tongues. It results that the name of silk, amongst the ancients, really originated in eastern Asia. Silk is called *sirkek* by the Mongols, and *sirgha* by the Mandchūs: these two nations dwelt on the north and north-east of China. Can it be presumed that they received these denominations from the people of the west? On the other hand, the Chinese *sze*, which means *raw silk*, discovers not only some resemblance to *sirkek* and *sirgha*, but a remarkable similarity to the *σε* of the Greeks. The analogy will appear more striking still when it is known that in the Mandarin dialect the *r* is not pronounced, although it may probably be found in the old dialects of China. But the Corean word *sir*, denoting *silk*, is completely identical with the Greek *σε*, which is pronounced *sir*.* Silk then gave its name

* It would be curious to ascertain when the word *silk* was introduced into the English language. It appears to be the same as the Russian *chelk*, which, I believe, is derived from the Mongol *sirkek*: a fact which is the more probable because Russia was long under the yoke of the Mongols.—K.

name to the people who manufactured it and sent it to the west. Thus the Seres are evidently the Chinese, whose empire was formerly separated by the Oxus from that of Persia, whatever those geographers may say, who are only capable of fixing the position of nations by means of compasses.

The first Chinese colonies which came from the north-west to people the countries along the Hwang-ho (or yellow river), found themselves in the midst of tribes almost in a savage state, at least much less civilized than themselves. They, therefore, gave to the state which they proceeded to found, the name of *Chung-kwō*, or the *middle kingdom* or *empire*. Some Chinese writers tell us that this denomination began in the time of Ching-wang, the second emperor of the Chow dynasty, who reigned towards the close of the twelfth century before our era. At this period China was divided into several principalities, all of which assumed the title of kingdoms. Chow-kung, uncle of that emperor, gave to the country of Lo-yang, in Ho-nan, where the Chinese monarch resided, the name of *Chung-kwō*, because it was situated in the midst of the other kingdoms of which China was then composed. Henceforward, add the same authors, the portion of the empire, or its aggregate, possessed by the emperors, has always borne this title.

The same denomination has been retained even to the present time; and the nations adjoining China have transmitted it in their respective languages. The Mandchūs say *Dulimba-e-Gurun*; the Mongols *Dumda-en-ulus*; the Tonquinese *Juwa-kwok*; the Japanese *Tsiow-kokow*; and the Burmans *Alai-prāi-dāi*: all these appellations signify the *middle kingdom*.

This epithet given to China may, however, be explained in a different manner. *Chung*, in Chinese, signifies also "the perfect moral medium, which in no wise deviates from rectitude." In this acceptance of the word, *Chung-kwō* will mean the perfectly well-governed kingdom. I need not here refute the absurd idea of those who pretend that the Chinese believe their country to be situated in the centre of the world, and that it is on that account they call it *Chung-kwō*. A sailor or a coolie of Canton may, indeed, give such an explanation, but it is for the understanding of those who interrogate him to adopt or reject it.*

Another name by which the Chinese frequently designate their country is that of *Sze-hae*, or the *four seas*. This may be termed a poetical appellation, for it supposes four great masses of water surrounding China, whilst it is washed by the sea only on the east and the south. Some vague notions respecting the Caspian Sea, lake Baikal, and even the Frozen Ocean, may have given rise to this denomination in early times.†

The term *T'ien-hea*, that which is under heaven, the world (in a limited sense), in Mandchū, *Abkai-fejezghi*, and in Mongol, *Tegri-en-doxih*, is commonly applied to China, by amplification, as the word *orbis* by the Romans to their empire. The Japanese pronounce *Tenka* for *T'ien-hea*, and apply this name to their own country.

Another denomination of China is *Shin-tan*, that is, the *Eastern Aurora*.‡ It is found in the Buddhist books, and is principally used by the Japanese, who translate it by *Moru-kossi*. Other Chinese names of China are *Chung-hwa*, or the *flower of the middle*; *T'ien-chaou*, or the *celestial empire*; *Chung-yang*, or the *vast middle platform*.§

The Mahomedans of China apply to the country the name of *Tung-too*, or *eastern land*, and give that of *Chung-kwō* to Arabia, the native country of the founder of their religion.||

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* See note (a) at the end. † See note (b). ‡ See note (c). § See note (d). || See note (e).

The Chinese commonly call their empire after the name of the reigning dynasty. It is thus that, in the most remote times, they gave it the names of *Tang*, of *Yu*, and of *Hea*. The great deeds of the emperors of the Han dynasty recommended this name to common use, and subsequently the Chinese bore the name of *Han-jin*, or *men of Han*; it is even at present very common: the Japanese pronounce it *Kan*. The dynasty of the *Tangs* being rendered still more illustrious by conquest than that of Han, the name *Tang-jin*, or *men of Tang*, was for some centuries in use as a designation of the Chinese: it is yet employed in Japan, but there it is translated *Kara*, which, like *Tang*, in Chinese, signifies *vain-glorious, boastful*, and is written with the same character.

China, at the present period, being governed by the Mandchū dynasty, which adopted the title of *Tsing*, or *Ta-tsing*, the Chinese call themselves *Tsing-jin*, or *men of Tsing*, as they bore the name of *Ming-jin* under the Ming dynasty.

The Mongols call the Chinese *Kitat* and *Nanghéat*. The Mandchūs give them the name of *Nekan*. The Tonquinese and the inhabitants of Cochinchina call them, by way of contempt, *Ngo*, and their kingdom *Noo-ock-nga*. The Tibetians give to China the appellation of *Youlbow*, and to its inhabitants that of *Jandag*, or *Gheanag*, which signifies white *Jas*, or *Gheas*, in contradistinction to the *Jagar* or *Gheagar*, that is, black *Jas* or *Gheas*, who are the Hindoos.

NOTES.

(a) This passage seems to contain a sneer against Dr. Morrison, who certainly implies, if he does not expressly declare, that the Chinese understand by *Chung-kwō* that their nation is situated in the midst of the terrestrial world. The absurdity of the supposition that such is their notion is not very apparent. On the contrary, there is a very strong presumption, even from M. Klaproth's subsequent statements, that the Chinese do so understand it. But let us first examine this writer's hypothesis. He says that *Chung*, in Chinese, signifies "the perfect moral medium which never deviates from rectitude." This is not correct: the character *chung*, in which the radical *kwān*, a perpendicular line, intersects a square, signifies the middle, the centre, equi-distant from two extremes. The phrase M. Klaproth gives as the meaning of the character, is in fact the meaning of a sentence quoted in the dictionaries to illustrate the signification of *chung*, viz. "Ta chung che ching," or "Holding the perfect medium, without the least deviation from rectitude." (Morrison, I, 1, 25; I, 2, 110.) It is true, an ancient commentator on the *Chung-yung*, one of the four books of Confucius, says that the word there implies "neither excess nor defect, not leaning to one side or the other." But it is plain that even this amplification is no authority for M. Klaproth's definition of the term, which is forced and inaccurate. His idea that *Chung-kwō* means "the kingdom perfectly well-governed," seems, to use his own phrase, absurd.

(b) The notion that the Chinese suppose their empire to be surrounded by the sea, and especially by the waters specified by M. Klaproth, is, in our opinion, infinitely more absurd than that respecting the central position of their empire. The notion is, besides, perfectly gratuitous, and without authority. Dr. Morrison tells us that, according to the Chinese, the four seas (*Sze-hae*) surround the world; hence "all within the four seas denotes all within the world." We were not aware that the phrase was ever used by the Chinese as an appellation of their own empire; but if it has been so used, it seems to supply an additional proof that the meaning ascribed to the phrase *Chung-kwō*, which M. Klaproth thinks so absurd, is the true one.

(c) Without commenting upon the absurd pleonasm of "eastern Aurora," M. Klaproth here seems completely misled. Morrison says that "*Chin-tan* is a name given to China in the western regions. The character of *Chin* is not plainly printed in his dictionary,

tionary, but it appears to us that it should be *shin*; and *shin-tan* would then signify "the earliest dawn." Now it is apparent that this denomination could only have been used by the people who employed it, as we use the word "east," in speaking of Asia; that is to say, a people situated more to the west than the Chinese referred to the latter in this poetical phrase. It is idle to class this amongst the names of China.

(d) Chung-yāng, which M. Klaproth translates "*le vaste plateau du milieu*," signifies no more than "the midst, the very centre of any thing, as appears incontestably from some verses in the *She-king* quoted by Dr. Morrison (I, 1, 585). This furnishes another striking evidence that the Chinese, in calling their empire Chung-kwō, do not intend "the moral medium," the "point of rectitude," but its physical position.

(e) M. Klaproth appears to have taken this part of his argument from Dr. Morrison (Part III, p. 68), and to have misunderstood the lexicographer. "China's name," says Dr. M., "Chung-kwō, or middle nation, is claimed for Arabia by some of the Mahomedan writers in China: they say 'China should only be called the eastern land; Arabia (the heavenly mansion) is in the midst of the four extreme points, and the progenitor of mankind was produced there.'" By the *progenitor of mankind*, M. Klaproth has understood *Mahomed*; and he has, moreover, overlooked this further proof of the accuracy of the opinion which he pronounces absurd.

MEMOIR OF MAJOR-GENERAL SIR J. M. CHALMERS.

Major General Sir John Mary Chalmers was an officer of great gallantry and talents. For two and forty years he gave his entire and undivided exertions to the service of his employers. During this period, almost unparalleled in the military annals of the Company, he never, except on duty, quitted the Indian territories. If not actively engaged, he was ever at his post ready to devote himself upon the first emergency to the public service.

The active services of General Chalmers commenced in the year 1778, when he was engaged in the successful attack of the British troops upon the French fort of Mahé. He was subsequently concerned in five other sieges, viz. that of Chilumbraum, in 1781; that of Coimbatore, in 1790; that of Pondicherry, in 1792; and those of Ahmednuggur and Gawull Ghur, in 1803; at the latter place he headed one of the storming parties. At the siege of Coimbatore, in the first instance, the fort was invested and carried by General Meadows, who, upon quitting it, left General (then Lieutenant) Chalmers in command. Whilst thus held, it was besieged by an army raised by Tippoo Sultan, which consisted of 6,000 men with artillery. The enemy commenced an attack with vigour, and continued to batter the place for four and twenty days. Having at length effected a practicable breach, they made preparations for a storm, which was commenced at four o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fifth day. The contest was obstinately maintained for a long period with doubtful success, but the assailants were ultimately repulsed. The loss on both sides was considerable.

A report having gained ground that reinforcements were approaching to relieve the garrison, the enemy prepared for a retreat: which Lieutenant Chalmers perceiving, he sallied forth, stormed and carried a battery, and captured two guns. This gallantry was rewarded with the thanks of Lord Cornwallis and of the Governor of Fort St. George. The reinforcements subsequently arrived but soon returned to the main army leaving only one company behind.

In the mean time the garrison was employed in repairing the defences of the fortress, and in making such other preparations as their means allowed, to repel

repel any future attacks. They remained unmolested till October, when Kurreem Khan, one of Tippoo's generals, appeared before the fortress with 12,000 men, infantry and artillery. Without any parley he commenced his attack by opening batteries of 18 and 20-pounders upon the weakest part (the south-east face) of the fort. The garrison made two successful sallies on the enemy's trenches; but at length he succeeded in carrying his approaches to the foot of the glacis, while a practicable breach was also effected in the wall.

At the time the breach was made, the garrison was reduced to the necessity of shooting their great guns with stones, and of using iron slugs for their muskets. The only powder which remained had also been previously condemned and was scarcely serviceable. Intimation had also been given to Lieutenant Chalmers that no reinforcement could be spared to him, and that he and his garrison must depend entirely upon their own courage and resources. In this predicament, it was not deemed advisable to sacrifice the garrison by a further defence, and it was determined to surrender. Conformably with these views a negociation was opened with Kurreem Khan, and an honourable capitulation was concluded on the twenty-eighth day from that on which the enemy had opened his trenches. The thanks of General Meadows were on this occasion added to those of Lord Cornwallis and the Governor in Council, and they were accompanied by a gratuity from the Government of Fort St. George of £200.

General Chalmers was besides engaged in five battles which were attended with the most important results to the Honourable Company. He was also concerned in four campaigns and expeditions, and he quelled a rebellion raised by the Dewan of Travancore.

The following are the battles: in 1781, that of Porto Novo; in 1782, those of Arnee and Tripasore; in 1803, he commanded the rear-guard at the momentous battle of Assye, and he was subsequently engaged in that of Argam.

The campaigns or expeditions were those against the Marawah country in 1789; against Malacca in 1795; against Banda in 1796; and he had the honour of serving under Major General Sir Arthur Wellesley during the memorable campaign of 1803.

In 1806 he assumed the command of the Travancore subsidiary force. In 1808 the Dewan assembled a body of 25,000 men, with the view of annihilating the Company's force in that quarter, which consisted merely of a company of artillery of H.M.'s 12th Foot and three battalions of native troops. On the 15th January 1809 the rebels made three simultaneous and desperate attacks upon the British line, and an obstinate conflict was continued from daybreak till past eleven A. M. The enemy then gave way after having lost a great number of men and leaving behind them two guns, which fell into the hands of the British troops. On the 31st January, the enemy having re-assembled an army with an addition of 10,000 men, made two separate attacks, in both of which he was repulsed with great slaughter and the loss of two guns: he retreated upon a strongly fortified line. In the mean time the British force had been reinforced with H.M.'s 19th Regt. Foot, and on the 21st February proceeded to attack him in his position, which was gallantly carried, and seven guns captured.

In 1812 General Chalmers succeeded to the staff. In 1813 he was appointed to the command of the northern division of the Madras army, and, in 1815, he received the King's warrant constituting him a Knight Commander of the Bath.

In the year 1818 he embarked for England, and died on the voyage.

T. R.

RYOTWAR SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: With reference to the subject of Ryotwar revenue settlements, now under discussion in India, and to the collection of that revenue by stipendiary native officers, I send for the amusement of your readers, and the benefit of Ryotwar Collectors, extracts from the Revenue Code of the Sultan of Mysore.

Article 41 has not as yet been introduced into the Madras code; but the practice of "saddling" Ryots with a proportion of good and bad land is understood to be in full operation.

C. R.

Article 2d.—On the commencement of the year, he (the collector) shall give cowl to all the reyuts and respectable inhabitants of the district, and encourage them to cultivate the lands. He shall also ascertain in what reyuts' houses there are a number of men and but few ploughs, and having inquired into the circumstances* of such reyuts, shall oblige those who are in good circumstances to increase the number of their ploughs; and, in order to enable the reyuts who are needy to purchase ploughs and cultivate the lands, he shall give tucavee (advances of money) at the rate of three or four pagodas for every plough, taking security for the repayment. This tucavee is to be collected from them again in one or two years.

Article 3d.—The following rules are to be attended to in parcelling out the land for cultivation:—An equal proportion of lands which are dry or watered, and of those which are ijara (dry land with a money tax), or hissa (wet land dividing the produce with Government), shall be equally distributed for cultivation amongst the old and new reyuts; and when a reyut sows one khundee of seed in a certain quantity of ijara land, he shall sow one khundee and eight kuros in the same extent of hissa land. An account of the increase and deficiency of the produce shall be made out annually, and according to the cowl the revenue shall be taken in money, or where such shall be the custom, the half of the produce shall be given up to the reyuts, and the other half be retained as the share of the sovereign. Care must be taken that the hissa land is to be well manured, and whoever cultivates a greater quantity of land of this description than may have been allotted to him, pursuant to this rule, shall continue to do so; but if less, he shall be compelled to cultivate the full proportion.

Article 41.—One Putteel (Potail), or Shambogue of a village (village Registrar), shall not visit at the house of another.

Article 43.—The reyuts of villages are accustomed to expend their money upon travellers, and in celebrating festivals; they are now forbid to spend their money upon travellers, and it is ordered that when reyuts are desirous of expending money in this way, they shall only be allowed to expend one pagoda out of one hundred in every village; there is no occasion for them to spend more.

* The Company's officers exercise a greater discretion, in collecting according to the means of the people.

Review of Books.

Travels of the Russian Mission through Mongolia to China, and Residence in Peking, in the years 1820-1821. By GEORGE TIMKOWSKI. London, 1827. 2 vols.

THIS is a translation of a work originally published in the Russian language, containing the particulars of a journey from Kiachta (the frontier town between Russia and China) to Peking, through Mongolia, performed by the Russian mission which is permitted by the Chinese Government to visit, once in ten years, that capital for the purpose of relieving the members of the Russian college established there by virtue of the treaty of 1728. The English translator, although he has not expressly declared so, leaves the reader to infer that it was made from the original, adopting only the alterations and retrenchments in the French edition. As far as our comparison has enabled us to judge, it is, however, merely a translation from the French. The English editor has avowed his *obligations* to "that profound oriental scholar," M. Klaproth, the commentator of the Paris edition, "in the difficult task of accommodating Asiatic proper names to European pronunciation;" that is to say, he has spelt those names according to French not English orthography, whereby they are rendered mostly unintelligible to a mere English reader. He has, moreover, adopted the French spelling of the Russian and Mongol words, profusely scattered throughout the work, and which, being seldom if ever accompanied by any index to their meaning, are so many stumbling-blocks to a person ignorant of those tongues.

A consideration of the circumstances connected with this work would fairly authorize us to expect, from a perusal of it, a material addition to our knowledge. Mr. Timkowski possessed advantages which to other travellers in China are denied. He belongs to a nation privileged in China; he resided in Peking for nearly six months; he was surrounded by individuals of his own country, skilled in the language, history, and manners of the Chinese; and he had full liberty to perambulate the city, and to inspect its numerous curiosities, without molestation. After his return, he took three years to compile this account of his travels, in which interval, it is apparent, he employed himself in examining most of the works on China extant in European languages. So much for the original author; next for his editors and commentators. The work was translated into the French language by a person who (as appears from the *Prospectus* of the Paris edition put forth in March 1826, and now before us) was better acquainted with Russian than with French. "We have had recourse," says the *Prospectus*, "to M. Eyriès, editor of the *Nouvelles Annales des Voyages*, to correct the style as well as the mistakes unavoidable by a translator, who is not familiar with the subject of the work which he is employed to render into another language." This was not all: "in order to render it (the translation) as perfect as possible," says the same document, "we have thought it essential to subject it to the revision of a scholar who was not only well acquainted with Russian, but who had made the Chinese language, and China itself, a principal object of his researches. We could apply to no better person than to M. Klaproth, who not only consented to undertake the revision, but has engaged to enrich it with valuable notes, and to rectify the errors which have escaped the author."

We fear our readers will hesitate to give us credit when we state, that with
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all these uncommon, and almost unexampled advantages, the work possesses little more novelty and interest than if it had been compiled (as great part of it is) from the publications of the missionaries and those of modern travellers.

A large portion of Mr. Timkowski's diary appeared in our journal two years ago,* translated from the Russian language. The details there given are a little more expanded in the work under review; but, on the other hand, the additional information is sometimes of the most trifling and frivolous kind. The only record on one day is that "a high west wind blew the whole day and raised clouds of dust;" on another, "that the birth-day of the Emperor Alexander was observed with every demonstration of respect," &c. These unimportant details are noted not on the journey, but during the author's residence at Peking.

Mr. Timkowski's route is traced on the map prefixed to the first volume of this work, and which is servilely copied from the French map (the longitudes being computed from the meridian of Paris); from whence it appears that after reaching Oorga, the mission did not pursue the post road (as it is termed) to Peking, but a route more easterly, through the country of the Kalkas, eastern Sounites, and Tsakars, till just before they reached the great wall, where they fell into the Oorga road. Of this celebrated barrier Mr. Timkowski gives a few particulars, some of which he has borrowed from Mr. Barrow. Its external line, he says, forms the wall of the town of Kalkan, although, in the map, it is placed about thirty-five wersts (for no scale of English measures is given) to the north of Kalkan.†

The wall is properly composed of two thin walls, the top of which is crenated; the interval is filled up with earth and gravel. The foundations consist of large unhewn stones; the rest of the wall is of brick; its height is twenty-six feet, and its breadth at the top, fourteen. Towers, on which there are many cast-iron cannon, are placed at about 100 paces from each other; the great tower is decayed from age; the gate is much damaged, as well as the adjacent wall. No care is now taken to keep it in repair.

Having accompanied the author to Peking, we examined the work with some eagerness for an account of this object of curiosity. We found a chapter in the second volume, consisting of seventy pages, entitled "a short description of Peking," to which is appended the following note by M. Klaproth:

This description of Peking is taken *almost entirely* from that of Father Gaubil, published at Paris, 1765. If this chapter did not make a necessary part of Mr. Timkowski's travels, I should have been inclined to omit it. However, it seemed natural that the reader should find, in a journey to Peking, a description of that capital, the author himself having thought fit to *translate* it, rather than write one himself. Mr. Timkowski, who so regularly quotes the authors from whom he borrows any thing, has forgotten on this occasion to name Father Gaubil.

This is certainly too bad. The Jesuit's description may be very accurate; but a writer who has visited such a place as Peking is expected to furnish his own report. Some of the contributions to the work, by other authors, seem to be retained without propriety in the present castrated translation; for, if we can trust M. Klaproth, they are full of errors. There is a geographical account of Tibet, at the end of the first volume, which seems to be printed for no other purpose than to afford occasion for notes, in almost every page, from M. Klaproth, such as these: "this is entirely a mistake;"—"this is an unpardonable fault;"—"this is all quite incorrect;"—"I give this article as it is in

* See *Asiat. Journ.* Vol. XIX, pp. 151, 235, 436 and 634.

† This error was observed by M. Klaproth.

in the original, and leave the reader the pleasure of understanding it," &c. &c. In pp. 461 and 465, Vol. I, we have two translations from the same Chinese original, one by M. Klaproth, the other by the Russian Archimandrite Hyacinth, who has resided for some time at Peking; and if they were not so long, we would exhibit them in contrast: there was never surely such discrepancy between translations before, except of Egyptian hieroglyphics. M. Klaproth says (of course) that he is right and Father Hyacinth is wrong. Indeed, he extends his censure still further in another part (I. 213), wherein he says, "in general, all the translations from the Chinese given in this work are incorrect."

As inaccuracies seem so abundant in this publication, whilst novelty and interest are so rare, and moreover as our journal has already been the medium of communicating many of the details furnished by Mr. Timkowski, we shall here take leave of the original author, expressing our disappointment and regret that his work contains so little to gratify curiosity.

We have, however, a word or two to say of his commentator. M. Klaproth is not remarkable for courtesy towards other writers; but in the present work he has displayed an unusual share of ill-humour. When we read as far as p. 70 of the second volume, we fancied we discovered the cause of it. Mr. Timkowski there states, that at Peking the Portuguese archbishop told him that "the literati of Europe, and particularly those of France, eagerly published works upon China, and on the Chinese and Mantchoo languages, without being sufficiently versed in the subjects of which they treated. They mentioned, particularly, Messieurs Deguignes, jun., and Klaproth." Mr. K. has appended to this passage two complimentary letters addressed to him by Mr. Timkowski, to shew (as he thinks) that the remarks of the Archbishop made no impression upon the traveller.

As one proof of the candour of this "profound orientalist," we quote his observations upon Dr. Morrison. Mr. Timkowski records, that whilst at Peking, Father Hyacinth showed him a Chinese dictionary, composed according to the Russian alphabet; and he adds (vol. i, p. 350): "The French and English literati have reaped before us in the field of Chinese literature. The dictionary of Deguignes, and still more that of Morrison, are works which reflect the highest honour on their authors." This commendation from an impartial, and, as M. Klaproth terms him, "enlightened" person, gives occasion to the following splenetic and illiberal note:

Mr. Timkowski here commits two serious mistakes. The dictionary published at Paris is not the work of Deguignes;* and the work of Mr. Morrison is no better than the other. It is, indeed, more voluminous, and contains more characters than that of Father Basil: but it is full of faults, which greatly diminish its utility, and render it very troublesome in use, because one is every moment obliged to refer to the Chinese originals, which Mr. Morrison has translated with inconceivable carelessness; y, indeed, he is really the author of the work which he has published."

Similar evidence appears in p. 371 of the same volume, where the traveller is suggesting the political use which the English might make of the prejudice amongst the Tibetans respecting the regeneration of their lama, by contriving his revival in a person favourable to their views. M. Klaproth drops the following note at the foot of the passage:

I do not see what means the English could pursue to attain this object; those living

* This, begging M. Klaproth's pardon, is a mere hypercriticism: M. Deguignes edited this dictionary, which was originally compiled by Father Basil. The above compliment may be therefore paid to him as editor only.

at Calcutta know so little of Tibet, that they have even believed, and printed in their journals, that the Tibetan language was spoken from Himalaya to the frontiers of Siberia.

Nearly all the correct information we possess respecting Tibet has been acquired of late years through Calcutta. We believe that the accusation against Dr. Morrison is as groundless, as the illiberal imputation cast in the above passage upon the English scholars at Calcutta.

A still more disingenuous attack, on the part of M. Klaproth, appears in his "Observations on the last Russian and English Embassies to China," in p. 128 of the first volume. He there states that Lord Amherst in 1816 had permission to appear before the Chinese emperor without making the nine prostrations: but that he acted "like a madman," and ruined, by a "puerile obstinacy," the success of his mission. He then gives the following as the facts:

After Lord Amherst had obtained the assurance that the Emperor dispensed him from the Ko-to, the Duke, and the other commissioners sent to receive him, intimated to him the order which they had to conduct him the next day from Thoung tcheou, where he then was, by way of Peking, to Yuan-ming yuan, a country seat, where the Emperor expected him to give him audience. The ambassador set out for Thoung tcheou on the 28th August, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in a magnificent landau, drawn by four mules. They reached the place of their destination at half-past four the following morning, where they found all the mandarins in their habits of ceremony. The latter told the English that they were going to be presented to the Emperor immediately. Lord Amherst, alleging extreme fatigue, refused to appear before the Chinese monarch in his travelling dress, and covered with dust. The Chinese commissioners, thinking that they had not sufficiently explained themselves respecting the ceremonies to be performed, and imagining that the refusal of the ambassador was founded on the apprehension that he would be compelled to make the nine prostrations, repeated several times the words *Ni men ti ly*; that is to say, Your own ceremony is all that is required. Lord Amherst, however, not reflecting that the Emperor and all his court was expecting him, persisted in waiting for his fine clothes, his suite, the presents, and the King of England's letter, which he had forgotten to bring with him in his landau, though such a document ought never to be out of the hands of the person who is entrusted with it. The Duke, who was to present him to the Emperor, took him by the arm, saying, "come, at least, into my apartment, where you will be more at ease than here in the crowd; you may rest there while I go to the Emperor and inform him of your desire." But Lord Amherst replied, that he was fatigued and ill, and that he would hear nothing of an audience till his suite and his baggage had arrived. In consequence, the ambassador was conducted to the hotel prepared for him. Some hours after the Emperor sent his physician to Lord Amherst to examine the state of his health; the Chinese *Æsculapius* having found him very well, made his report to the Son of Heaven, who immediately ordered the English embassy to be dismissed, because the head of it had deceived him, by feigning illness, at the moment when he was to be presented to him.

The Chinese government had the good sense to see in the conduct of this ambassador only a want of tact, and the blunder of an individual. It treated the English legation, on its return from Peking to Canton, with all possible attention and deference; and this incident has had no detrimental effect whatever on the trade of the Company at Canton.

From what source M. Klaproth has derived these *facts* we cannot surmise. They are justified neither by the statements in the publications of those gentlemen who attended Lord Amherst's embassy, nor by the edicts of the Emperor of China. M. Klaproth's previous statement, that the Chinese officers had waived at Teën-sing a compliance with the ceremony, should have been

been followed by another, namely, that an imperial edict was issued, previous to the arrival of the embassy at Peking, severely censuring the conduct of the mandarins in allowing it to proceed beyond Teën-sing; and distinctly declaring that the emperor could not receive the ambassador unless he performed the ceremony. But this fact is disingenuously suppressed. Mr. Ellis observes, with respect to the imperial edict published subsequently to the dismissal of the embassy, that "no prospect whatever of the ceremony being dispensed with is held out, nor does such dispensation ever seem to have been contemplated." The fact now appears plainly to be, that the mandarins to whom was entrusted the introduction of the embassy at court, were determined to force Lord Amherst to submit to the ceremony, which the Emperor was given to understand his Lordship was prepared to comply with. The act which M. Klaproth describes, as "taking his Lordship by the arm in order to conduct him to another apartment," was nothing less than a brutal attempt to drag him into the presence chamber, where he would most probably have been compelled to undergo other humiliations. That the Emperor was deceived in the business is evident from the express declarations to that effect in his edicts, and from the degradation of the mandarins concerned. All these facts are concealed by M. Klaproth, whose object has been to detail such circumstances alone as are calculated to make the representative of the British nation appear in a disadvantageous point of view.

Karmath: an Arabian Tale. By the author of "*Rameses*," an Egyptian Tale, &c. &c. London, 1827, 8vo.

THIS historical novel is calculated to supply a void which is too frequently found, even in some of the best-informed minds in Europe, which are very ill furnished with accurate notions respecting Arabian history. The mystical superstitions and fanatical doctrines which have heretofore prevailed in Arabia, and continue to a certain degree to exert an influence there, and which are linked with historical traditions, share the same fate, that of being neglected in Europe or totally misunderstood. "It may be doubted," says the author of the work before us, "whether the very extraordinary rise and character of the Karmates and Ismaélians, of the time of the caliphs, have been sufficiently noticed or developed by historians to the general reader; hitherto these tremendous Sectarians have been overlooked, and the interest attached to their existence, most commonly bounded to the Episodical portion, known to us in the epoch of the Crusades, when the emissaries of the 'Old Man of the Mountains,' the Sheik al Julleel, attempted the life of Edward I., and actually slew others of the Crusaders. These enthusiasts were, however, merely a corollary link of a most formidable community, established and rooted at a much earlier period in Mazanderan; so firmly settled are its roots in the mystic tenets of Islamism, that its doctrines are still existing in Arabia; and even in Egypt, in the nineteenth century, a rebellion against the French was headed by an impostor, assuming the title and denomination of their long-expected deliverer, the prophet El Mahdi."

The object of this little work (yet incomplete) is to mingle profit with pleasure, and to illustrate the traditionary lore of Arabia, which abounds with magical tales and the dark deeds of sorcerers, by weaving into a very interesting story such particulars as bear a close affinity to history, in respect to events and persons, and to impress the reader's mind with a picture of what Arabia was at the age when the transactions are supposed to have taken place, namely,

namely, the reign of the illustrious Harûn-al-Raschid, whose last days were clouded by dark and mysterious events, which the sequel of the tale before us will (we are told) explain.

The sect of the Karmates are thus traced by our author :

It is already said that Mahommed, at least publicly, fixed on no successor ; that Ali, his natural heir, his son-in-law, relation, and faithful disciple, yielded up his claims ; that he came to the sceptre late in life, only to experience ingratitude, revolt, and a violent death ; and transmitted his claims and his misfortunes to his two most amiable and most ill-fated sons. Although they perished miserably, the descendants of Fatima were numerous, and crowds of Moslems were always athirst to repay, by the most unbounded devotion to that ill-fated race, a reverence and homage of pity for the dreadful destiny of their adored Ali ; no imaginations, however extravagant, were disregarded by the natives of Al-Giuf. Indeed, throughout all the eastern provinces of Islamism, the name of Ali served for a rallying point for *all the discontented*, and for *all the turbulent* who desired *changes and revolutions*. A species of adoration had prevailed during the lifetime of Ali, and even then Ebn Alaswad Saba laid the foundation of a refined and esoteric spirit of initiation, subtle, secret, and deeply rooted, which spread over the east, which connected together bands and denominations of Mahommed's followers of most dissimilar views, and which, repeatedly, has shaken the whole east with its bloody struggles. Ebn Saba was a prime instigator of the *seditious movements* which cost the caliph Omar his throne and his life. He taught that the Imaunat, or the sacerdotal authority, devolved by right, as well as by a formal act of Mahommed, on his son-in-law Ali, the spouse of Fatima—that on him rested a *ray of divinity*—that he was *not dead*, but that he had only *withdrawn himself* for a time from the eyes of men—that he would one day *reappear on the earth*, and render it as celebrated for justice, as now it was become infamous for iniquity and injustice.

This mysterious dogma has grounded itself, more or less, amid every conflicting sect of the east : some have enlarged the number of the Imauns, but all have yielded implicit faith to the sacred character of Ali. The Shiites, or Persians, who teach that twelve Imauns succeeded by natural descent to the revered Ali, inculcate likewise that the *last is not dead, but concealed*, and one day he will reappear to revive the purity of religion. By the depth of their ratiocinations they also endeavour to demonstrate the *whole series of the twelve doctors* to be no more than the *one and the same being, successively disappearing, and assuming a fresh body*, as the vicar or same teacher. But another sect, and to these in particular are the events which follow referable, contract the number of these Imauns to seven only ; these are the Ismaélians, among whom the Karmates are so distinguished for the most perfect contempt of danger and death, and for their devastations and sacrileges, that they may be divided into three epochs : from the first secret roots of their origin, and the profound artifices with which their doctrines were disseminated and spread in Arabia, to the reign of Harûn al Raschid, when (Arabia settled in peace, the fine arts expanding, and public feelings watched by the jealous and watchful eye of that renowned caliph) he detected the germs of this formidable association, which his sagacity foresaw might overshadow his throne. Harûn, however, knew not the wide-spread, nor the character, nor the twisted roots of that parasite plant, which crept up as the baneful ivy around the wide-spreading umbrage of the palm of Haschemya. Destiny gave it the same existence as its proud and imperious oppressors, the royal and sacred Abassidæ. It strengthened in great power and triumphant wickedness, from the foundation of its tenets, into a concocted form, in the third Hegira ; until, in the 650th year of the Hegira, the sword of Hulaku, the descendant of Genghis Khan, put an end at the same epoch, to the caliphs and the Ismaélians ; that catastrophe, however, followed at a very distant period. This formidable and extraordinary sect broke forth under the rule of Harûn ; their commencement and progress, the marvellous circumstances connected with the appearance of Karmath on the banks of the Euphrates, are become facts known amid the natives of El Shammar. The tent which is pitched in Al-Giuf resounds with the exclamations

exclamations and groans of the impassioned auditors, as they hear the thrilling detail of the awful sacrifice made in the ruins of Babylon to the deity of fire.

Karmath, or Hassun Saba, of Kufa, is the hero of this tale; and the author has displayed no little skill in the portraiture of this sorcerer, whose only passion was revenge. He is represented as carrying on extensive projects and desperate designs for the gratification of that diabolical passion, by means which mortals alone could not counteract. His vast influence, obtained by counterfeiting virtues which he detested in his heart, by charity, humility, and even by the gratuitous practice of great medical skill,—the moral influence secured by these means was aided by his connexion with the evil beings who are supposed by the Arabs to be engaged in hostility with heaven, and whose dark and mysterious orgies are transacted in the infernal caverns of Hillah, where the black and blasted piles of Babylon appear, on the banks of the Phrat, or Euphrates. This is the scene of the story.

Karmath had a son, Heman, who was an idiot, and incapable of employing the power and wealth which his father was able to bequeath to him. To restore this son to rationality, and at the same time to further his political designs, Karmath prepares to sacrifice two youths, whom he had educated in his family, to the deity of fire. By the interposition of a good genius (Zephon) these two youths, who are named Jamī and Adalia, learn their history, which had been studiously concealed from them by Karmath, and the fate to which they are doomed by this cruel sorcerer. Jamī, under the protection of this celestial auxiliary, is permitted, beneath the form of Karmath's slave Hassarac, the agent of his sorceries, to visit the tremendous scene of the magical rites and incantations; and by the dexterous contrivances and resolute courage of Jamī, under the tuition of the genius, Karmath is made to substitute his own son as a victim to glut the greedy appetite of the spirit of fire.

We should have been glad if we could afford space for the insertion of the passage, which contains a powerful description of the infernal scene of the magical rites; but it is too long. We subjoin an extract from that part of the work where the just retribution, to which we have alluded, falls upon Karmath, or Hassun, as he is now called:

At the rolling peals of their dread charms the cavern shook, and appeared to rock in trembling terror of their potent spells. "Hassun they praised—him they extolled—the powerful, the chief of magic Araby; henceforth subjected to his sway—him, wise and greatest of her race, who had won the gift of wisdom for his son, henceforth renowned on earth." Thus they sung, while Jamī, motionless, stood by the insensible form, lifting up his heart in eager aspirations for support.

Hassun appeared in the midst of the awful scene, and now before him arose the altar which Jamī had seen in the caverns of the Kasr. With loud acclaim it rose, and the teraph, flashing from its ghastly eyes a dismal light, glared pale and deadly from the ribbed rock. Fronting the altar, the flame, as if eager for its prey, and never propitiated but with blood, streamed upward on the altar, majestically bright and clear. The moment arrived, the jarring discord ceased, and silence deep and solemn succeeded, while Hassun, wearing the mystical magi robes, advanced first to the golden couch; placing his hand upon the veiled sacrifice, he then turned toward the altar, and devoted him to the God of Fire! Songs of triumph again arose, extolling Hassun's faith—"He was worthy to wear and to wield the talismans of the preadamite kings! the greatest of the mysterious sovereigns resembled him in fate! Thus must all his enemies fall before him!" The cup of charmed potency, their pledge, then passed around, from which Hassun no sooner withdrew his lips, than sprinkling a few drops upon the altar's flame, it spread in wavy brilliancy, rolling around its bickering flashes. The sounds and songs of triumph died away, the mysterious thunders paused, and silence,

silence, death-like and solemn, fell around on all. The pause lasted—and Jami scarcely sustained its pressure on his heart, when Hassun approached, and thus muttered forth the spell, which his deep-toned voice echoed amid the arched caverns around.

“Great God of Fire, receive a noble victim, the youth Adalia—bear him to thy flames! intoxicate with spells of potency, he reels under thy charmed draught, and voluntarily bends to thy influence! Seize him, ye flames, mix his form with thy primeval elements! receive him as the homage of my heart! Sacrifice! awake! arise!”

Hassun, standing before the altar, with impassioned gestures, waving his wand, at length gently touched the shrouded form; it stirred—it moved—and shaking off the enchanter's sleep and covering veil, a universal shriek rent the cave, of “Heman! Heman!” as Heman stood before them; and while, in speechless surprise, and agony, the wretched Hassun gazed on his son, Heman exclaimed—“Victim of the spell, I come to fulfil thy rites! O fire! I come to adore thy power!”

There is a pleasing love tale interwoven in the story, which increases its interest; and we think that the reader of “Karmath” will join us in feeling an anxiety to learn the sequel.

Human Sacrifices in India. Substance of the Speech of John Poynder, Esq., at the Courts of Proprietors of East-India Stock, held on the 21st and 28th Days of March 1827.

As our last number contained a very copious report of the debate on the subject of Burning of Hindoo widows, of which Mr. Poynder's speech occupies a considerable portion, we have no occasion to analyze this publication; we are, however, desirous of recommending it, as an able and comprehensive digest of a most voluminous collection of public documents, respecting a topic of equal importance and difficulty. The speech of Mr. Poynder, thus authenticated, is moreover valuable as an index of the feelings entertained, concerning the mode of dealing with this abominable custom, by the party (we do not use the term in an invidious sense) who seem in some respects opposed to the views of the Indian Government therein, and who evidently contemplate at some period the introduction of measures, not of force, but partaking of a compulsory character, to effectuate its extinction.

As this question will undergo another solemn discussion before the representatives of the British nation, and as there has been recently laid before Parliament another volume of documents, now printing, some of which, we understand, are of great interest and importance, and exhibit the subject in rather a different point of view than it has hitherto been seen; we shall probably have occasion to revert to it, at a future time, when Mr. Poynder's elaborate speech will afford us considerable aid.

The Adventures of Naufragus. Written by himself. London, 8vo. 1827.

THIS work is declared to be “a faithful narrative of the trials and adventures of a man, who, feeling that his course had been no common one, and conceiving that a published record of it may be useful to others, as the experience which it has afforded has been useful to him, cannot withhold it from the public.” It relates the adventures of the author in various voyages and travels in the East, and gives accurate descriptions of the places visited. As a detail of real occurrences it may perhaps be read with more interest than it would, we think, be likely to create as a work of fiction.

Chronological Records of the British Royal and Commercial Navy, from the earliest period (A. D. 827) to the present time (1827), founded on Official Documents, &c. By CESAR MOREAU, Esq. London, lithographed, 1827.
Past and Present State of the Navigation between Great Britain and all parts of the World. By the same author.

WE are here presented with further evidence of the extraordinary industry and powers of M. Moreau. It is impossible to survey superficially the mass of matter here brought together, arranged, methodized, and perspicuously disposed, comprehending our maritime history for the *last thousand years*, even to the most minute details, without being astonished at the courage of an individual, a foreigner too, who has dared to undertake, and who has succeeded in so short a space of time in accomplishing, works like these, particularly the former.

To attempt any thing like an analysis or epitome of the work would demand talents like his own. As a matter of curiosity we subjoin a statement of the navigation of England in the year 1693.

	Merchant Ships entering Inwards.			Merchant Ships clearing Outwards.		
	English.	Foreign.	Total.	English.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
London ...	36,512	80,875	117,387	44,912	59,750	104,662
Out-ports	32,616	27,876	60,492	73,176	28,752	101,928
Total	69,128	108,751	177,879	118,088	88,502	206,590

We now contrast this statement with another, shewing the navigation of England in 1825, comprehending British and Irish vessels under the head of English :

In all the Ports }	Merchant Ships entering Inwards.			Merchant Ships clearing Outwards.		
	English.	Foreign.	Total.	English.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
	2,786,844	892,601	3,679,445	2,262,458	851,354	3,113,812

Total tonnage in 1693, viz. English...187,216
 foreign ...197,253

384,469

Total tonnage in 1825, viz. English 5,049,302
 foreign 1,743,955

6,793,257

This account shows that the navigation of Great Britain has increased nearly six millions and a half of tons during the interval of 132 years; and that in the former of the two years mentioned, which was thirty-three years after the passing of the Navigation Act, foreign tonnage exceeded the British nearly nineteen per cent.; in 1825, on the contrary, the British exceeded the foreign not far short of one hundred per cent.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

May 5, 1827.—A General Meeting was held this day at two o'clock; Henry Thos. Colebrooke, Esq., director, in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following donations were presented :—

A complete set of the *Asiatick Researches*, viz. from Lieut. Col. Doyle, H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., and the Asiatick Society; from Daniel Stuart, Esq., Dow's *Hindustan*; from J. E. Alexander, Esq., his *Travels from India to England*; from Thos. Hope, Esq., his *Anastasius*; from the hon. East-India Company, ten sheets of the *Indian Atlas*, now in preparation; from M. Julien, *Meng tseu*, Part II; from the Church Missionary Society, St. Matthew's Gospel in Singalese, and two Singalese grammars; from the Royal Humane Society, their fifty-third Annual Report, 1827; from J. Guillemard, Esq., *Dictionario Italico-Armeno-Turco*; from César Moreau, Esq., his *British Navigation*.

Lieut. Col. Martin White was admitted a Member of the Society.

John Matson, Esq., and Edward Upham, Esq., were elected Members of the Society.

The reading of Mr. Colebrooke's paper on the Vedanta Philosophy was concluded; and thanks were returned to him for the communication.

May 19, 1827.—The General Meeting was held this day at the usual hour; the director of the Society in the chair.

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Donations were presented

From the Société de Géographie, their *Bulletin*, Nos. 33 to 46; from Professor Schlegel, his *Indische Bibliothek*, Vol. 2, Parts 2, 3, 4; from Dr. Wilkins, the *Ruins of Gour*, by Creighton; from Professor Berggren, his *Dictionnaire Abrégé Française-Arabe* and *Resor i Europa och Osterlanderne*.

Capt. Marryat, R.N., C.B., was elected an Honorary Member of the Society.

Capt. M. has deposited his unique collection of Burmese curiosities in the Society's house, for exhibition: among them are a shrine and figure of *Gautama*, and a figure of Alumptra, the founder of the present Burmese dynasty, in metal, gilt, and studded with jewels. A gold Woonghee-chain of the second order, and a large sapphire ring, with a carved tusk of the sacred white elephant, are also comprised in this collection.

Their excellencies the Prince de Lieven, Russian Ambassador, and Baron Stierneld, Swedish Ambassador, and M. Théologue, were elected Foreign Members of the Society.

J. Crompton, Esq., and T. Y. Learmouth, Esq., were elected Resident Members.

A paper by Dr. Whitelaw Ainslie, on the small-pox and inoculation in eastern countries, with an account of the introduction of vaccination into India, was begun to be read. After an introductory view of the different statements as to the country in which small-pox had its origin, Dr. A. proceeds to notice the principal medical writers of antiquity, who noticed this disease in their works, and the methods of treatment resorted to by the natives of India. In the course of the treatise, Dr. A. remarks that the manner in which the *emphysem variola*, or small-pox, was first originated, sets all conjecture at defiance;

and that there is a singularity regarding it, which it must be difficult to account for, namely, that, although nothing but variolous matter has the effect of generating the disease, it appears to be more prevalent at some seasons than at others, as if its appearance was dependant on a peculiar state of the air; an idea, however, which was held very cheap by Dr. Woodville and others. The part of this paper which was read at this day's meeting, concludes with an account of the mode of inoculation practised among the Worriahs, in the Ganjam Circar.

It was announced that the next General Meeting would be held on the 16th of June.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Iu-Kiao-li, or the Two Fair Cousins; a Chinese Novel. 2 vols. 12mo. 14s.

A Grammar of the Hebrew Language, comprised in a Series of Lectures, compiled from the best Authorities, and augmented with much Original Matter, drawn principally from Oriental Sources. By the Rev. S. Lee, A.M., &c. 8vo. 16s.

The Shipwreck, a Tale of Arabia; and other Poems. By A. E. P. 12mo. 7s.

A Letter on the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, and on certain Events which have occurred there of late years, under the administration of Lord Charles Somerset, addressed most respectfully to Earl Bathurst. By Lieut. Gen. Sir Rufane Donkin. 3s.

Karmath, an Arabian Tale. By the Author of "Ramases."

Five Years' Residence in Buenos Ayres during the years 1820 to 1825, containing Remarks on the Country and its Inhabitants, and a Visit to Colonia Dal Sacramento. By an Englishman. 8vo. 5s.

Travels from India to England, comprehending a visit to the Burman Empire, and a Journey through Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey, &c., in the Years 1825-26. By J. E. Alexander, Esq. In 4to., illustrated with Maps and Coloured Lithographic Prints. £1. 11s. 6d.

Davidica; Twelve Practical Sermons on the Life and Character of David, King of Israel. By H. Thompson, M.A. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Calcutta, at Calcutta, the 27th May 1824; at Bombay, the 29th April 1825; and at Madras, the 10th March 1826; at the Primary Visitation of the Right Rev. Father in God, Reginald Heber, D.D., Lord Bishop of Calcutta. 4to. 3s.

Jubal, a Dramatic Poem. By R. M. Beverley, Esq. Post 8vo. 8s.

Some Observations on the Medicinal and Dietetic properties of Green Tea. By W. Newnham, Esq. 1s. 6d. sewed.

The Roman History, by G. B. Niebuhr; translated from the German by F. A. Walter, Esq., F.R.S.L., one of the Librarians of the British Museum. Maps, 2 vols. 8vo. £1. 4s.

Travels of the Russian Mission through Mongolia to China, and residence in Peking, in the years 1820-21. By Geo. Timkowski; with Corrections and Notes by J. Von Klaproth. 2 vols. 8vo. £1. 10s.

The Adventures of Naufragus, written by himself; giving a lively Account of his Voyages, Shipwrecks, and Travels, from his first outset as a Midshipman in the East-India Company's Service, until he became a Commander in the Indian Seas. 8vo. 8s.

Substance of the Speech of J. Poynder, Esq., at the Courts of Proprietors of East-India Stock, held on the 21st and 28th days of March 1827. 8vo. 6s.

In the Press.

The Subaltern's Log Book during two Voyages to India, and Eighteen Years' Observation on Land and Water.

Transactions of the Literary Society of Madras 4to. with Plates.

A Supplement to Howell and Stewart's Oriental and Biblical Catalogue.

PARIS.

Ching-Kong, Gouverneur du Jeune prince Koukouli; lettres Chinoises. 12mo. 2 fr.

Le Livre de Job, traduit en vers Français, avec le texte de la Vulgate en regard, suivi de notes explicatives, par B. M. St. Levasseur. 8vo. 5fr.

Sainte-Hélène, ou Souvenirs d'un Voyage aux Grandes-Indes; poëme, par E. Charrière. 8vo. 1 fr.

Carte de la Palestine, pour servir à l'Intelligence des Saintes Ecritures, et particulièrement à l'histoire de Notre Seigneur J.-C.; dressée par A. H. Dufour. 7 fr.

Observations Grammaticales sur quelques passages de l'Essai sur le Pail, de M.M. E. Burnouf et Lassen; par E. Burnouf. 8vo.

Doctrine et Devoirs de la Religion Musulmane, tirés textuellement du Coran, suivis de l'Enco-logue Musulman; traduit de l'Arabe par M. Garcin de Tassy. 10mo. 4 fr.

CALCUTTA.

The Indigo Planter's Manual, or Guide to the Purchases and Sales of Indigo for the year 1825-26, with an estimate of the crop of 1826-27; compiled and arranged by Ezekiel Mushtes, broker (to be continued annually). 4to. 12s.

Sacred Lemmas, being Analyses of Scriptures, Historical, Prophetical, and Evangelical, according to the Science of Analogies. By G. M. Paterson, M.D., Assist.-Surg., Bengal Medical Establishment. 5 rs.

Transactions of the Calcutta Medical and Physical Society, Vol. II., containing Cases and Observations on Medical and Physical Science. 8vo.

Theatre of the Hindus, No. IV., containing "The Uttara Rama Cheritra," or continuation of the History of Rama; translated from the Original Sanscrit by H. H. Wilson, Esq. 4 rs.

A Panoramic View of the City of Benares, taken by J. Dalrymple, Esq., measuring 11 feet long by 1 foot wide, mounted on fine cloth and folded in such a style as to form either a folio Volume, or be extended as one Plate at pleasure. 16 rs.

In the Press.

The Bengal Ready Calculator, containing several useful Cast-up Tables, adapted for the use of Merchants, Agents, and Private Gentlemen. By J. R. Tucker.

Notes on the Epidemic Cholera. By R. H. Kennedy, M.D., Surgeon, Bombay Presidency, &c. 8vo.

A Picture of Calcutta, and Complete Stranger's Guide; containing a Map of the City of Calcutta and its Environs, with a Short History of its Rise and Progress; References to, and Descriptions of all the Public Buildings, Government Offices, Banks, Principal Agency Houses, Printing Offices, Auctions, &c. in and within Sixteen Miles of the Metropolis.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this Society was held on the 3d January; the hon. J. H. Harington, Esq., President, in the chair.

A great variety of donations, chiefly Burmese idols and MSS., together with some works from Europe, were presented.

A letter from Mr. Hodgson to Mr. Bayley, was then read, giving an outline of the theocracy of the Bauddha system of Nepal. In other countries, following the Bauddha creed, it does not appear that there are any beings recognised as superior to Gautama and the other Buddhas, although they are avowedly of mortal origin and human nature. There are spiritual and celestial beings, Brahmas and Nats, but in the scale of purity and in the ultimate object of exemption from future birth they are very inferior to the genuine Buddha. This, there is reason to believe, is the original and most unsophisticated system of Buddhism; but in every country different innovations have been grafted on the primitive stem, and in none apparently has this been carried farther than in Nepal. The same modification probably prevails throughout Tibet and the regions which thence derived their creed, or China and Japan, in which we know a vast number of divinities share the popular adoration with Fo or Buddha. When these additions to the primitive stock occurred is yet matter of inquiry, but they savour strongly of Manichæism. According to the information now communicated, the Northern Bauddhas acknowledge four sets of divine beings or of superhuman objects of veneration. The first of these is, contrary to the generally supposed atheistical tendency of the faith, one primæval and uncreated deity. This first Buddha manifested five of his attributes, as five secondary Buddhas, in one of whom, *Amitābha*, or the 'immeasurably splendid,' in Prakrit and Pali, *Amitāho*, we recognise the *Amito* of the Japanese. From these five personifications five other Buddhas or Bodhi-satwas were produced, by whom the active duties of creation were performed, and amongst the created beings occur the human Buddhas and Bodhi-satwas, of the first of whom there are seven principal, and the latter of whom are infinite; including every person of exalted piety, by which indeed the individual may become a living Buddha, such as the Lama of Lassa is supposed to be. The Buddhas consequently are not restricted to any particular number any more than the Bodhi-satwas, and all theories resting upon the individuality of Buddha are utterly overthrown.

—[Cal. Gov. Gaz. Jan. 11.]

CALCUTTA MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this society was held on the 2d December; Mr. Wilson, the vice-president, in the chair.

A note from Mr. Royle was read, mentioning his having lately visited the site of the experimental medical garden on the Musooreea Table, where rhubarb, henbane, and acorus calamus were flourishing, and had been found of superior quality. The thermometer was below 50° in the morning, and not 60° in the forenoon.

Mr. Leslie's paper on gangrenous ulcer was then read, and made the subject of comment. The disease broke out amongst the men of the 65th Bengal N.I., about a month after their arrival at Pinang, in August 1825. It spread with prodigious rapidity, and above ninety cases were in hospital in the course of December. A medical committee having been assembled, recommended change of situation; and an hospital was accordingly constructed on the summit of one of the hills, to which the sick were removed, to the number of 100, by the end of January. The removal appears to have been attended with good effects, and although many cases proved fatal, few or no fresh cases occurred, whilst many recovered. In April, the weather becoming unfavourable, the men still uncured returned to the Line Hospital, where the disease was gradually subdued, although not without the ultimate loss of many lives. In all the worst cases medical treatment was wholly unavailing, and amputation, which was partially successful, afforded the only prospect of preserving life.

The sudden and rapid progress of this disease, although not unprecedented in other situations, suggested to Mr. Leslie the necessity of offering some observations on the medical topography of the island, especially as regards the cantonments. Fort Cornwallis, he observes, is situated at the eastern extremity of a tongue of land, stretching towards the Malay coast, distant from it one mile and a half to two miles, and low and jungly for some distance inland. On the west, the land is bounded by a range of hills, which thus form a triangular level space from twenty to thirty miles in extent, on which are situated the town and cantonments, the former extending along the shore. About three-quarters of a mile from the fort is the outlet of a small river, along which the tide rises several feet, inundating the banks, and leaving numerous stagnant pools at ebb. Over the whole area of the low

low land, pools of stagnant water are frequent after extensive rain, and the jungle is abundant. The parade and hospitals are about three miles inland from the fort, where a space of about a mile square has been cleared for them. The hospitals are much out of repair, and the ground in their vicinity having little slope is imperfectly drained. Although the topography of this part of Pinang may fail to explain the peculiar form in which disease manifested itself on this occasion, it does not seem calculated to restore health to those who repair thither in quest of it, and several circumstances have lately inspired strong doubts of its salubrity under any circumstances. These, however, may have arisen from individuals having been unable to quit the low level, through the want of facilities to ascend to the more elevated spots on the adjacent hills, on which alone a restorative influence can be hoped for from the air of Pinang, and which facilities, we understand, are no longer within the reach of invalids visiting the island.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

M. Silvestre de Sacy read a report respecting an application made by Mr. Freytag for pecuniary assistance from the society towards the expense of printing the Arabic text of the *Hamāsa*, with the commentary of Tabrizi. The recommendations in the report, which declared the utility of the work, were adopted. The committee of finance was directed to consider of the means at the disposal of the society for contributing to the publication of Mr. Freytag's work.

M. Amédée Jaubert read a notice of a MS. of the *Bāktiar Nāmah*, written in Ouïgour, belonging to the library at Oxford.

Count Hauterive, in the name of his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, presented several works to the society, amongst which was the *Asiatic Journal*, Nos. 132 and 133.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

At a late meeting of this institution, a large meteoric stone was placed on the library table, with a particular account of its fall, in the Persian language. This was translated by Dr. Wilkins. The stone fell in the night of the 7th of August 1822, near the village of Kadonah, in the district of Agra. It descended with much noise as of cannon and of the wind, awakening those who were asleep, and alarming a watchman who heard it fall. On making a search in the morning, the stone was found warm, and with little smoke rising from it. It is to be subjected to examination.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Anniversary Meeting of this Society took place on May 19; the Marquess of Lansdown, President, in the chair. The meeting was very numerously attended. Amongst other distinguished supporters of the establishment, we noticed Earls Spencer, Malmesbury and Carnarvon, Lord Auckland, Marquis Carmarthen, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Sir E. Home, Sir R. Heron, M.P., Sir T. D. Acland, Bart., Sir J. De Beauvoir, Mr. Baring Wall, M.P., &c. &c. The president having adverted, with much feeling and effect, to the vacancy occasioned by the lamented death of the late president, and his own accession to that office, reported to the meeting the progress of the Society during the past year; from which it appeared that the museum had been enriched by numerous and valuable donations; amongst the most conspicuous of these was particularized a female ostrich from his Majesty. The magnificent collection of the late Sir Thos. Stamford Raffles, consisting of mammalia, birds, reptiles, insects, zoophytes, &c. has also been transferred to the Society. The president further informed the meeting that the works in the Regent's Park are rapidly advancing; the walks have been laid out and partly executed, and some pheasantries and aviaries, with sheds and enclosures for some of the rarer animals belonging to the Society, are in active progress. It is expected that the gardens will possess sufficient interest to authorize the opening of them during the ensuing autumn. The president then announced that the number of subscribers exceeds 500, and that the list is daily increasing. He also gave a highly favourable report of the funds of the Society, which, after defraying all charges attending upon the various works in progress, leave a considerable and increasing balance in the bankers' hands.

PRICES OF LABOUR AND FOOD IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

It appears from the edict of Diocletian, A. D. 303 (lately discovered), for fixing the prices of labour and food throughout the empire, that Roman barristers were not ill paid: the fee for a motion was about £2. 8s. 9d. of our money; at bearing of the cause, £9. 7s. 6d. The charge of a barber for each person was 4½d. A *mulomedicus*, or farrier, for cropping and shoeing an animal, had about 1s. 1½d. A professor of architecture gave lessons for 18s. 9d. *per mensem*. The price of food seems to have been extremely high. Meat was to be sold at the following rates per pound Roman, equal to nearly 11 oz. troy: viz. beef, 1s. 6d.; mutton, 1s. 6d.; lamb, 2s. 3d.; pork, 2s. 3d.; pigs' feet, 9d. each; a sausage (*isicium*) of fresh pork, an

an ounce in weight, $4\frac{1}{2}$ d.; a fat male peacock (for the table) was £2. 8s. 9d., the fee of a Roman counsel!

THE ISLAND OF RAMREE.

We are favoured with an account from the pen of Commodore Hayes, of the circumnavigation of Ramree, by the H.C. gun-pinnace *Osprey*, which has established the fact of its being an island, before somewhat doubted. We subjoin an abridgment of it.

The *Osprey* left Amherst Harbour, and after having passed to the N.E. of Ramree, through Hastings' Harbour and the channels to the E. of Great Division Island, to the mouth of the passages leading to Aeng, Talak, and Arracan, a great opening was perceived to the W., with the flood tide coming in from that direction with considerable force, and it was concluded that it formed the straits to sea. The great entrance of the only creek which communicates with the capital of Ramree, lies about two miles to the S. of the N.E. point of the island, which forms the S. boundary of Hastings' Harbour. About a quarter of a mile to the N. *Osprey* creek appears, which runs into the Ramree creek about midway between the great entrance and the capital, with which there is no communication by water but through these two passages. About the centre of Hastings' Harbour, on the Ramree side, stands a rocky mount, at the base of which, facing the harbour, is a deep excavation, trenched and mounded all round by the removal of blocks of sand-stone, the surrounding hollow being filled with spring and rain water.

At the N. extremity of Hastings' Harbour lies a ridge of straggling rocks, to the eastward of which a large passage takes its course to Mae; to the W. of it lies the entrance of the large passage which runs along the E. side of Great Division or Commodore's Island, through which channel all vessels of burthen pass into Fletcher Hayes' straits, towards Aeng, Talak, Arracan, and Combermere Bay, which brings them to sea. W. of Rocky Ridge lies the boat channel to the above-mentioned place. Entering the large Passage, or Que-chong-tong, from the S., Mae is on the right. Entering the straits many interesting objects appear, lofty mountains, numerous islands, many openings, &c. so that a stranger placed within the entrance of the strait from seaward would be utterly at a loss which way to turn within this natural labyrinth.

Proceeding to the W., the *Osprey* anchored between Rocky Island and the islands running along the N. side of Mew-chong-dong mountains. From this station they proceeded to Quoin island, and westward to their first anchorage on the N.

coast of Ramree. They then worked along the shore within the innermost of the three islands, named Jakthwa-Gewhn, and anchored near the Three Brothers, remarkable hills rising from a solid base of rock just above water. Thence they proceeded through the straits, to Great Passage Island point, and keeping to the W. reached a bay, and working to seaward, anchored off the N. sandy point of Ramree, where is a fine clear branch which extends inwards about two miles to the creek Keow-que-chong. From this creek they returned into the centre of the straits, taking a course to the N. of the Three Islands, and anchored off Callagewn Island, which affords cattle, water, and fruit. They were then proceeding again to Allee Chou Creek, when a storm obliged them to return to Hastings' Harbour. The account concludes: "I have not deemed it necessary to say any thing about the soundings or bearings taken in the straits, as the chart fully exhibits the whole for the safe guidance of all navigators, passing into or out of the straits in question. There is good, clear and fast-holding anchorage ground throughout the straits; and coming in from sea or Combermere Bay, when half-way between the large or outer saddle and tower and pagoda rock, your course is E. into the straits, within which you may anchor in safety where you please.

"John Hayes, Commodore."

"P.S. The tide rises at full and change fourteen feet in the straits, channels, rivers, and harbours on this coast."

PALI AND CINGALESE MANUSCRIPTS.

We notice the following paragraph in the last number of the *Journal Asiatique* of Paris: "The cabinet of MSS. in the King's library (at Paris) is about to acquire the precious collection of Pali and Cingalese MSS. made by the late Mr. Tolfrey, one of the translators of the New Testament into Pali. It consists of 28 Pali and Cingalese works, some of which are extremely voluminous. Amongst the Pali MSS. are, 1. a vocabulary, on the plan of the *Amera Cosha*, entitled *Abhidānappadāpika*, or "illustration of words," a work of great importance towards acquiring a knowledge of Pali. 2. A collection of the laws and customs of the Buddhists, entitled *Paddhati sangaha*, or "abridgment of the ritual." 3. A collection of the *Sūtras* or fundamental axioms of the Buddhist philosophy. All these works are accompanied by a very ample commentary in Cingalese. Amongst the books written in the latter tongue, are several grammatical treatises, a brief vocabulary, Sanscrit and Cingalese, poems in the various dialects of Ceylon, &c. This new acquisition, which we owe to the enlightened zeal of the keeper of the oriental manuscripts, is the more valuable, because

cause the royal library does not yet possess a single Cingalese work, and because it moreover offers to those persons who devote themselves to Pali the means of prosecuting their studies with more success, and also with more facility."

Why this collection should have found its way to Paris rather than London we are yet to learn.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S ORIENTAL ARMOUR.

At the sale of the late Duke of York's property, a most interesting oriental suit of armour, formed of four plates of buffalo's hide, covered with Arabic inscriptions in gold characters, connected by a thick quilting of black velvet, ornamented with gilt studs, and lined with splendid furniture, was purchased by Dr. Meyrick. It was erroneously called Japanese, and obtained a price trifling in comparison with its curiosity.

PHENOMENON OBSERVED AT THE NEELGHERRY HILLS.

A correspondent in an Indian newspaper makes the following observations on the rarity of the atmosphere on the Neelgherries, or Blue Mountains of Coimbatore:—

"The great extent to which the sound of the voice is conveyed may be mentioned in proof of the extreme rarity of this atmosphere. A similar observation is made by Captain Parry in his voyage of discovery to the polar regions in 1819-20 (p. 125), where he states, that in the depth of winter, the sound of the men's voices was heard at a much greater distance than usual. This phenomenon is constantly observed on the Neelgherries. I have heard the natives, especially in the morning and evening when the air was still, carry on conversations from one hill to another, and that apparently without any extraordinary effort. They do not shout in the manner that strangers think necessary in order to be heard at so great a distance, but utter every syllable as distinctly as if they were conversing face to face. When listening to them I have often been reminded of those passages of Holy Writ, where it is recorded that Jotham addressed the ungrateful men of Shechem from mount Gerizim (Judges 9, 7-20); that David cried from "the top of an hill afar off" to Abner and to the people that lay about their master Saul (1st Sam. 26, 13); and that Abner addressed Joab from "the top of an hill" (2d Sam. 2, 25, &c.) In the dense atmosphere of England, and even in the purer air of the plains of India, it is not easy to imagine how a discourse could have been carried on at so great a distance and from such an eminence; but on the Neelgherries the portions of sacred his-

tory, to which I have referred, receive a striking illustration.—It is worthy of remark also, in proof of the rarity of the atmosphere, that the heavenly bodies appear with much greater brilliancy than when viewed from the plain. This is observed by all strangers; and one correctly remarked, that the planet Venus gave as much light as the moon in her quarters."

SAINT WORSHIP IN RUSSIA.

The last number of the *Missionary Register* contains the following extract from the journal of Mr. Hartley, church missionary in the Greek islands:

"An English gentleman was with me when M. (a Greek gentleman of Thessalonica, 82 years of age) came in. The conversation soon turned on religion, when my countryman gave him some hints on transubstantiation and the worship of saints, which will, I trust, be useful to M.: it is, however, a mighty effort to renounce the ideas of eighty years. He mentioned an instance of the length to which saint-worship has been carried, which is enough to make one shudder: 'In Russia,' said he, 'some assert, that if God Almighty should die, St. Nicolas would succeed to his place!'"

THE BRUCE MANUSCRIPTS.

The fine collection of Æthiopic, Arabic, and other oriental manuscripts obtained by the celebrated traveller, James Bruce, in Egypt and Abyssinia, were brought to the hammer on the 17th Mar. They consist of nearly one hundred volumes. Among the biblical manuscripts is an Æthiopic version of the Old Testament, in five volumes, containing the whole of the sacred books except the Psalms, made from manuscripts used by the Greek church at Alexandria, at a remote, but unknown period. This copy is considered unique, each page is divided into three columns, and the MS. has a considerable number of marginal variations. It is written on vellum, in very clear and beautiful characters. It includes the Book of Enoch, which was first brought into Europe by Mr. Bruce. The three copies of it originally belonging to him (one of which is in Paris, and the other at Oxford), are all that are known to exist of it on our continent. There are also in this collection, two copies of the four gospels in Æthiopic; the Epistles and Acts of the Apostles in two volumes on vellum. The Song of Solomon in all the principal languages of the Abyssinian empire, with a vocabulary in each dialect. This MS. is considered a most valuable accession to philological literature. The constitutions of the Apostles, or a collection of the canons made by the first general council (which is the statute-book of the

the church of Abyssinia), in one volume; and the Synaxar, or History of the Saints venerated in Abyssinia, in four large volumes. Among the historical MSS. is the celebrated Chronicle of Axum, on vellum, in double columns. It professes to have been compiled from materials or records found by Damâtious, Bishop of Rome, in the church of St. Sophia, and read at the first council of Nice to the 318 fathers assembled there. There are also a variety of Arabic MSS., including the Koran, and some works relating to the histories of Syria and Egypt, and of the conquest of Spain by the Saracens; a topographical description of Egypt; the course of the Nile, &c.; several works on medicine and natural history, and an unique Coptic MS. on papyrus, said to have been found in the ruins near Thebes, in the former residence of some Egyptian monks. It contains seventy-six leaves, in small folio, of papyrus, of a dun colour, and exceedingly brittle. The character is neat, of the uncial kind, and consequently all in capitals, without any points or spaces. This MS. is supposed to have been composed in the second or the beginning of the third century. There were several booksellers and literary men present, but no advance was made upon the sum at which the collection was put up on behalf of the proprietor, viz. £5,500.

SUPERSTITION OF THE CHINESE AT JAVA.

Messrs. Tyerman and Bennet mention the following facts, observed in their late visit to Java: "In a Chinese temple, we observed an apartment appropriated to the worship of a long range of Javanese idols of metal and stone, found by the Chinese in various parts of Java. The sculpture of many of these idols was excellent, but they were very ugly. They were placed on an elevated altar, having an immense table placed before them, with many incense-tapers. The Chinese, when questioned as to the reason of their worshipping these idols, said, 'they were some of the gods of the country, and they thought it was well to worship them.' At Buitenzorg we actually found a French engraving of a bust of Buonaparte, in a gilt frame, placed, as an object of worship, over an altar-table in a Chinaman's house, having wax and incense-tapers burning before it! To try what value was put on this picture, we endeavoured to purchase it; but the man said it could not be parted with, because *they* worshipped it; but he could not, would not, tell us *why* they worshipped the picture. On returning rather suddenly into the room, we found the old man lifting up his hands in worship to the picture of the late ex-emperor."—[*Miss. Chron.*

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BENGAL LITERATURE.

Luckhinarain Nayalunkar, of the Hon. Company's Sanscrit College, has published the following proposal for publishing a work in the Bengalli language, under the title of *Shâstras Sarvasa*, or "Essence of Literature."

"In the days when India was governed by Hindu princes, the arts and sciences, as well as general literature, shone in a brilliant light, and both masters and disciples were deeply engaged in cultivating the same; but on the fall of their power, from the invasion of Mahomedans, those promoters of the cause of humanity and civilization were gradually buried in darkness; but the dawn of learning has already begun to appear, from the attention of our present rulers having been directed to the re-establishment of Hindu literature; thus, in consequence of the interference of Government in this respect, many of their native subjects have already made considerable progress in learning, and the chief desire of others has been to attain knowledge.

"From the introduction of the art of printing, and its rapid increase among the natives, many works have been printed and obtained general circulation; but those that have already appeared only contain, for the most part, matters from foreign authors, collected for the instruction of young children. In fact, I do not see any printed work of an important nature extant in the native language; the few that have been handled by the natives are an imperfect poetical translation of the *Mahâ Bhâratha*, by Cási Doss, and some others of the same sort, which do not afford any material instruction, or even amusement to the present generation, who (although ignorant of the Sanscrit language, which has now become a dark veil over the face of the ancient Hindu literature) seem to seek amusement in something more solid and instructive than the translations above described; nor can the native newspapers now circulated, and the works of foreign authors containing accounts of foreign countries, fill up their wants.

"The principal books of the Hindu Shastras are the *Vêdas*, the meaning of which has been given to the world by the celebrated *Vyasa* in the many *Pûranas* composed by him. A work containing such extracts from those *Pûranas* as shall be found amusing, instructive, and productive of information, will, it is hoped, be acceptable to the public, and as such a work must of course be voluminous and expensive, I propose to publish it by numbers.—[*Somachar Chandrika*.

HERMAPHRODITE.

At a meeting of the Benares Literary Society,
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Society, held at that city, 20th April 1826, a communication of Dr. Watson was read, describing a curious and well-defined case of hermaphroditism. A picture of the object accompanied the communication. It is a female child of seven years old, born about ten miles from Benares, weighing then 3 st. 4½ lb., and being 3 feet 9 inches high. Its voice, muscular appearance, and other peculiarities, are those of an adult male. Dr. Watson proposes to watch the progress of his interesting subject, which only began to evince marks of doubtful gender six months ago.

NORTHERN EXPEDITION.

Letters have been received at the Admiralty from Captain Beechey, of the *Blossom* frigate, which detail the particulars of the voyage of that ship into Behring's Straits. It appears the vessel arrived in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Kamtschatka, in June last, and there learnt of the failure of Captain Parry's expedition; and after refitting and taking in such stores as could be procured, sailed to the northward. The *Blossom* entered Kotzebue's Inlet, and then proceeded to Behring's Straits, and reached the latitude of 72° 30', when all further progress was put an end to by an impenetrable barrier of fixed ice, which extended in an entire mass as far as the eye could reach. After several fruitless attempts, and remaining as long as it was prudent, Captain Beechey returned, and again entered Kotzebue's Inlet, the shores of which are represented as having a most inhospitable and dreary appearance. They had several interviews along the coast with the natives, but could not from them or by any other means obtain the least information of Captain Franklin or any of his party, who, it was understood, were to proceed in the course of last summer from the mouth of the Mackenzie river to the westward, in the hope of being able to reach some part of the coast in the neighbourhood of icy Cape or Kotzebue's Inlet. The officers and men were all well, but the ship had suffered some damage from the pressure of the ice. It is understood the letters are dated in November last, from San Francisco, where the vessel was undergoing some necessary repairs, and refitting for sea.

THE SACRED AND HISTORICAL BOOKS OF CEYLON.

A work is now in preparation for the press which strongly claims the attention and support, not merely of oriental scholars, but of every individual who is interested in tracing the origin, and in learning the tenets, of the Buddhist religion, which prevails throughout a large portion of

Asia, and is so closely connected with its history. Mr. Edward Upham, a gentleman who has bestowed much attention upon this subject, has proposed to publish by subscription, translations of three Cingalese manuscripts, which were procured by Sir Alexander Johnston from the priests of Buddha in Ceylon; viz. The *Makivansi*, or doctrine, race, and lineage of Buddha, written in the Páli (which is to accompany the translation); the *Rájá-ratí*, or series of kings, and the *Rájá-ratné-carí*, or jewel-mine or ocean of kings, both written in the Cingalese language. The two last are of an historical character: all three are, however, explanatory of the origin and doctrines of Buddhism, and of its introduction into Ceylon. The circumstances under which these works came into the hands of Sir Alexander Johnston, afford the strongest evidence possible of their authenticity. When Government determined to adopt the recommendation of Sir Alexander, and give the Cingalese a code of laws adapted to local circumstances, and to the religion, manners and habits of the people, the most celebrated Buddhist priests, as well those educated on the island as in the Burmese empire, who most cordially co-operated in the undertaking, after much consideration amongst themselves, and frequent consultations with their followers, who felt themselves directly interested in authenticating their information, presented to Sir Alexander these works, as containing the most genuine account which is extant of the origin of the Buddha religion and doctrines, together with its moral and political effects upon the native governments, manners, and usages. These documents were then compared with all the best copies of the same works in the different temples in Ceylon, and were carefully revised and corrected by two of the ablest priests of Buddha on that island. An English translation of them was then made by the official translators, under the superintendence of the late native chief of the cinnamon department, who was confessedly the best native Páli and Cingalese scholar in that country; and that translation is now revising for the present publication, by the Rev. Mr. Fox, who resided in Ceylon for many years as a Wesleyan missionary, and who is the best European Páli and Cingalese scholar at present in Europe.

The East-India Company, with their usual liberality, have subscribed for forty copies; his Majesty, the Duke of Sussex, the President of the Board of Control, and various noble, learned and official persons have also subscribed. As the publication is, however, an expensive one, and as an individual's private resources ought not to be taxed for an object like this, we hope that a speedy and liberal subscription will

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at least secure Mr. Upham from the apprehension of loss, in an undertaking for which oriental scholars ought to feel so much indebted to him.

CHINESE CULTIVATION.

Mr. Timkowski describes the Chinese cultivators as being so industrious, as to be able to convert even summits of barren mountains into arable land. Near Kalgan, north of Peking, within the Chinese wall, a mountainous country, he observed proofs of this perfection of agriculture. "On the sides of the mountains there are villages with temples; some dwellings are hewn in the solid rock, or built against it like birds' nests. We particularly admired the boldness and indefatigable activity of the Chinese cultivators: the summits of the highest mountains were converted into fertile fields. It is scarcely possible to conceive how they could till these naked and almost inaccessible rocks."

ERAS IN HINDOSTAN.

The following account of the eras by which time is reckoned in the provinces subject to the Bengal Government, is from the *Calcutta Gov. Gaz.* of Dec. 28.

"The Hijra year, as is well known, is counted from the flight of Mohammed from Mecca, and is usually considered to begin on Friday the 16th July, A.D. 622. A particular sect, however, in which most of the astronomers are included, calculate it from the preceding day, Thursday the 15th, and this latter reckoning is the more remarkable, as it is confirmed by calculations drawn from the luni-solar year of the Hindus, which make the first day of the lunation conform to the 15th July 622, and which, therefore, probably furnished the Mohammedan astronomers with the elements by which they fixed the commencement of their era. The Arabian year consists of twelve lunar months, but some modification of its duration has taken place, in order to make the first day of a civil month correspond with the least period after conjunction at which the new moon becomes visible; and this is effected by dividing time into cycles of thirty years, of which nineteen common consist of 354 days, and eleven intercalary of 355. The months are also of twenty-nine and thirty days alternately, except in the intercalary years, when the last month has thirty days. The neglect of the intercalary years has led Hutton into error in his formula, for converting Hijra years into those of the Christian era, of multiplying by 354, dividing by 365½, and adding 622 years to the result. In this case the intercalary days, about thirty-six days and a half in every century, are to be added to the Christian years.

The most generally current eras of the Hindus are two: the *Saka* and *Sambat*, or dates of Salivahana and Vikramaditya. The former is computed from the supposed birth of Salivahana, King of Pratihthana, in southern India. The event is said to have occurred in the year of the Kali age 3179, which makes it full seventy-eight years after the birth of Christ. It differs in nothing from the common solar year, and the adjustment of it with the dates of the Christian era is, therefore, very easily made: the present year (1826) is Saka 1748.

The Sambat year numbers the luni-solar years in the same manner as the Saka does the solar years. It is computed from the reign of Vikramaditya, King of Ougein, which, according to Colonel Warren, began fifty-seven years before the era of Christianity. In Upper India, however, the computation is usually fifty-six years, although the different commencement of the years occasionally appear to vary the proportion. During part of the current year the Sambat date was 1882, but it is now 1883.

The date of the last or iron age of the world is also not unfrequently cited. This begins 3101 years before the Christian era, and the present year is consequently 4927 of the *Kulee*. We need not be much alarmed at the advanced stage of this, the last age of the world, as it has still 427,073 years to run.

We next come to eras of very uncertain origin and history, but which are constantly referred to in practice, and have some principle in common, although it is not easy to determine what it is, which produces a concurrence of their dates. The *Fusti* era, of which the present is the year 1233, consists of solar years, commencing with the full moon of Asharh (June, July). The name refers to the period at which it was customary to determine the annual collections, with respect to the crops just approaching to maturity. The *Wiliati* year is altogether a blank. It is a solar year, and begins on the new moon of Chaitra (March, April). It is supposed to be of Mohammedan introduction. The Bengal year *Sun*, or *Son*, is a solar year, beginning with the sun's entrance into Aries. Its introduction is attributed to Hosein Shah, King of Bengal, who reigned in 1499. It appears, as well as the two preceding dates, to have owed its origin to some blundering attempt to adjust the Mohammedan to the Hindu year, without providing for the difference between the lunar and solar years. The present Bengal year is, for instance, 1233. The Hijra year is 1242, and the former is therefore short of the latter by nine years. But the Hijra computation, as compared with the solar reckoning, loses about three years in a century, and as

about three centuries have elapsed since the reign of Hossein Shah, the nine deficient years in the Bengal and the concurrent eras are thus accounted for.

To these eras we may add the date used by the Jainas, which is reckoned from the disappearance of their last legislator, Verdhamana Swami, according to some authorities 663, and to others 636 years before the Christian era; and the religious era of the Burmans, which is computed from the 544th year prior to that period. They have however a vulgar era also, which commences A.D. 638.

There are several other eras in use to the eastward as well as in the south of India, of which we are not able at present to offer any satisfactory notice.

SURVEY OF BORNEO.

It appears from a statement made by M. Brice, at the Geographical Society at Paris, on proposing the admission as a member of Baron Van der Capellen, the late Governor-general of Netherlands India, that Mr. Müller, who was employed by his Excellency on a survey of Borneo, and who was murdered by the natives, has left eight charts, containing 1,500 leagues of the coast, besides several places in the interior. He had actually surveyed the whole of the north-west coast of the island, and fixed a great number of geographical points in the interior of the country; but many of his surveys have been unfortunately lost through the lamentable event which has deprived science of this able officer.

DESCRIPTION OF A TEMPLE IN THIBET.

Extract of a Letter, dated September 23, 1826.—"I have received a letter from Mr. —, from the other side of the Himalaya range, in which he has favoured me with much information respecting the Lamas of Tartary, and the moral and religious condition of the people. A description of a temple at Hury-Ho I transcribe for your perusal. 'The temple of Hury-Ho is sixty feet long, forty wide, and about thirty high. The principal object is a demon with a third eye in his forehead, and a mouth like a wild beast; round his head is a tiara of human skulls; a chaplet of men's heads, alternately black and white, reaches from his shoulders to the ground; his waist is encircled by the skin of a tiger, which is fastened about him by yellow and green serpents; a human skull inverted, filled with blood, is in his left hand and in his right a bird, with wings extended, each foot tramples on a human body. The figure is of colossal dimensions, being between eight or

nine feet; he is in an upright position, together with a female demon, who has also three eyes, similar in countenance to the male, and crowned like him with a wreath of human skulls, and bearing in her hands the same blood-filled goblet. From the head of the male grows out a horse's head; from that of the female a boar's with bloody jaws. The paintings on the walls are not less horrible or disgusting; two sides of the walls are filled with quiescent figures in a sitting posture, having each a halo or glory round his head, and the hands joined in the attitude of prayer. On the other two sides are the following designs:

No. 1. A black demon with boar's face, in the right hand a dagger, and in the left a skull; a human body mangled and bleeding lies prostrate under each foot.

2. A yellow figure with three eyes, a dagger in one hand, a club in the other, sitting on a tiger, mangling a human body.

3. A black demon with boar's face, gory mouth, and three eyes; in one hand a mace, in the other a skull, a human body under her foot.

4. A red demon with three eyes, chaplet of skulls, in the right hand a club, in the left a scorpion; under each foot a human body lies bleeding.

5. A human figure, face half concealed by a mask, with a glory round his head; he is in a sitting posture, drinking blood from a skull.

6. Similar to No. 1.

7. Two figures, male and female. A legion of non-descript animals around.

8. A serpent with a face, body full of eyes, coiled over a human body.

9. An equestrian figure with three eyes, heads depend from the saddle bow, is armed with a bow and arrows, the horse has a dragon's head.

10. A dog with a human face, with a female human being.

11. A black demon; across his lap is a human body, upon whose entrails he is feeding.

12. An equestrian figure with a boar's head, jaws bloody, armed with sword and shield; a dragon is sitting on the shoulders of the figure.

13. An equestrian female figure of a white demon, with three eyes, breasts exposed, sitting upon a horse, with a human skin, the head and hands of which are remaining for a saddle cloth, the reins of the bridle passing through two skulls; in her mouth is an infant. Under the horse a human female is seen with her stomach ripped open.

Eight other figures follow similar to No. 7."

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

COURT-MARTIAL.

LIEUT. LLOYD, 48TH N. I.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30, 1826.

—At an European General Court-Martial assembled at Nusseerabad on the 13th Nov. 1826, of which Lieut. Col. Comm. Johnston, of the 8th Regt. Light Cavalry, is president, Lieut. A. T. Lloyd, 48th Regt. N. I., was arraigned on the following charges :

Charges.—" Lieut. Lloyd, of the 48th Regt. N. I., ordered into arrest by the Commander-in-chief, on the following charges :—

" 1st. With having, some time about Nov. and Dec. 1824, and Jan. 1825, obtained from H. J. Owen, Esq., on false pretences, the sum of 1,500 rupees, on a draft on Messrs. Palmer and Co. of Calcutta, which draft was protested, Lieut. Lloyd having no authority to draw the money, and the whole transaction being an act of gross fraud and swindling.

" 2dly. With having, some time about February following, declared in a letter to the said Mr. Owen, that an accident from a fall of his horse breaking his arm, had prevented him writing to Mr. Owen on the subject of the above draft, or words to that effect, such assertion being a deliberate falsehood, no such accident or implied incapacity having occurred.

" 3dly. With having ascribed the refusal of Messrs. Palmer and Co. to honour the draft to the absence of advice, and assured Mr. Owen that if again presented it would meet with due honour, thereby inducing Mr. Owen again to transmit it to the house of Messrs. Palmer and Co., Lieut. Lloyd at the time having no authority to draw the money from Messrs. Palmer and Co., by whom the draft was again refused, with the communication that they knew nothing of Lieut. Lloyd.

" 4thly. With having, after Mr. Owen had consented to receive payment by instalments of the sum thus fraudulently obtained from him, given in payment to an officer of his corps, for Mr. Owen, a draft on Messrs. Palmer and Co., dated 26th April 1826, which was protested ; and when again, on the application and request of Lieut. Lloyd, forwarded to Messrs. Palmer and Co., again refused.

" 5thly. With having not at this date paid the sum of 595 rupees still remaining due to Mr. Owen from the above fraudulent and swindling transaction.

" The whole or any part of such con-

duct being scandalous and infamous, disgraceful to the character of an officer and a gentleman.

(Signed) " H. M. WHEELER,
" Com. 48th N. I."

" Neemuch, 16th Oct. 1826."

Additional Charges.—" Lieut. A. Lloyd, 48th Regt. N. I., placed under arrest by me this 4th day of Aug. 1826, on the following charges :

" 1st. For conduct unbecoming the character of an officer, and totally subversive of all subordination, in rendering a public letter, dated the 3d of Aug. 1826, addressed to Lieut. Brace, acting adjutant of the regiment, the vehicle of the following insult to me, his commanding officer : ' there exists no man on the face of God's earth, I despise so much as him.'

" 2dly. For disrespect and contempt of authority in using in the aforesaid letter the following words, the same being applied to me as his commanding officer : ' Ask him if he knows Captain Hicks, who declared at Bhopalpoore, that he, Captain Wheeler, would cheat his own father if he could.'

" 3dly. For disobedience of orders and gross contempt of authority, in refusing to perform any duty whatever, in a letter dated the 3d of Aug. 1826, to Lieut. Brace, acting adjutant of the 48th Regt. N. I., and in absenting himself from regimental exercise on the morning of the 4th of August, when the regiment was out at exercise.

(Signed) " H. M. WHEELER,
" Captain, com. 48th N. I."

Second Additional Charges.—" 1st. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of five and seven, on the evening of the 7th of August 1826.

" 2dly. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of five and seven, on the evening of the 10th of August 1826, though warned of the consequences of doing so.

" 3dly. For breach of arrest, in quitting his quarters between the hours of nine and eleven, on the night of the 14th of August 1826, and conduct disgraceful to the character of a European officer, in going about in the disguise of a native.

(Signed) " H. M. WHEELER,
" Com. 48th Regt. N. I."

" Neemuch, October 16, 1826."

Finding.—" The court having deliberated on the evidence for the prosecution, with what the prisoner has urged in his defence—do find him

Guilty on the 1st count of the 1st charge.

Guilty on the 2d count.

Guilty

Guilty on the 3d count.

Guilty on the 4th count.

On the 5th count, the court find the prisoner guilty of not having paid 595 rupees, but it does not appear due.

Guilty of the whole of the additional charges.

Guilty of the whole of the second additional charges.

Sentence.—To be cashiered.

Approved and confirmed,

(Signed) COMMERFERE, General,
Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

The Commander-in-chief perused with surprise the recommendation of the court in favour of Mr. Lloyd. The honour of the army being entrusted to his Lordship, he will not compromise it by sanctioning the name of a person being continued on its rolls who has been found guilty of a gross fraud, swindling, and of uttering a deliberate falsehood, without any circumstance, on evidence, which could palliate such conduct.

The closeness of the confinement imposed on the prisoner, at the early part of his arrest, alluded to in the recommendation of the court, would, as appears on the face of the proceedings, have been relaxed had a proper application been made to the officer commanding the corps.

The prisoner was entitled to a full acquittal on the 5th charge; by finding that the money was not due, the fact was divested of criminality.

Mr. Lloyd is to be struck off the strength of the army from the date on which this order may be published at Nusserabad, and will proceed without delay to Fort William. On his arrival there the Town and Fort Major will be pleased to take the necessary steps for providing Mr. Lloyd with a passage to Europe.

By order of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief,

W. L. WATSON,
Adj. Gen. of the Army.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Judicial Department.

Nov. 23. Mr. H. S. Oldfield, magistrate of Ghazepore.

Mr. A. Reid, register of Zillah Court of Chittagong.

Dec. 14. Mr. E. J. Smith, judge and magistrate of Moradabad.

Mr. J. F. Cathcart, register of Zillah Court of Nuddeah.

Mr. R. Williams, joint magistrate at Pillibheet.

Jan. 4. Mr. F. Law, senior judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Dacca.

Mr. R. Mitford, second ditto of ditto.

Mr. C. Dawes, third ditto of ditto.

Mr. W. Gorton, second ditto of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for Division of Benares.

Mr. W. Cracroft, third judge of Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit for division of Benares.

Mr. W. Lowther, fourth ditto of ditto.

Mr. H. Walters, judge and magistrate of city of Dacca.

Mr. W. J. Turquand, ditto ditto of Dacca Jellalpoore.

Mr. T. A. Shaw, judge of sillah of Chittagong.

Mr. T. G. Vibart, judge and magistrate of Jaunpore.

Mr. A. C. Floyer, ditto ditto of Beerbhoom.

Mr. R. Barlow, magistrate and collector of Jungle Mehala.

Mr. J. A. M. Mills, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Tipperah.

11. Mr. D. Pringle, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Bhaugulpore.

Territorial Department.

Nov. 23. Mr. G. R. Campbell, principal assistant in Rohtuck division of Dehlee territory.

30. Mr. W. J. Conolly, sub-secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

M. J. Delancy, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

Dec. 7. Mr. R. Williams, sub-collector of Pillibheet.

14. Mr. A. Grote, collector and joint magistrate of northern division of Moradabad.

Mr. A. Cumming, deputy collector of Azimgurh.

Mr. M. J. Tierney, deputy collector of government customs and town duties at Benares.

21. Mr. J. P. Gubbins, assistant to commissioner of Dehlee.

29. Mr. W. Dundas, principal assistant in western division of Dehlee territory.

Mr. E. C. Trevelyan, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in western provinces.

Mr. C. G. Mansell, ditto central ditto.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Jan. 11. Rev. J. R. Henderson, junior Presidency chaplain.

Rev. T. N. Stevens, district chaplain at Kur-naul.

Rev. J. J. Tucker, ditto at Dhapore.

Rev. W. Burklitt, ditto at Neemuch.

Rev. R. Ewing, ditto at Ghazepore.

Rev. A. Macpherson, ditto at Dum Dum.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Nov. 20, 1826.—Surg. R. Tytler, M.D., to be naturalist, mineralogist, and surgeon to expedition about to proceed on a voyage of discovery.

Nov. 24.—43d N.I. Brev. Capt. and Lieut. S. Hart to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. H. W. Matthews to be lieut., from 9th Nov., in suc. to Cow-slade dec.

Asist. surg. J. M. Brander to be an additional medical officer for duties of civil station of Cuttack.

Mr. W. C. Laing admitted an assist. surgeon.

Maj. T. G. Alder, of invalid estab., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Asist. surge. appointed. H. Roe to civil station of Tipperah, v. Brander rem. to Cuttack; J. Goss to civil station of Bheerbhoom, v. Downes rem. to Nuddeah.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 15, 1826.—Surg. Urquhart removed from 18th to 11th N.I.

Asist. surg. Stevenson posted to 14th N.I.

Nov. 17.—Capt. Ferrie, late dep. assist. adj. gen. to south-eastern div., to be brigade maj. to troops in Arracan.

Nov.

Nov. 18.—Lieut. R. Jackson, of artil., and Lieut. F. Gresley, 14th N.I., attached to service of his Highness the Nizam, and directed to proceed to Hyderabad.

Lieut. Wm. Martindell, 2d in command of 8th local horse, to be 3d in command of 1st local horse, v. Grueber dec.

Nov. 21.—Lieut. Col. Bowen removed from 14th to 3d N.I., and Lieut. Col. Poole from 3d to 14th ditto.

Fort William, Dec. 1, 1826.—30th N.I. Ens. M. E. Loflie to be Lieut., from 23d Nov., v. Eyre dec.

44th N.I. Ens. J. Wemyss to be Lieut., from 3d May, v. Balderston dec.

68th N.I. Lieut. C. Marshall to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. James to be Lieut., from 7th April, in suc. to Wilson dec.

Capt. J. Steel, 41st N.I., to be a dep. judge adv. gen. on estab., v. Capt. Hamilton nominated an assist. adj. gen. of army.

Surg. P. Mathew to have charge of Medical Depot at Cawnpore, v. Taylor dec.

Cadet Wm. Shaw admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 25.—Ens. the Hon. J. O. Murray, 44th, and Ens. G. Holloway, 69th N.I., permitted to exch. corps.

10th L.C. Lieut. W. Wingfield to be adj., v. Dougan app. aide-de-camp to Right Hon. the Vice-president.

19th N.I. Lieut. J. Stephen to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Ingram prom.

26th N.I. Lieut. H. Johnson to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Grant rem. to 27th regt.

Orissa Prov. Bat. Lieut. C. Commeline, 13th N.I., to be adj., v. Fleming dec.

Nov. 28.—Ens. Blackwood to do duty with 69th N.I. at Barrackpore.

Dec. 1.—Lieut. J. Ewart, 55th N.I., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Dick, v. Hepworth app. brig. maj. to troops in Assam.

Brev. Capt. Aldous relieved from acting adjcy. of Burdwan prov. bat.

Fort William, Dec. 8.—*Engineers.* Lieut. Col. T. Robertson to be Lieut. col. com.; Brev. Lieut. Col. and Maj. T. Anbury to be Lieut. col.; and Capt. D. McLeod to be major, from 1st Dec., in suc. to Parley dec.—*Supernum.* Capt. J. F. Paton brought on effective strength of corps.

6th N.I. Lieut. G. Cracklow to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. W. Frederick to be Lieut., from 21st Nov., in suc. to Decluseau dec.

Cadets admitted. Mr. Jas. D. Baring to cavalry, and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. C. Ralfe and R. N. MacLean to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Mr. Jos. Burgoyne as an assist. surg.

Lieut. G. F. Tytler, 16th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Offical. Assist. surg. W. Stewart, permitted, at his own request, to resign his temporary situation in H.C.'s service.

Dec. 1.—*Infantry.* Maj. H. T. Tapp to be Lieut. col., v. Fraser ret. with rank from 21st June 1826, in suc. to Maj. Gen. Haldane dec.; Maj. W. Swinton to be Lieut. col., v. Ryan ret. with rank from 23d Aug., in suc. to Lieut. Col. Short, dec.; Maj. J. Auriol to be Lieut. col., v. Moxon ret. with rank from 24th Sept., in suc. to Lieut. Col. Com. Lamb dec.

2d Europ. Regt. Capt. T. C. Watson to be major; Lieut. J. A. Thompson to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. Grissell to be Lieut., from 24th Sept., in suc. to Auriol prom.

4th N.I. Capt. C. Taylor to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. J. Nicolson to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. Wilcox to be Lieut., from 21st June, in suc. to Tapp prom.

42d N.I. Capt. T. Fiddes to be maj.; Lieut. J. B. Neufville to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. H. Phillips to be Lieut., from 23d Aug., in suc. to Swinton prom.

59th N.I. Capt. G. Moore to be maj., Lieut. J. W. H. Turner to be capt. of a comp., and Ens.

T. S. Fast to be Lieut., from 10th June, v. Fitgerald dec.

Dec. 8.—*To be Capt. by Brevet.* Lieut. H. Lawrence, 67th N.I.; Lieut. W. Barnett, 83d do.; 1st-Lieut. R. S. B. Morland, artil.; 1st-Lieut. W. Geddes, do.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 5.—Surg. F. Corbyn appointed to 68th N.I., at Arracan.

Dec. 7.—Lieut. Col. Com. S. Nation (new prom.) posted to 9th N.I., and Lieut. Col. Com. Jas. Nicol removed from 9th to 29th N.I., v. Maj. Gen. Haldane dec.

Removals and postings of Lieut. Colonels. A. Galloway (new prom.) to 2d N.I., v. Richards prom. J. Ward (new prom.) to 21st do. W. Brookes from 21st to 31st do., v. Fraser ret. E. Wyatt (new prom.) to 52d do., v. Moxon ret. H. T. Tapp (new prom.) to 1st do. H. Hodgson from 1st to 12th do., v. J. C. Grant, dec. W. Swinton (new prom.) to 67th do. J. L. Stuart from 67th to 27th do. W. R. Gilbert from 27th to 15th do., v. Ryan ret. J. Auriol (new prom.) to 2d Europ. regt. T. Murray from 2d Europ. regt. to 9th N.I., v. Nation prom.

Fort William, Dec. 15.—*Infantry.* Lieut. Col. H. Bowen to be Lieut. col. com., v. W. Thomas dec., and Maj. W. H. Kemm to be Lieut. col., v. Bowen prom.

16th N.I. Ens. D. F. Evans to be Lieut., from 8th Dec., v. Tytler resigned.

50th N.I. Capt. J. Drysdale to be maj., Brev. Capt. and Lieut. W. W. Rees to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. C. Hunter to be Lieut., from 28th Nov. in suc. to Kemm prom.

Medical Department. Assist. surg. J. A. D. Watson to be surg., v. Macwhirter ret. Assist. surg. C. E. Everest to be surg., v. W. Ogilvy dec.

Cadet W. B. Thomson admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Capt. Baker, of artil., to be agent for preparation of Iron suspension bridges, with a salary of 1,000 rs. per mensem.

Capt. J. Bedford, 48th N.I., and Lieut. B. Browne, regt. of artil., re-transferred to Revenue Survey Department.

Dec. 21.—56th N.I. Lieut. G. B. B. Hetsler to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. J. R. Younger to be Lieut., from 2d Nov., in suc. to Garstin dec.

Capt. H. L. White, 36th N.I., to be a major of brigade on estab., v. Currie resigned.

Cadets admitted. Messrs. J. G. Gerrard and C. H. Burt to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. H. Babington and B. D. Small as assist. surgs.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 14.—Ens. J. H. Lefevre removed from 10th and posted to 26th N.I.

Dec. 19.—Assist. surg. Burgoyne posted to 68th N.I. at Arracan.

Dec. 20.—Lieut. W. Parker, 10th L.C., to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Pine.

Cornet W. H. Tweedale removed from 6th to 8th L.C.

Ens. P. Gordon removed from 52d, and posted to 11th N.I.

Dec. 21.—Surg. W. Jackson appointed to 19th N.I., and Surg. T. Crichton to 26th do.

Dec. 22.—Capt. and Brig. Maj. White appointed to Barrackpore.

Ensigns appointed to do duty. J. G. Gerrard with 6th N.I. at Mullie, and C. H. Burt with 50th do. at Allahabad.

Appointments and Removals. Lieut. Col. Com. H. Brown (new prom.) to 3d N.I.; Lieut. Col. Com. Croxton from 3d to 10th do.; Lieut. Col. Kemm (new prom.) to 59th do.; Lieut. Col. J. Delamain from 50th to 3d do.; Lieut. Col. George from 37th to 60th do.; Lieut. Col. Heathcote from 60th to 53d do.; Lieut. Col. P. T. Conyn from 53d to 37th do.

Assist. surgs. appointed to do duty. H. P. Bell with 66th N.I., at Barrackpore; Llewellyn with 28th do. at Barrackpore; Babington and Small at General Hospital.

Assist. surg. J. V. Leese appointed to 10th L.C. at Meerut.

Dec. 23.—*Artillery.* Maj. W. S. Whish to command Kurnaul and Sirhind division of artillery; and Lieut. E. Blake to be adj. to ditto.

Fort William, Dec. 21.—Infantry. Maj. C. H. Baines to be lieut. col. from 14th Dec., v. Leys dec. 15th N.I. Capt. R. L. Dickson to be maj., Lieut. W. A. Troup to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. D. Ogilvy to be lieut., from 20th Dec. in suc. to Nicholson dec.

18th N.I. Ens. W. Platt to be lieut., v. Donnelly dec.

27th N.I. Capt. R. Axford to be major, Lieut. P. B. Pitton to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. T. Plumbe to be lieut., from 14th Dec., in suc. to Baines prom.

Lieuts. G. C. Holroyd, 57th N.I., and F. Jenkins, 69th do., to be capt. by brevet from 2d Dec. 1826.

Mr. H. J. Blunt admitted to inf., and prom. to ensign.

Messrs. J. Ransford and W. H. Rogers admitted as assist. surgs.

Assist. surg. Jas. Innes to be surgeon to residency at Catmandhoo.

Lieut. B. Peard, 4th L.C., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Comp.

Dec. 30.—Army Commissariat. Capt. J. Satchell prom. from 2d to 1st class of dep. assist. coms. gen.; Capt. W. J. Thompson, sub-assist., to be a dep. assist. com. gen. of 2d class; Lieut. H. Clayton, supernumerary, to be a sub-assist. c. m. gen.; Lieut. H. Doveton, 4th N.I., to be a supernum. sub-assist. com. gen.; all in suc. to Capt. Humphreys proceeding to Europe.

Lieut. T. H. Pearson, H.M.'s 11th Dr., to be an aide-de-camp on personal staff of Governor-general.

Ens. R. Crawford, 27th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Comp.

Capt. R. Colebrooke, 26th N.I., transf. to invalid estab.

Jan. 5.—4th L.C. Cornet G. F. McClinton to be lieut. from 20th Dec., v. Peard resigned.

Assist. surg. D. Woodburn to be surg., v. J. Williamson ret., in suc. to W. Ogilvy dec.

Assist. surg. H. Caveil to be surg. to Governor-general, v. Abel dec.

Capt. J. Taylor, of engineers, to be assist. superintend. engineer of public works in Lower Provinces, v. Garstin.

Lieut. J. Thompson, of engineers, to be executive engineer of 3d or Dinapore div. of department of public Works, v. Taylor.

Capt. W. Bell, of artill., to officiate as executive officer of 17th or Burdwan div. of department of public works, v. Peckett resigned.

Assist. surg. W. W. Hewett, to perform medical duties of Sunderbund commission, v. Cavell.

Assist. surg. H. Beadon to be 1st-assist., and Assist. surg. T. Spens to be 2d assist. gar. surg. in Fort William, in suc. to Doctor Hewett.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 28.—38th N.I. Brev. Capt. W. Aldous to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Craigie app. to general staff.

43d N.I. Lieut. R. Campbell to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Hart prom.

60th N.I. Lieut. C. S. Maling to be adj., v. Marshall prom.; Lieut. S. J. Grove to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Vansandau app. 2d in command of Rungpore local inf.

4th Extra N.I. Lieut. C. H. Boisragon to be interp. and qu. mast., v. Stewart prom.

1st Nusserre Bat. Lieut. J. K. McCausland, 2d Extra N.I., to be adj., v. Nicolson prom.

Medical Department. Surg. Gerard re-appointed to 1st Nusserre Bat.; Assist. surg. M. Q. Gray appointed to 5th N.I.; Surg. Stoddart appointed to 3d do.

Removals of Lieut. Cola. Commandant. C. Fagan from 41st to 56th N.I. Weguelin from 56th to 41st do. E. P. Wilson from 15th to 17th do. E. Cartwright from 1st Europ. Regt. to 15th N.I. D. MacLeod, from 17th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.

Removals and postings of Lieut. Cola. Baines (new prom.) to 60th N.I. George from 60th to 29th do. Pester from 1st to 2d Europ. Regt. Auriol from 2d to 1st do. Fast from 59th to 24th N.I. Canliffe from 24th to 4th Extra N.I. Waters from 4th Extra to 59th do.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 28, 1826.—Lieut. T. Knox, Queen's Royals, to be an extra aide-de-camp on staff of his exc. Lieut. Gen. Sir T. Bradford, command-in-chief at Bombay.

Dec. 6.—Lieut. N. Campbell, 13th L. Inf., to be capt. by brevet in East-Indies only, from 29th June 1824.

Dec. 23.—Lieut. T. P. Williamson, 48th F., to be capt. by ditto, from 5th Dec. 1826.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Nov. 24. Maj. J. Elliott, 26th N.I., for health.—Assist. Surg. A. Stenhouse, for health. Surg. T. Tweedie, on private affairs.—29. Lieut. Col. Com. W. Innes, 39th N.I., ditto.—Lieut. Col. James Durant, 10th N.I., for health.—Maj. N. S. Webb, of artill., for health.—Capt. J. Jervis, 5th N.I., for health.—Capt. S. P. C. Humphreys, 36th N.I., for health.—Lieut. H. Drummond, 3d L.C., for health.—Lieut. R. MacMurdo, 13th N.I., for health.—Dec. 1. Maj. Edm. R. Craigie, 69th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. R. C. Johnson, 50th N.I., for health.—Lieut. Col. G. Pollock, of artill., for health.—Capt. R. Fernie, 27th N.I., for health.—Brev. Capt. A. Grant, 52d N.I., for health.—Lieut. Col. G. Sargeant, 13th N.I., on private affairs.—Surg. Jos. Adams, ditto.—Lieut. H. B. Harrington, 57th N.I., ditto.—15. Lieut. Col. J. W. Blackney, 5th N.I., ditto.—Capt. Jas. Carter, 5th N.I., ditto.—Maj. J. Rodber, of artill., for health.—Capt. G. Barker, 33d N.I., for health.—Lieut. T. Gear, 20th N.I., for health.—21. Capt. A. Horsburgh, 46th N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. Col. Com. Wm. Comyn, 24th N.I., ditto.—Surg. Wm. Jackson, ditto.—Capt. J. W. Roberdeau, 4th L.C., for health.—2d Lieut. G. G. Scott, of artill., for health.—22. Lieut. Gen. Sir T. Brown, col. of 1st L.C., on private affairs.—Lieut. Col. Com. T. Whitehead, 69th N.I., ditto.—Surg. G. Playfair, ditto.—Jan. 5. Maj. E. R. Broughton, 21st N.I., on private affairs.—Lieut. E. J. Betts, 2d Extra N.I., for health.—Ens. W. H. Balders, 16th N.I., for health.—Lieut. P. Schalch, 2d L.C.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 1. Lieut. Col. R. C. Garnham, 30th N.I., for health.—30. Lieut. Col. H. Griffiths, inv. estab., for twelve months, for health.

To Singapore.—Dec. 29. Capt. Sir R. Colquhoun, 44th N.I., for ten months, for health.

To St. Helena.—Dec. 21. Maj. C. H. Baines, 27th N.I., for health (eventually to Europe).

To New South Wales.—Jan. 5. Capt. S. Speck, 4th N.I., for twelve months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Nov. 16. Maj. Jackson, 20th F., on private affairs.—28. Maj. Glover, Royal Regt., for one year, on ditto.—Dec. 6. Lieut. Neale, 12th L. Dr., for health.—8. Lieut. Crisp, Royal Regt., for health.—12. Cornet Gumbleton, 4th L. Dr., for health.—18. Capt. Tomlinson, 11th L. Dr., on private affairs.—Lieut. the Hon. F. G. Howard, 13th F., for health.—Capt. Wainwright, 47th F., for one year, on private affairs.—23. Capt. Napier, 4th L. Dr., for health.—Lieut. Ramsbottom, 4th do., for health.—29. Lieut. O'Brien, 20th F., for health.—Jan. 3. Lieut. Ormsby, 14th F., for health.—Lieut. Daly, 14th do., for health.

To Ceylon.—Dec. 23. Brev. Capt. Funicane, 14th F., for eight months, on private affairs.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, Nov. 28.

In consequence of an application which had been made to the Supreme Court to admit two more attorneys, the Chief Justice, on taking his seat this morning, took occasion to remark, that the Court had already considered that body very extensive, and that it had it in contemplation to lessen the number gradually, by admitting one individual for every four vacancies. His Lordship

Lordship likewise observed, that some whose leave of absence had expired, and others who were unable to discharge their duty from other circumstances, should be struck off the roll. Among the former he named Messrs. Brewer, Loch, and Stone; and among the latter, Mr. Peard, who should be re-instated when he was liberated from gaol.

December 29.

Sir A. Buller sat (with the other judges) for the last time this day, previous to his return to England.

The rules and regulations made by the Court for carrying into effect the new Jury Act were read: an abstract is given below.

Jebb, v. Lefevre.—This was a case of great importance to persons possessing real property. The question was, whether lands were assets in the hands of administrators for payment of debts.

The Chief Justice (Sir C. Grey) was of opinion that executors and administrators had no power to sell land for payment of debts; that it went to the heir at law, not to the executors or administrators. *Obiter dictum*: in his opinion, if lands were sold for debts in the life-time of the debtor, dower would attach; i. e. two-thirds only could be legally sold.

The other judges, Sir A. Buller and Sir J. Franks, dissented from the opinion of the Chief Justice, deeming landed property to be at the disposal of the administrator. The latter was inclined to agree in what fell from Sir C. Grey on the subject of dower.

The opinion of the majority being for the plaintiff, judgment was given accordingly.

Sir C. Grey said: "I wish it to be understood that, should this question arise hereafter, I do not consider myself bound by this decision."

Doe, on dem. of Claude Joseph Pouchet, v. John Adolphus Stanbury.—The question in this case was, whether an alien could inherit or hold land in Calcutta.

The court were unanimously of opinion that an alien could not acquire real property in Calcutta, and gave judgment for the defendant.

Sir A. Buller added: "This decision does not apply to lands in the Mofussil."

The following is an abstract of the rules and regulations established by the Supreme Court in pursuance of the Juries in India Act:

1. All men (except as hereafter excepted), are qualified to serve on juries, who have heretofore served, and all who are resident housekeepers, and occupy a tenement of the monthly value of 50 rupees,

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or the annual value of 500 rupees; or who are worth 5,000 rupees.

2. Except such as hold any office under the Supreme Court or in the police of Calcutta; or are the subjects of any foreign state; or are 21 years of age; or who have been convicted of treason, felony, fraudulent, or infamous offences; or who are outlaws, lunatics, or idiots; or who are unable to read, write, and understand the English language. The sheriffs and clerks of the Crown are forbidden to insert in their lists, the names of any natives of whose competency to understand the English language they have not experience or sure knowledge.

3. No person who does not profess the Christian religion is qualified to serve on any grand jury, or on any jury for the trial of a person who does profess that religion.

4. Contains exemptions of certain high officers and others from being required to serve on juries.

5. Contains the exemptions from being required to serve on other than special or grand juries; which include natives possessing the title of raja, or insignia of equivalent rank; or whose rank or superiority of caste prevents them, according to the usage of their tribe or religion, from sitting on common juries; or who are worth 200,000 rupees.

6, 7, 8, and 9. Direct the mode in which the sheriff and clerk of the Crown shall prepare the lists.

10. The sheriff shall summon for each sessions thirty-six of those who are qualified and liable to serve on grand juries, and sixty of those who are qualified and liable to serve on petit juries, and every summons shall be served one week at least before the first day of the sessions at which the party summoned is to attend; and of each of the panels returned by the sheriff, one-half at least must be of that class of persons who have hitherto been designated in the Statutes relating to India by the term "British subjects;" and in like manner one-half of the jury shall in every case consist of such British subjects.

11. Directs the manner in which special juries shall be struck, viz. from the list arranged in alphabetical and numerical order, in a similar manner as in England.

12, 13, 14, and 15 relate to similar points, wherein the directions correspond with the practice in England.

16. No juror who has served shall be summoned again within twelve months, unless for want of other jurors.

17. Jurors wilfully neglecting to attend liable to punishment for a contempt.

18. The sheriff and clerk of the Crown to be similarly punished in case of wilful omission, false insertion, or vexatious summoning.

5 R

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Governor-general marched from Cawnpore, on the 24th November, and encamped near Lucknow, on the 28th November. The following morning having been fixed for his Lordship's entry into the capital of Oude, a deputation arrived from the King at an early hour to conduct his Lordship from his tents, and was received with suitable attentions. The Governor-general marched from the camp, in full state, and was met at the suburbs by the King of Oude, with the principal officers of his court and an immense retinue of elephants, &c. As the elephants approached each other his Majesty and the Governor-general exchanged the usual salutations, and his Lordship stepping into the King's howdah, the procession moved forward through the city, in the following order, *viz.* the elephants carrying the royal standard and insignia, called the Mahee Muratib; the King's kettle drums, and several led horses, a troop of Shooter Sewars, the state palankeens of the King and the Governor-general, his Lordship's body-guard, and the King's corps, dressed in imitation of the British Lancers; the Sowaree elephant, a corps of his Majesty's horse, the Dromedary corps, and several elephants with kettle-drums, and other appendages of state. Every terrace, every balcony, every housetop was crowded with human beings. From every window and chink black faces and admiring eyes appeared peering out at the passing pageant. Now and then the curtains of a window would be slightly opened or raised in different places, and bright sparkling eyes, like stars, shining through the interstices of a cloud, darted their beams on the passing cavalcade. The roofs and balconies of the houses were, in many parts, hung with tapestries of kinkhab, tas, and other rich stuffs; the shopkeepers displayed their choicest wares, and every building was crowded with spectators, interspersed with numerous bands of singers and musicians. After passing the Muhul of Asef-ood Dowleh, where the guard in attendance on his Majesty's eldest sister saluted the Governor-general, the Suwarree passed along the sands of the Goomtee, between two lines of troops and amidst continued discharges of cannon, to the palace of Furrid Bukhsh, where breakfast was prepared in the verandah of the hanqueting-rooms, called the Bareh Durree. The King conducted the Governor-general to an extensive saloon, which was destined as the place of assembly. After the usual ceremonies his Majesty, walking arm in arm with Lord Amherst, led the way to the breakfast-table, which was laid out in the verandah, looking upon

the Paeen Bagh. On rising from the breakfast-table, the party returned to the first saloon, where the trays of presents had been arranged during the interval. The King then proceeded to fasten round the neck of Lord Amherst, a miniature of himself, set in diamonds, and suspended by two strings of fine pearls. His Majesty also presented a bed of curious workmanship to Lady Amherst. Garlands, with utter and paun, were then distributed, and the Governor-general then left, and proceeded to the residency.

His Majesty returned the Governor-general's visit, and breakfasted with his Lordship at the residency, on the following morning; the usual ceremonies were observed and presents offered on the occasion.

The Governor-general, Lady Amherst, and suite, partook of a dinner and entertainment at the palace of Furrid Bukhsh, on the evening of the 1st Dec., when the inner courts of that vast edifice, as well as the street parting the Bareh Durree, and the Paeen Bagh, were beautifully illuminated with variegated lamps, and a splendid exhibition of fire-works took place. The King and all his brothers, ministers, and courtiers, were dressed in the most costly and magnificent robes. His Majesty wore a different dress and different turban, and rode in a different howdah, upon every separate occasion; but he seemed to have reserved his most costly vestments and most brilliant jewels for the present evening, that he might appear with a magnificence worthy of the royal host of the Governor-general of British India.

His Majesty, the heir apparent of Oude, the minister, and several of the principal courtiers dined with the Governor-general at the residency, on the evening of the 2d.

Next day the Governor-general held a Durbar at the residency, when about eighty natives of rank and respectability were introduced, and khelats were conferred on most of the number. Bhangwant Sing, the soobadar of the 6th Regiment Cavalry, who distinguished himself so highly in the celebrated charge made by Capt. Fitzgerald's troops, at the battle of Seetabuldee, being a resident in this part of the country, was presented to his Lordship on the above occasion and received an honorary dress and sword.

On the 4th the Governor-general proceeded to breakfast with his Majesty, by invitation, at the Palace of Pearls (Mottee Muhul) accompanied by all his suite in full uniform, and escorted by the body guard. The King came out to meet the Governor-general about 100 yards from the palace. His Majesty's elephant-carriages were drawn up before the gates of the Mottee Muhul to add to the show; they were three in number, the largest

was a very handsome four-wheeled carriage, about twelve or thirteen feet long, with a sort of wooden canopy supported by light pillars and drawn by four young elephants handsomely caparisoned and having their heads and trunks painted with curious figures and quaint devices. Passing through the arch of the handsome gateway of the Motee Muhul, the procession entered an extensive square, in which was erected a circular enclosure, constructed of interwoven bamboos, about thirty feet in height, prepared for a fight between tigers and buffaloes.

The enclosure was quickly surrounded by the elephants of the spectators and by crowds of natives; the uproar waxed exceeding great, and the frightened buffaloes charged the bamboos with alarming fury; but fortunately they were proof against their formidable horns. Expectation was raised to the highest pitch, when two tigers were let in upon the raging buffaloes; but in this, as on most occasions, reality was fully disappointed by anticipation! The tigers crept trembling along the sides of the enclosure, and made no attempt to defend themselves or to avoid the blow, when the buffaloes, carrying their heads close to the ground, charged down upon them, and pinned them to the bamboos. A pugnacious bear was then let in as the champion of the fallen tigers, and expanded his ample arms to embrace his noble foe; but Bruin's self-complacency was considerably disturbed by suddenly finding himself elevated six feet above his ordinary level, with a small rent or two in his comfortable fur jacket. Bruin, deeming discretion to be the better part of valour, turned his back on the buffaloes, and proceeded quietly to climb up the bamboos, till arriving at the top his career was arrested by a net in which he became presently so entangled, that he was unable to move backwards or forwards, and therefore remained quietly where he was, basking in the sun, and looking down upon the field of battle and the enemy with much apparent self-satisfaction at the ingenuity of his escape.

The party then proceeded to a part of the palace called the Moobaruk Munsil, where breakfast had been prepared. After breakfast the party adjourned to the veranda which overlooked the Goomtee, for the purpose of witnessing combats between elephants and rhinoceroses, and other amusements prepared for the occasion, but which were broken off by the indisposition of the king.

On the morning of 5th December, the Governor-general left Lucknow.

The party arrived at Shahjehanpore on the 14th, and reached Bareilly on the morning of the 18th, being met on the road by the Newab of Rampore accompanied by Mr. Hawkins, to whose house

they proceeded. Next day his Lordship held a levee, and gave dinners on the same and succeeding days.

On the 21st the Governor-general received the visit of the Raja of Rampore, in one of the state tents; and afterwards held a durbar, when several of the principal members of the Rohilla and Patan families of Bareilly and Shahjehanpore, and other natives of consideration were introduced; some of whom received khelats. Amongst others were Nawabs Mobummed Khan and Gholaum Hossein Khan, the lineal descendants and representatives of Nawab Behadoor Khan, who founded the town of Shahjehanpore, in the time of the Emperor Shah Jehan, and Hafiz Gholam Ahmed, Kazi of the city of Bareilly. His Lordship quitted Bareilly on the 23d, and reached Aonla on the 27th. This place is famous as the birth-place of Ali Mohammed, the founder of the Rohilla dynasty, and he is buried there under a handsome mausoleum. The present Rais of Rampore is his great grandson, in the male line. The chief inhabitants are Patans and Rajputs, the latter of the Kutheria tribe, from whom the province derives its ancient appellation of Kuthair. This part of the country is remarkable for several individuals, who, to profound Mohammedan learning, unite considerable acquaintance with the English language and especially with European mathematical science.

His Lordship arrived at Agra, on the 8th January, and took up his residence with Mr. Saunders. The Bhurtpore minister had an audience on the 9th, and his Lordship had consented to visit that citadel. We are happy to learn that the climate of the upper provinces, during the latter part of the journey, had exercised a most beneficial effect upon the health of both Lord and Lady Amherst. His Lordship had visited the Taj, and expressed himself much gratified by this specimen of Asiatic architecture. It was expected that the party would remain at Agra four or five days longer.

NATIVE PAPERS.

Maharaja Sindhia.—According to the Ukhbars this Chief has been seriously ill: his decease has even been expected. Meantime his territories appear to be in great disorder; his zemindars are not only refractory, but appear in arms against his authority; and some of his troops have mutinied on account of arrears of pay. An action was fought between Maharao Tehsildar and the refractory Zemindars of Kerauli Ghat, the former was not able to force the Ghat for two or three days, when the insurgents were put to the sword.

Ranjit Singh.—This Chief is at variance with his tributaries. The French officers

officers in his service are making preparations for the advance of the Rajah's army to the confines of Peshawer, to enforce the payment of tribute by Yar Mahomed Khan: the latter had commenced operations against Jelalabad. The chief of the Dereh Khyber, and the Yusofzees also refused to pay the stimulated sums, and were also the objects of Runjit's preparations. The Maharaja crossed the Rawee on the 8th December.

Jeypore.—The ceremony of placing the young Raja on the throne of state, took place on the 4th November; Sir C. Metcalfe and the British Resident assisting.

Sir Charles Metcalfe left Jeypore on the 20th November. The affairs of the state of Jeypore were finally arranged by the Political Agent, with the acquiescence of the Rani, in the following manner:—That during the minority of the young Raja, her Highness should be invested with the power of administration, and an especial and experienced minister should be appointed, who would be able to secure to the Company the share of the money due to them, and manage the pecuniary affairs of the Maha Raja, so that no part of the public money shall be misappropriated: the young Raja will hold the public audiences regularly, and the Thakurs and principal chiefs will attend the court and preserve their mutual affinity; for the dissensions of the chiefs are the only causes of disorder in a state.—Rao Chand Singh, who was, after the dismissal of Raol Barisal, substituted in his room, was appointed by her highness, aid-de-camp to the Maha Raja, in the room of Thakur Megh Singh, and received an honorary dress; he was also in conjunction with Barisal of Mejown entrusted with the money affairs of the honourable Company: Chottaram, Hookum Chund and others were dismissed from the public situations they held; Pandarans, &c. were deprived of the power of interference in the government; Raol Barisal was restored to his office with the assurance that he would in no way be molested by the Maha Raja, and that his wishes would be studied by her highness the Rani. The Rani interceded on behalf of the twenty-two Thakurs partizans of Raol Barisal, but it was not accepted. The Agent then further notified, that during the minority of the Raja all the chiefs of the state were to know that the management of the state affairs by her highness was just and proper. It was also ordered by the council in Calcutta, that no manner of arrangement should be made without the Rani's consent.—*Jami Jehan Nooma.*

HINDOO COLLEGE.

We had no adequate notion of the extraordinary progress made by some of the young men at this excellent institution.

The system pursued is one admirably calculated to instil solid and useful knowledge, and we are quite satisfied from personal observation, that it succeeds in effecting this object. Some of the boys are well versed in the elements of English grammar and literature, and can translate passages from Bengalee into English, and from English into Bengalee, &c. Others again are well grounded in arithmetic, and the elements of natural philosophy and physics; and it is most satisfactory to observe, that they *think* upon these subjects. Any one may satisfy himself that what they have acquired is not by rote, for they are subjected to rigid cross examinations, and the reply of one boy will be found to differ widely from that of another, implying not merely an exercise of the faculty of memory, but of reflection and thought on the matter studied. Altogether this is truly a most interesting institution, and will, we have no doubt, prove a very effective engine of improvement. The youth educated at this College will acquire a taste for European literature, which cannot fail of leading to more important results, and of greatly ameliorating the state of society. The academical duties are carried on with the most praise-worthy assiduity and talent, and the establishment, in a word, reflects infinite credit on its patrons, and all connected with it.—*India Gazette, Jan. 11.*

IMPROVEMENTS.

We are happy to hear, that a special committee of artillery and engineer officers met yesterday morning, at the Water-gate Sortie of Fort William, for the purpose, we believe, of reporting upon certain military obstacles to the proposed continuation of the Strand via Fort William, (West side) to Garden Reach. We have not yet heard whether the report of the committee is favourable or otherwise; but we hope and expect the wishes and convenience of the public will prevail over the fears of Fort William's over-anxious friends, who appear to think that the proposed road will not only lead to Garden Reach, but to the loss of that fortress. A report is very current that another new road, parallel with the present course, or nearly so, and admirably calculated for equestrians, will take a slice out of the esplanade on the east side of the fort.—*Beng. Hurk. Nov. 29.*

PRODUCTS OF OUR TERRITORIES IN AVA.

We are happy to find that the advantages we have been accustomed to contemplate, as derivable from the newly acquired possessions on the Tenasserim coast, have already begun to afford a prospect of being realized in the superior quality of their staple commodities. Of one of these, cotton,

cotton, we understand, that samples recently received have been pronounced by the best judges superior to the best Banda cotton, which at the present market rate is at 13-8 to 14 rupees per bazar maund. The Banda cotton has obtained in the English markets, a decided preference over even the Jalone, which was till then considered as the best grown in Hindostan. The superiority of the Tenasserim cotton to the Banda is, therefore, an additional advance of quality, which affords some hope of its competing with the American Sea Island cotton, to which, in its localities, it offers some analogy.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Dec. 14.*

CHINESE TRADER.

A report having been spread that the Chinese junk, which lately arrived here from Mergui, had come through the Malay peninsula, by means of a communication between the head waters of two rivers, which flow into the opposite seas, we have taken some pains to inquire into the truth; for though we considered the existence of a navigable channel, to say the least, highly problematical, we thought it possible that the story might only be the exaggeration of an actual voyage up some of the rivers of that country, which are still very imperfectly known. We have, however, learnt that there is nothing unusual in the route pursued by this vessel, and that her voyage has been very erroneously stated to have been of extraordinary duration, a circumstance which has probably arisen from the Chinese commander imperfectly understanding the questions put to him. The junk's passage from Mergui has not exceeded twenty-two days. The cargo consists principally of sapan wood, which it appears is now in great demand at Mergui, and the prices obtained have been so unusually high, as to induce the woodcutters to make a second cutting this year, contrary to their usual practice. We believe this is the first junk which has visited Calcutta from any of our new acquisitions; we shall be glad to hear that the voyage has been sufficiently profitable to induce these industrious people to come in numbers to our port.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 7.*

STAMP DUTY.

It is rumoured very generally and widely, that the imposition of a stamp duty, on acknowledgments for money paid and received, is in contemplation at this presidency, by orders from, and under the authority of, the Board of Control.—*John Bull, Jan. 10.*

INLAND NAVIGATION.

The *Gov. Gazette*, with reference to the increasing number of steam vessels, employed in the inland navigation of India,

states, that the Court of Directors have authorized, on the representation of the Bengal government, the construction of machinery for two large boats, drawing but three feet water, to be propelled each by a pair of engines, each being of twenty-five horse power. "The original destination of these steam boats," it is added, "is the Brahmaputra river, on which they are, if possible, more required than on the Ganges, as there is not only the same vast space to be traversed, and the same precipitous current to be encountered, but there is a want of that counterpoise, which the course of the Ganges affords, when the current is strongest, and the river most navigable, a favourable wind. During the rains, the prevailing wind along the Brahmaputra is as adverse as the river, at least beyond the point at Dhombré, where it takes an easterly direction. The difficulty of tracking is also much greater along the Brahmaputra, than the Ganges, as the continual traffic along the latter, and the uninterrupted recurrence of villages and cultivations have made a regular road upon the banks, whilst the Brahmaputra is bounded, through very considerable intervals, by dense and inhospitable jungle. A mile a day in such situations, and under such circumstances, is a fair average advance, and a voyage from Dacca to Rungpore in Asam, is fully equal in duration to a voyage to Europe. Here, therefore, a steam boat will be of inconceivable importance, for the conveyance of troops, or supplies, and the transit of public officers, either on board the vessel or on others, to be tracked up the river by the steamer. The existence of coal in Sylhet, and its recent discovery in Asam, are circumstances highly favourable to the employment of steam boats on the rivers of our Eastern frontier."

RAJA BUDDINATH ROY.

On Saturday last, the generous Raja Buddinath Roy, entertained a select and respectable body of ladies and gentlemen, at his garden-house on the Barrackpore road, among whom was the Right Hon. the Vice President. The amusements of the evening consisted of wrestling, and fights between several kinds of beasts. In the former, the natives shewed great dexterity, and considerable time elapsed before each knocked his fellow down; but with respect to the latter, the animals were too timid and domesticated to engage in anything like a contest. Some native jugglers performed some remarkable feats, to the astonishment of the admiring company.

At his departure his lordship and the whole of the party expressed their utmost satisfaction with the amusements and entertainments provided by this hospitable native gentleman.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 13.*

MISREPRESENTATIONS ON INDIAN SUBJECTS.

We have had occasion more than once, in common, we believe, with our cotemporaries, to express surprise at the marvellous nonsense respecting India, which occasionally issues from the press at home. The principal cause of this is, the apathy respecting this country, which has hitherto prevailed in England. Is it not surprising, that at any rate people who have near relatives in the country do not study even its geography better? Among our European selections for to-day will be found a notable specimen of that misrepresentation and nonsense respecting India, alluded to above. It is taken from the *Times*, and is an extract from a work, which we have not seen, said to have been written by a Captain Deville, of the French Marine.* A correspondent of the *Times* having inquired what had become of the sons of Tippoo Saib, another correspondent refers him to the correct Captain Deville. From this scrupulous gentleman we learn, for the first time, most extraordinary circumstances respecting the Mysore Princes. We had always heard that the personages in question were very comfortably situated at this presidency; nay, for many years the people of Calcutta have been accustomed to see them riding about Calcutta, and pursuing their own avocations and recreations. For that matter, we have had the honour of meeting them frequently ourselves; and certainly, persons less attenuated, or woe-begone, we have seldom seen. In all this, however, there must be some extraordinary delusion; for the sons of Tippoo, according to Captain Deville (who says he had the story from a generous and sentimental old Scotch Officer), are most shockingly treated. "Yes,"—observes this sympathetic and veracious historian—"these illustrious victims of ambition and despotism, are confined, with the greatest rigour, in a close and unhealthy prison, about six miles from Calcutta." The abode, we are told, "is surrounded with double walls and fosses, and is about a mile in circuit." The Scotch Officer it seems got into a scrape for endeavouring to sweeten the durance, and alleviate the misery of these "illustrious victims." The captain, however, does not rest entirely on the Scotch Officer's story: it seems he has visited Calcutta, and conversed with the "illustrious victims." It is natural for French vanity to be sorely galled at the state of British ascendancy in the East, and especially with reference to Tippoo, whom French intrigue led to his ruin. We could hardly have expected, however, such misrepresentation as we have alluded to. If

the whole book is made up of the like precious stuff, as that quoted by the *Times* correspondent, it must be a very valuable work, and fit to be placed on the same shelf with the volume of the French General, who, a few years ago, represented English ladies to be so inveterately given to the bottle, that they might be seen reeling gloriously about the streets at noon-day!—*Ind. Gaz.* Dec. 11.

RUMOURD MURDER OF CAPTAIN MONK.

A rumour has been, for some days past, afloat of an atrocious murder having been perpetrated up the country. The following is an extract of a letter from a correspondent at Chunar of the 16th instant, which contains all the particulars that have reached us:—

"We have just been alarmed by a very melancholy story of the murder of Captain Monk, paymaster of H. M.'s 31st Regt., who was attacked by Dakoits in his budgerow between Mirzapore and Allahabad. The dandies escaped, but it is supposed he was thrown overboard, as the body has not been found, and he was a brave man likely to make resistance. No doubt the matter will be amply investigated, but as yet no traces of the robbers have been found."—*Bengal Chronicle*, Dec. 27.

PROJECTED CALCUTTA CLUB.

We are happy to find that a plan is under consideration for the establishment of a club in Calcutta, similar to those instituted in London, such as the United Service Club and others, which have proved there so successful. It can scarcely be necessary to observe, that if such associations have been found beneficial in London, where so many and such various resources offer themselves, they will be infinitely more serviceable in Calcutta, where nothing like a respectable hotel or coffee house has ever existed. To form such an institution on a liberal scale, demands an outlay of capital, which few persons of the class of tavern-keepers possess, and to make the resort of company, even reasonably select, requires a command of character and funds, which they cannot be expected to enjoy. At the same time, the want of some such place is sensibly felt, as whilst those, who constitute the society of Calcutta, have no place where they can spend an idle half hour, agreeably, those, who are occasional visitants only, find themselves often utterly strangers and forlorn. To both classes, therefore, some one building, which shall be always open to them, which they may securely and pleasurably visit, where, on reasonable terms, they may procure the accommodation they require, and where they may have a chance of meeting with old friends and acquaintance, without the trouble of searching for them perhaps in vain,

* Lettres sur le Bengale, écrites des bords du Gange, par F. Deville, Capitaine de Marine, 1 vol. in 18mo, Paris, 1836.

vain, and where the formality of inter-changing cards may be substituted for more cordial greeting, will, we conceive, be an arrangement of such obvious advantage, that to be successful, it needs only to be known. We are, therefore, satisfied, that the following sketch of the principles on which the club is to be established, with which we have been favoured, will be read with interest. They were adopted, we understand, at a private meeting of several distinguished members of the civil and military services, held at the Town Hall, on the 29th of last month :—

1st. That the club should consist of the members of the King's and Company's service, of a certain standing, and of the bench and bar of this presidency.

2d. That with a view to extend the benefits of the club to other branches of the society of the presidency, a limited number of the members of other professions should likewise be invited to join the club. The number to be regulated hereafter, with reference to the total number of subscribers to the institution.

3d. The following seem to be the most advisable limits of admission for members of the several services of the Bengal presidency :—Civil servants :—Officers of his Majesty's and the Hon. Company's military and medical services, of seven years' service, taken from the day of appointment.—*Ecclesiastical*, unlimited.—*Bench and Bar*, unlimited.—*Hon. Company's Marine and regular service*, captains.

4th. That in addition to the above, the following classes should be admitted as honorary and occasional members ;

Members of the above mentioned services at the other presidencies, or in his Majesty's service generally, eligible under the stated limitations ;

All commissioned officers of his Majesty's navy, belonging to the India station ;

The personal staff of the Governor General and Commander in Chief, (not eligible as permanent members) ;

The personal staff of Governors and Commanders in Chief of the other presidencies.

5th. Any gentleman resident in India, eligible under the above limitations, who may communicate his desire to belong to the club, before the 1st of February next, to be considered an original member.

Gentlemen arriving in India within one year after the above date, if eligible, to have the same option.

Gentlemen now absent from India, similarly eligible, to be allowed the same option, provided their desire to become members be communicated to the Secretary within eighteen months from the above date.

After the above date, all persons not entitled to become original members, must

be elected by ballot, under such rules as may hereafter be determined on.

Members of the United Service Club in London, to have the option of becoming members with ballot, on intimating their wish within one month after their arrival in Calcutta.

6th. The club to provide a coffee room, reading room, billiard room, and card room. Also, sleeping apartments for members arriving at the presidency, as many as may be required, and under regulations to be hereafter determined.

7th. To provide for the out-fit of the club, an entrance subscription of Sa. Rs. 250, will be necessary, from every original and other permanent member, besides an annual subscription of 100 rupees, if resident in Calcutta, or within 100 miles, and one-fourth of that amount, if resident beyond that limit. Honorary and occasional members to pay only the annual subscription.

Any member availing himself of the advantages of the club, if resident at the presidency for a period equal to one month in any year, to pay the full rate of subscription for that year.

Members absent in Europe, to be exempted from the payment of their subscription during such absence.

All subscriptions to be made in advance.

8th. On the 1st of February next, 1827, a meeting will be held at the Town Hall, of all persons eligible on the above principles, as original members, and desirous of joining the association ; when the club will be formed, the limitation of the number of members fixed, and a committee elected for the purpose of forming rules and regulations for the management of the club.

P. M. Wynch, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, has, for the present, consented to officiate as Secretary, and will receive all communications that may be made on the subject of the association.—*Government Gazette, Dec. 11.*

THE NATIVE PRESS.

We observe from an announcement by the editor of the *Jami Jehan Numa*, that the Government has been pleased, upon the petition of the proprietor, to authorise the Up-country circulation of that paper, at one-fourth of the postage hitherto charged ; a satisfactory proof of the interest taken by the supreme authority in the dissemination of useful information amongst its native subjects. The Persian and Bengali papers published at Serampore, are also liberally patronised by the Government, and a number of copies are subscribed for, for the use of the public offices and institutions. Both the Serampore papers and the *Jami Jehan Numa* contain extensive and accurate translations of

of every thing like real information that is found in the Calcutta papers, as well as various articles from the English journals, and must, therefore, introduce much new and useful matter to native minds. The *Jami Jehan Numa* is also further recommended to Up-country circulation by a Hindustani sheet, wholly appropriated to translation, and which, for a long period past, has been occupied with a history of Bonaparte. A more generally serviceable paper, however, for the Hindus of the Upper provinces would be the *Udanta Martanda*, as written in a much purer style, and printed in the Deva Nagari character. It is not, however, so well conducted, nor is it yet, we believe, in great request amongst the natives, even in Calcutta, whilst beyond the presidency, the name is unknown. However, it will, probably, work its way in time, and may then become the vehicle of much valuable novelty.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Nov. 27.*

FIGHT BETWEEN A TIGER AND AN ALLIGATOR.

By a part of the Sunderbunds, called Athara Baki, of very thick jungle, but through which a creek runs, a boat was passing lately, when the crew observed a large tiger come to the water's edge to drink; an alligator on the bank seized hold of him, but the tiger resisted, and a contest ensued, which lasted for two hours, each seizing and grappling with the other, and the tiger alarming the whole forest with his roar. At last the alligator succeeded in dragging the tiger into the water, who then became alarmed, and letting go his hold of the alligator, the latter seemed glad to be released, and the tiger made off.—*Sumbad Kaumudi.*

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION AMONGST THE NATIVES.

The *Gov. Gazette*, with reference to the schools belonging to the Ladies' Society for Native Female Education, contains the following remarks:—

"It appears, from the last report of the society, that they support thirty schools in Calcutta, containing the aggregate number of 600 children, who are taught reading and writing, and some of them needlework—this latter branch of female education, not the least useful, will, it is expected, be more extensively taught, when the children are more generally collected in the Central School, which is in the course of construction, at Symlia, and the expense of which has been in great part provided for, by the liberal donation of Raja Baidynath Rai, of 20,000 rupees, as formerly mentioned. The society seems to have met with liberal support, which we trust will be continued, as, although the immediate good produced, may be dis-

proportionate to the cost, the zeal, and the talent bestowed upon these institutions, the result to be importantly beneficial, needs only perseverance. It is no part of the genuine Hindu system to degrade their women. They may, perhaps, like the nations of classical antiquity, have imposed upon them more retired manners and habits than the ladies of modern Europe would like to submit to, but they refused them neither knowledge nor respect. Their sacred books assign the highest veneration to the character of the wife and mother, and in their lighter works, we find the principal females, and their companions and attendants, not only able to read and write, but they sing, play, dance, paint portraits, and compose verses, and surpass, therefore, in accomplishments, even the accomplished young ladies of modern days in other climes. Nay, the female professor of Padua has been not unfrequently preceded in the schools of Benares and Ougein; and Tamil literature, in the writings of Avyar, can produce a female moralist and philosopher. There is nothing, therefore, in the past history, nor in the social system, of the Hindus, which denies to females the possession or exercise of the intellectual faculties; and their cultivation should be particularly recommended to a race so domestic in their habits as the people of the East, as calculated to give their privacy a pleasure, which it seems once to have commanded, and which it may again enjoy."

THE TURF.

Calcutta First December Meeting; First Day, Monday 11th.—The sixth year of the Riddlesworth-Stakes of fifty gold mohurs each h. ft. and fifteen if declared, &c. for the produce of mares, named in 1822. Colts, 8st. 7lb. Fillies, 8st. 4lb.—(Gilbert Mile.)—(10 subscribers.)

Mr. Robert's b. c. Scorpion, by Benedict, Dam, Meg Merrilies, (T. Wiley)..... 1
Mr. Edward's gr. c. Cheetoo, by Pindarrie, Dam Romp, Drawn..... 2
2 Subscribers paid h. ft. and 6 paid only 15 Gold Mohurs each.

Scorpion took the lead, and kept it throughout, winning with great ease in 2m. 4s. This is the first year that the Benedict and Pindarrie blood have met at 3 year olds, and the Merut breeders have displayed marked superiority.

The Third year of the Great Welter-Stakes of 10 Gold Mohurs each, for Arabs that never won, 11st. 7lb. Gentleman riders, R. C.—(28 subscribers.)

Col. Gilbert's gr. h. Esterhazy, (Mr. J. Lewis), 1
Col. Gilbert's gr. h. Haji Baba 2
Mr. Edward's b. h. Humdamee, (supposed Griffin)..... 3

Mr. Allan's gr. h. The Pearl, Mr. Griffin's gr. h. Uniformity, and Mr. James' gr.

gr. h. Slug, also started; but the Judge placed only the first three.

3 to 1 agt. Hundance, 2 to 1 agt. Esterhazy, and 6 to 1 agt. Haji Baba—Time 3m. 42s.

This race excited the greatest interest, as the best Arabs have been sought after even at Babylon for the purpose. Humdance was the favourite at 3 to 2 against Esterhazy, and very high odds against any other. In the morning, however, 2 to 1 was freely taken upon Esterhazy against the field. The whole six started together, Slug taking the lead, at the whip, from the post, rating it with Haji Baba. Slug was beaten at the Calcutta turn, when Esterhazy took the lead, hard held. At the Jail Humdance run up to Esterhazy's girth, and made a severe struggle for $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a mile, when he fell off, and Esterhazy won easy, in 3m. 42s. Considering the Welter Weights, this is decidedly the quickest thing ever done by Arabs over the Calcutta course. The riding of Esterhazy was considered very masterly.

Subsequently, the owner of the horse that started as "Humdance, supposed to be Griffin," has discovered that he is the Bombay horse, who won as a four years old, under the latter name, on the other side of India.

Match for 200 Gold Mohurs.—h. ft.—T. M.

Mr. Gilbert's b. A. h. Paragon, 11st. (Col. Gilbert.) 1
Mr. George's ch. A. h. Claude, 11st. 2
Even betting, but Paragon for choice.

The Bombay horse had been very freely backed against the Bengalee, as he had brought a great name from the provincial turf. But Paragon was the favourite with the Calcutta sportsmen, and his power of carrying heavy weight was well known. Paragon started at a steady pace, Claude lying well in the rear. He made his push at the Hospital turn, but could not collar the honest old horse, who won by three lengths, in 4m. 22s.

Second Day, Wednesday 13th.—The sport this day was not so good as on Monday.

Sweepstakes of 25 gold-mohurs each, for Arabs that never won, 3st. 7lb.—T. M.

Mr. Grafton's ch. h. Cavalier, (Watkins) 1
Mr. James' gr. h. Slug 2
Col. Gilbert's Walton, Mr. James' Lumpkin, and Mr. Alexander's Tony Lumpkin, also started, but the Judge only placed the first two.

This was a most interesting sweepstakes, there being no decided favourite; but Snob, Walton and Slug were most fancied. The two first were backed freely against the field. All five started well together—a sheet would have covered the field, Slug leading up to the Gilbert mile post. At that point, Cavalier took the lead, and made very strong running to the jail, with

Walton lying head to girth. At the jail, Walton fell off; when Slug made a second very gallant push, but could not collar the little horse, who won by three lengths, in 4m. 8s. This is one of the fastest Maiden Races ever won by Arabs over the Calcutta Course, and both Slug and Walton were well up.

Third Day, Friday 15th.—Match for 50 Gd. mrs.—h. ft.—T. M.

Mr. Marjoribanks' ch. C. h. Master Edward, 10st. (S. Frost.) 1
Mr. Alexander's b. E. m. Minna, 8st. 2
Time 4m. 11s.

This was a beautiful race. Master Edward went away from the post, in spite of the weight, making terrible running, hard held. At the great Tree, the mare was beat, and Edward came the last mile and a half at his own pace, winning with great ease, in 4m. 11s. This splendid horse was bred by Colonel Stevenson, out of Tarantula, who never threw a bad one.

Match for 100 Gd. mrs. h. ft.—G. M.

Mr. James Jackson's b. A. h. Snob, 8st. (S. Frost.) 1
Mr. Alexander's gr. A. h. Fairplay, 8st. 2
Time 2m. 1s.

This also was a most interesting race. Fairplay took the lead, and brought Snob to the whip at the Jail. But Snob took the Crowther very kindly, and collared his adversary between the $\frac{1}{4}$ th mile post and the distance post. Fairplay swerved from the whip, and Snob won a first rate race without a pull in him in 2, 1. This is the Madras Fairplay. The Bombay horse of that name is going to England.—John Bull.

THE THEATRE.

The *Clandestine Marriage* was performed at the Chowringhee Theatre last night. The weather was fine, and the moon, though not full, gave sufficient light to render the drive agreeable—the air was sufficiently sharp to give a hue to the cheek of beauty, which the burning summer of India denies. The house was full and brilliant; his Excellency the Vice President honoured the performance, and our grand national air was finely performed, and received enthusiastically. The orchestra of this theatre improves rapidly; there has been considerable accession of late to the performers, and the subjects are tastefully and judiciously selected.

Lord Ogleby was beyond all praise; his character is one depending on such nice discrimination, that it is no easy task to do it justice. He however exceeded expectation, which was not unexcited by his *Sir Peter Teazle*—every sentence he delivered bore testimony of his excellence—it is useless to point out particulars where all was alike excellent. *Sterling*, as far as lan-

guage went, was all we could require—his appearance, people say, was rather unfavourable to the idea of the wealthy citizen, although we cannot for our lives see why a London merchant is compelled to be either fat or thin, long or short. *Lowell* was free and graceful—if a share of his surplus animation had been given to his unsuccessful rival, *Melvil*, it would, probably, have been better for both. *Canton* was performed by one who seems thoroughly to comprehend his author—a sort of subordinate toad-eater—the very shadow of his master, who echoes his opinions, laughs at his jests, and flatters his weakness unceasingly—it was excellent. *Brush* was a creditable effort, and all the subordinate “limbs of the law” were quite au fait at their parts. *Mrs. Heidelberg* was an excellent performance—it was unfortunate that the raucity of the voice broke in on the illusion, which would otherwise have been complete.

The vulgar citizen's daughter found a correct representation in the *Miss Sterling* of the play. The scenes in which she vents her disappointed feelings, were in most instances well managed; her style, however, has too much sameness. *Betty* and the female domestics generally did their parts correctly and creditably. On the whole, we were much gratified with the amusements of the evening: some of the performers left nothing to be wished for in the performance of their parts, and the whole were perfect in the text, in which they have, on former occasions, sometimes been deficient.—*Beng. Hurk. Dec. 2.*

ROADS IN ASAM.

Under the Native Governments of Asam, a ready access was maintained to all parts of that country, at every season of the year, by the construction of broad and elevated causeways, over which passed practicable roads, when all the rest of the surface was under water. In the course of time, and during the political convulsions by which Asam, for nearly a century, has been torn to pieces, these causeways, or Bunds, have disappeared, and the want of roads has contributed to perpetuate the evil whence it originated, the depopulation and desertion of the kingdom. One of the principal of these Bunds, which was said to extend through the whole length of Asam, from Cooch Behar to Sadya, and which was constructed in the reign of Gadadhar Sinha, has been lately made the subject of enquiry, and the condition in which it has been found, and its utter inapplicability to the purposes of its original formation, are strikingly illustrative of the condition of Asam, in which so vast a work could be suffered to fall to such curseless ruin. At the point where it was visited, about two

miles north from Lakhomati Bhoterya Gaoin, it runs through a thick forest, infested with wild beasts of every species. It follows a direction N. 55 E., and divides the district of Noa Dewar, in Asam, from the Dufia district, the land on the north side of the Bund belonging to the Duda Raja, whilst the Bund itself, and the country to the south, are included within the boundaries of Asam proper. The Bund at this place is about eighteen feet broad, and is generally eight feet in height, but in many other parts it is nearly effaced, and is very generally hidden by brush-wood, or even by trees of many years growth. At a short distance to the north, is a small hill rivulet named the Deiring, running in a bed of sand and siliceous stones, amongst which are found pieces of half-formed coal. The Dufias, to the northward of the Bund, are a powerful hill tribe, inhabiting the second range of hills. They carry on an active traffic with Asam, bringing down rock-salt and coarse red woollens, and carrying back a return in fish, buffaloes' flesh, and coarse silk. Their nearest village is about eight miles to the north of the Bund, which, in this part of its extent, is said to have served as a boundary line. There are no villages immediately on its course, and from its being so thoroughly overrun with jungle, it is now utterly impassable.—*Cal. Govt. Gazette.*

ORIENTAL LITERARY SOCIETY.

We have been gratified in the perusal of the third half-yearly report of the Oriental Literary Society (composed of Indo-Britons); we have no doubt but the Institution has done good, and will continue beneficially effective by cherishing a literary and generally inquisitive spirit among that class for whose use it was more especially, we believe, founded. It is not so much as respects the acquisition of mere oratory that we regard this Society with feelings of satisfaction (although that accomplishment should never be underrated); but with reference to its improving powers on juvenile minds, as exciting emotions of generous emulation, and leading to habits of reading and of thinking. He who is anxious to speak on a given question, must in general study the arguments for and against it. He must read, and this Society naturally must heget a love of reading, reflection, and study, because it points out a certain object. Give an object, and let that object be rendered a spur to ambition, and the effect will always be such as we anticipate from this Institution—a general improvement of the mental faculties, and an inducement to habits of literary reflection. We hope, therefore, that the more influential persons connected with this Society will continue to give it their active support.

port, and not be discouraged by any apparent want of interest on the part of the public at large. As yet the Society is but young. Ere long, we doubt not, that as the sphere of its energies and usefulness enlarges, it will attract that general notice which the philanthropic nature of this interesting institution deserves.—*Ind. Gaz.*

STEAM NAVIGATION.

A general meeting of the subscribers to the fund for the encouragement of Steam Navigation between Great Britain and India, was held at the Town-Hall, on the 17th January, Chas. Lushington, Esq. in the chair.

After commenting on the praiseworthy exertions of Capt. Johnston, of the *Enterprise*, the chairman proffered the following resolution :

That the cordial thanks of this meeting be voted to Captain Johnston, for the prominent, zealous, and active part which he has taken in the establishment of Steam Navigation in this country, and that the amount of one-half of the funds now accumulated, be granted to him, as a mark of the respect and gratitude of the subscribers, for his perseverance, intrepidity, and public spirit.

The motion was seconded by Commodore Hayes; when Mr. G. A. Prinsep proposed, seconded by Mr. Colvin, as an amendment to this proposition, that with reference to claims which would be brought forward at this meeting, on the part of the proprietors of the *Enterprise* steam vessel, and Mr. James Taylor, that the sum of 20,000 rupees was a sufficient remuneration for Capt. Johnston.

This amendment was negatived, and the original proposition carried.

A letter was read by the chairman, from Messrs. Cruttenden, McKillop, and Co., from the committee appointed by the proprietors of the *Enterprise*, stating the losses incurred in this speculation, and claiming compensation from the fund to the amount of their loss. It was proposed by Mr. Colvin, and seconded by Mr. McKillop, and carried unanimously, that such claim was inadmissible.

It was proposed by Capt. Forbes, and seconded by Major Jackson, that the remaining moiety of the funds be held at the disposal of the committee for two years, for the purpose of remunerating any successful attempt, within that period, which may carry into effect the object of the original subscription, or otherwise appropriate it under the 6th clause of the resolution passed at a meeting held at the Town-Hall on the 17th December, 1823.

It was proposed by Mr. G. A. Prinsep, seconded by Commodore Hayes, as an amendment to this proposition: That the remaining moiety of the funds should be

given to Mr. James Taylor, in compensation for the heavy losses he has sustained in his efforts to establish the steam communication between Great Britain and India. This amendment was negatived, and the proposition carried.

EARTHQUAKE.

Calcutta was yesterday visited by an earthquake; it occurred at XI. 22. 19, A. M. as ascertained by its having stopped an astronomical clock at Mr. Gray's. The pendulum of this clock vibrates from W. S. W. to E. N. E. the face of the clock being opposite to N. N. W. Another of Mr. Gray's astronomical clocks, which faces the W. S. W., and the pendulum of which accordingly vibrates from N. N. W. to S. S. E., was not stopped. A third astronomical clock on the same premises, placed facing the E. S. E., was not going when the earthquake occurred, but the pendulum was set in motion by the shock, and continued to go until stopped.—*Beng. Hurk, Jan. 20.*

The editor of the *Government Gazette* suggests that the shock was connected with some volcanic eruption amongst the islands on the east of the Bay of Bengal.

The shock of an earthquake was felt also at Burdwan, at half-past 11, A. M. on Friday the 19th January: it continued for a minute and a half, and was felt most distinctly by persons sitting on chairs; and the doors, windows, and furniture, were much and evidently agitated during its continuance.

THE MONEY MARKET.

A general scarcity of money, and sudden and extreme fluctuations in the money market, have been for a long time serious and general causes of complaint amongst men of business in this city. A cotemporary mentions that an attempt is now making to dispose of a large quantity of Company's paper amongst the natives in the upper provinces, which, if successful, is expected to relieve the pressure which is now felt here. The wants of the government may, however, still affect the market, which will scarcely return to a state of abundance till it is clearly ascertained that government are not again likely to be borrowers. We have heard that it is in contemplation to establish a new bank. If it is to be merely a private concern, it cannot be expected to afford much greater facilities than those already existing; but if a public joint-stock bank could be brought into operation, quite unconnected with government, and reserving its capital wholly for the legitimate objects of banking, there is no doubt that it might be the means of affording much relief to the trading community.—*Beng. Hurk, Jan. 22.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Jan. 1. *Victory*, Farquharson, from London.—
3. *Bride*, Brown, from Newcastle and London.—
8. *Columbia*, Kirkwood, from Liverpool.—18.
Cambridge, Barber, from London and Penang.—
20. *Fort William*, Neish, from London.—23.
Royal George, Reynolds, and *Mary Ann*, O'Brien,
both from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

Dec. 20. *Hibernia*, Gillies, for London.—23.
Thulia, Biden, and *Carnbra Castle*, Davey, both
for London.—24. *William Money*, Jackson; *Mor-*
ley, Holiday; and *Anna Robertson*, Irving, all for
London.—26. *Gobconda*, Clark, for Bombay.—27.
Gilmore, Laws, for the Mauritius.—Jan. 4. *John*
Taylor, Pearce, for Liverpool.—5. *Ganges*, Mit-
ford, for Liverpool, via Madras.—6. *Fairlie*,
Short, for London.—7. *Research*, Dillon, for Ma-
llicolo Islands.—9. *Calcutta*, Stroyan, for Liver-
pool; also *Sarah*, Miller, and *Roberta*, Corbyn,
both for London.—14. *Emma*, North, for Hull.—
15. *Florentia*, Aldham, for London.—16. *John*
Hayes, Worthington, for Liverpool.—19. *John*
Dawson, for the Mauritius.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND
DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Oct. 17. At Jaunpore, the lady of Major Shawers,
4th Extra N.I., of a daughter.
18. At Nusseerabad, the lady of Lieut. and Adj.
Thomson, 56th N.I., of a son.

Nov. 5. At Cawnpore, the lady of H. T. Owen,
Esq., civil service, of a son.

— At Meerut, the lady of Major Wm. Persse,
H.M.'s 16th Lancers, of a daughter.

17. At Meerut, the lady of Lieut. H. Garstin,
10th N.Cav., of a son.

19. On the river near Patna, the lady of Lieut.
E. Rushworth, 2d Europ. Regt., of a daughter.
— At Sultanpore, Oude, the lady of Capt. C.
Godby, 26th N.I., of a daughter.

— At Bunkpore, the wife of Mr. J. Thompson,
of a son.

25. At Meerut, Mrs. T. St. J. Hunter, of a daugh-
ter.

— The lady of R. Stewart, Esq., of a daughter.

— At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. Wilkin-
son, 26th N.I., of a daughter.

— At Maldah, the lady of John Lamb, Esq., of
a son.

— The lady of Capt. W. Clark, of a daughter.

— Mrs. Davidson, wife of Mr. A. Davidson, of
the Adj. Gen.'s Office, of a daughter.

26. At Gusserah, Mrs. B. Barber, jun., of a
daughter.

— At Dum-Dum, Mrs. J. Kinsella, of a daugh-
ter.

27. At Barrackpore, the lady of Capt. Dundas,
of a son.

— The lady of Capt. Fraser, of a daughter.

— Mrs. A. Phillips, of a daughter.

29. At Fort William, the lady of Capt. Hem-
mings, H.M.'s 44th regt., of a son.

— At Howrah, the lady of J. Mackenzie, Esq.,
of a son.

— Mrs. Thos. Brae, of a daughter.

30. At Chandernagore, the lady of H. Geneve,
Esq., of a son.

— Mrs. J. Harwood, of a son.

Dec. 3. The lady of W. Denman, Esq., of a
son.

— Mrs. G. H. Poole, of a son.

— Mrs. W. J. Gray, of a daughter.

— Mrs. Jonas Vaughan, of a daughter.

4. At Dacca, the lady of James Patton, Esq.,
of a daughter.

— At Ellchpoor, the lady of Capt. H. Robison,
of a son.

— In Fort William, the lady of Lieut. Y. C.
Maclean, of a daughter.

5. At Bancoora, Jungle Mehals, the lady of the
late Edw. Maxwell, Esq., civil service, of a daugh-
ter.

— Sarah, wife of Mr. W. Peat, of the Bengal
marine, of a son.

7. At Dinapore, Mrs. W. H. Jones, of a son.

8. At Purneah, the lady of W. Wollen, Esq.,
civil service, of a daughter.

— Mrs. J. D'Santos, of a daughter.

9. At Meerut, the lady of Capt. Cureton, H.M.'s
16th Lancers, of a son.

— At Azingurh, the lady of Fred. Currie, Esq.,
civil service, of a son.

— At Chowringhee, the lady of J. Minchin,
Esq., of a son.

— At Moradabad, the lady of Capt. G. B. Field,
23d regt., of a daughter.

10. At Bancoora, the lady of G. N. Check, Esq.,
civil surgeon, of a daughter.

— Mrs. W. D. Cameron, of a daughter.

— At Saharunpoor, the lady of Lieut. H. De-
bude, of engineers, of a son.

12. At Arah, district of Shahabad, Mrs. John
Birmingham, of a son.

— Mrs. S. Frost, of a son.

13. At Hansi, the lady of Lieut. Col. H. E. G.
Cooper, of a daughter.

14. At Buxar, the lady of H. Halles, Esq., of
a son.

15. The lady of Dr. Vos, of a daughter.

— The lady of the late Capt. E. T. Bradby, of
a son.

— Mrs. W. Francis, of a daughter.

17. At Bareilly, the lady of Lieut. C. Griffiths,
37th N.I., of a son.

20. At Chandernagore, Mrs. L. Dias, of a son.

21. Mrs. M. David, of a son and heir.

22. Mrs. R. Locken, of a daughter.

24. At Entally, Mrs. Jessop, of a son.

25. At Hazareebaugh, the lady of Capt. H. L.
Playfair, of a daughter.

— At Dinapore, the lady of the Rev. T. X.
Stevens, of a daughter.

29. The lady of J. F. Ellerton, Esq., civil ser-
vice, of a daughter.

31. Mrs. T. Brown, of a son and heir.

Jan. 2. At Entally, Mrs. P. S. Horn, of a son.

3. Mrs. John Pennis, of a son and heir.

— At Dinapore, the lady of N. J. Halhed, Esq.,
second judge of Provincial Court of Appeal and
Circuit for division of Moornhedabad, of a daugh-
ter.

4. At Bishergurh factory, district of Naddea,
Mrs. H. R. Cooper, of a son.

— At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. W. J. Mac-
vittie, of artillery, of a daughter.

5. The lady of L. Arabeg, Esq., of a son.

8. The lady of Mr. W. K. Ord, of a daughter.

— At Sealdah, the lady of Mr. W. Duhan, of
a son.

9. At Shahpoor indigo factory, village of Th-
hoot, Mrs. P. S. Johnson, of a son and heir.

10. At Benares, the lady of Lieut. G. H. Cox,
62d N.I., of a son.

13. At Dacca, the lady of J. M. Farnworth, Esq.,
44th N.I., of a daughter.

14. The lady of Capt. J. Rowson, country ser-
vice, of a daughter.

— At the Free School, Mrs. P. Sutherland, of
a daughter.

18. Mrs. S. Dyson, wife of Mr. A. Dyson, of
the firm of Higgs and Hunter, of a son.

19. At Dum-Dum, the lady of Lieut. Lane, at-
tillery, of a daughter.

— Mrs. A. Fleming, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 6. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. James Bar-
ber, surgeon and officiating assist. surg., to Mary,
daughter-in-law of Capt. Hutchinson, H.M.'s 57th
Foot.

15. At Bignore, J. A. C. de Terranova, Esq., to
Matilda Maria, only daughter of E. Delpetron,
Esq., of Chandernagore.

21. At Ghazepore, Capt. J. W. Douglas, politi-
cal department, Malwah, to Fanny, fourth daugh-
ter of the late W. N. W. Hewett, Esq., formerly
of the Bengal civil service.

22. At Jubulpore, Capt. J. N. S. Weston, dep.
judge adv. gen., Saugur division, to Margaret,
daughter of the late Rev. P. Nicolson, of Thurro,
Cathness.

27. At the Cathedral, the Rev. E. Ray, to Miss
Sarah Piffard.

— Mr. D. de Souza, to Mrs. H. Charles, relict
of the late Mr. S. Charles, of Pooree.

— Mr. J. D'M. Sinaes to Ann Elizabeth Phila-
delphia, eldest daughter of S. Jones, Esq.

98. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. S. Smith, youngest son of the late Capt. M. F. Smith, of Islamabad, Chittagong, to Ann, only daughter of the late C. Clavering, Esq.

99. Mr. P. D'Crus to Miss A. C. Gordon.

Dec. 1. At Dinapore, Capt. Hugh O'Donel, brigade major in Assam, to Miss Jane Finch.

— At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. W. Wallis to Miss F. Mayberry, of Kidderpore.

5. At St. John's Cathedral, Lieut. J. D. Nash, 33d N.I., to Miss Ellen Urmston.

6. At the Cathedral, Mr. C. Warden, H.C.'s marine, to Mrs. Carroll, relict of the late Lieut. J. G. Carroll, H.M.'s 59th regt.

9. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. R. Allan to Jane, widow of the late Mr. Jones, H.C.'s marine.

10. At Moorshedabad, Mr. W. Hutchinson, son of J. Hutchinson, Esq., of Sultaun Gunge, to Amelia Gregory, widow.

13. At the Residency, Lucknow, Lieut. J. L. Mowatt, of artillery, to Anna Maria, daughter of the late B. Fergusson, Esq.

21. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. Bowser, headmaster of the Lower Orphan School, to Julia Matilda, second daughter of the late Mr. Harrison.

23. Mr. W. Swaine to Mrs. S. Morris.

28. At St. John's Cathedral, Wm. Jackson, Esq., to Jane, only daughter of the late John Ewing, of Belfast, formerly a captain in H.M.'s 64th Foot.

30. At the Cathedral, P. M. Wynch, Esq., civil service, to Sophia Martha, daughter of Maj. Maling.

Jan. 6. At the Armenian Church of St. Nazareth, Gregory Apar, Esq., of Bombay, to Cathkathoon, seventh daughter of the late Johannes Sarkis, Esq.

9. At St. John's Cathedral, C. Farquharson, Esq., commander of the ship *Victory*, to Louisa, fifth daughter of the late J. H. Cassamajor, Esq., formerly a member of council at Fort St. George.

— Mr. R. Burgess to Miss Rozario.

15. D. Pringle, Esq., of the civil service, to Frances, youngest daughter of the late A. Tod, Esq., of Edinburgh.

— At the Cathedral, Capt. F. C. Robb, dep. assist. qu. mast. gen., to Eliza, widow of the late Lieut. Suter, H.M.'s 1st or Royal Scots' Regt.

16. At the Scotch Kirk, Mr. J. Tash to Miss E. Hodgkinson.

17. At the Cathedral, Mr. T. Wilson, of Entally, to Mrs. A. Clarke.

Later. At Berhampore, Lieut. S. R. Bagshawe, 7th N.I., to Cornelia Eliza, eldest daughter of the late Brev. Capt. Locke, of the former 2d bat. 25th N.I.

— At Chinsurah, J. J. Auger, Esq., indigo manufacturer, to Eliza, eldest daughter of A. Black, Esq.

DEATHS.

Oct. 3. At Nagpore, Mr. G. T. Webb, of his Highness the Rajah's service, aged 26.

17. At Juanpore, the lady of Maj. Shewers, 4th Extra N.I.

19. At Allahabad, Capt. E. T. Bradby, of the 4th Extra N.I., formerly of the 4th N.I.

18. At Amherst, near Martaban, Mrs. Ann F. Judson, lady of the Rev. Mr. Judson, American missionary, in her 37th year.

Nov. 2. At sea, on board the *James Sibbald*, Capt. Alfred Garstin, of the 56th N.I.

8. In a budgerow, on the river Jumna, near Etawah, Annabella, wife of Brev. Capt. Hilton, 16th Lancers.

9. On the river, near Cawnpore, Capt. T. C. Cowslade, 43d N.I., aged 38.

11. At Meerut, Mr. J. Mitchell, late Steward in H.M.'s 16th Lancers, aged 31.

13. At Cawnpore, Harriet, wife of Lieut. J. S. Rotton, of artillery, aged 37.

16. At Serampore seminary, Mr. John Bateman, aged 19.

19. On the Ganges, near Ghaseepore, Ann, second daughter of Lieut. Col. C. J. Doveton, 38th N.I.

— At Serampore seminary, Mr. Dyer, who was drowned in one of the tanks.

21. At Kurnaul, Capt. W. Decluseau, 6th N.I.

— Mr. Semplicio Victory, aged 36.

— Charles, youngest son of Mr. W. Baxter, a master-pilot in the Bengal marine, aged nine years.

22. Clarinda, wife to Mr. John Muffin, aged 40.

24. At Ghaseepore, Mr. R. Lally.

25. Miss Eliza Allen, aged 15 years.

27. Leonora, widow of the late D. Pereira, Esq., aged 78.

— Mr. N. G. Leighton.

29. At Neemutch, aged 47, Lieut. Col. Commandant Wm. Thomas, 10th N.I.

Dec. 1. At Berhampore, in his 63d year, Lieut. Col. Commandant James Parby, of the corps of engineers, superintendent of embankments at Moorshedabad.

2. Eliza, widow of the late Capt. John Etshaw, aged 68.

— Mr. John Ritchey, of the Pension Establishment, aged 110.

4. Capt. R. C. Stevenson, H.M.'s 59th regt., aged 37.

5. Mr. G. T. Gibson, aged 43.

7. Mrs. M. R. Delanougere, aged 61.

— At Dinapore, Diana, wife of Mr. R. Watkins, aged 23.

8. At Allahabad, Clementina, wife of the Hon. James Ruthven Elphinstone.

11. At Loodieanah, Mrs. Torckler, aged 56.

13. At Jessore, Mrs. G. H. B. Gonsalves, aged 24.

15. At Futtighurh, Lieut. Col. John Leys, commanding 29th Bengal N.I.

16. At Kamptee, near Nagpore, Lieut. T. Dale, 41st N.I.

— At Barrielly, Mrs. M. Langley, late of Bencool, aged 43.

20. At his house in Chowringhee, in his 42d year, Maj. H. Nicholson, of the Bengal army, and late paymaster to all the troops in Ava.

— Sarah, wife of Mr. W. Peat, master in the H.C.'s marine, aged 30.

21. Mr. G. Crowe, aged 37.

24. E. C. Wilmot, Esq., of the civil service, aged 19.

— Robert Croll George, son of Mr. F. Lindstedt, aged 4 years.

27. At Chandernagore, Elizabeth, second daughter of Mona J. Simonin, aged 19.

Jan. 1. Mr. John Myers, aged 37.

— At Backergunge, Mr. J. De Silva, aged 27.

2. Mr. B. Fairlie, aged 75.

4. Jane Harriet, lady of A. D. Rice, Esq., aged 20.

6. At Lucknow, Lieut. J. Martin, interp. and qu. mast. 3d N.I.

10. J. C. Paterson, Esq., assist. surg. in the H.C.'s service, and member of the Calcutta Medical Society, aged 32.

— Mr. J. O'Neale, of the Revenue Board.

13. Capt. J. Hodges, jun., of the country service, aged 33.

— Miss Frances Twalling, aged 18.

15. At Dacca, the Rev. Fre Joaquim das Neves, Vigario at that place.

16. Mathew Harrison, Esq., aged 37.

17. Lieut. W. Mackey, 53d N.I., aged 31.

21. Manuel Petrusse, Esq., aged 42.

Madras.

COURTS MARTIAL.

LIEUT. FOTHERGILL, 48TH FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30, 1826.

— At a General Court-Martial held at Trichinopoly, on the 7th Nov. 1826, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt. of Foot, was arraigned upon the undermentioned charges, viz.

1st. "For carrying a message from Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of the 48th regt., to Ens. H. Leech, of the same regiment, at the house of the latter in Trichinopoly, on the evening of the 14th of October, tending to provoke a duel, when it was known to the regiment that these two officers had been prohibited, in their original quarrel, by express order delivered to Ens. Gibbs, in presence of the Major of the regiment, on the 20th day of August."

"Such

"Such conduct being subversive of military discipline, and tending to disturb the harmony of the regiment."

2d. "For conduct, unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, while employed in delivering the message above alluded to, in making use of the following expressions to Ens. Leech: 'You are a damned coward; the meanest rascal ever joined the 48th—I'll be damned if I do not shoot you to-morrow morning if you do not take it up.'"

"Such language being in direct disobedience of the Articles of War, and the established usages and customs of the service."

Upon which Charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding and Sentence.—"The Court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, is of opinion that the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt., is guilty of the first part of the first charge, viz. 'For carrying a message from Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of the 48th regt., to Ens. H. Leech, of the same regiment, at the house of the latter in Trichinopoly, on the 14th Oct., tending to provoke a duel.' The court acquits the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of the remaining part of the first charge."

"The Court is further of opinion, that the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, is guilty of the second charge."

"The court having found the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, guilty of the first part of the first charge, and also guilty of the second charge, which are in breach of the Articles of War, in such cases made and provided, does sentence him, the prisoner, Lieut. W. Fothergill, of H.M.'s 48th regt., to be cashiered."

Approved and confirmed,

(Signed) COMBERMERE, General,
Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief. Difficult as it is to the Commander-in-chief to reconcile it to his sense of duty to remit the penalty, consequent on a conviction of conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, he trusts that there are circumstances in the case now before him, which will authorize his doing so without compromising the honour of the army.

His Lordship has come to this opinion on a perusal of the evidence of Lieut. Fothergill's commanding and brother officers, bearing the highest testimony to his correct and gentleman-like conduct, previous to the occasion under investigation, and his Lordship, from this very strong circumstance, hopes that he may consider the conduct of Lieut. Fothergill as an intemperate ebullition of youthful temper, or the

consequences of unguarded passion, as designated by the court, in their solicitation for mercy, rather than as a proof of vicious habit or want of principle. This impression on the minds of the members of the court, justified their strong recommendation, and is the ground on which his Excellency hopes he may be justified in extending to the prisoner that remission of sentence which has been requested.

The acquittal of the prisoner on the second part of the first charge exhibited against him, in some measure palliates that offence; and his Lordship trusts that he may rely on the prisoner's strong and apparently sincere expressions of contrition, and this severe warning, for a security against future misconduct.

His Excellency now desires that the officer commanding the 48th regt. will assemble the officers of the corps, and after reading to them the proceedings of this Court-Martial and his Lordship's observations thereon, will in their presence severely admonish Lieut. Fothergill. He will likewise take that occasion to point out to the officers generally the consequences of discord amongst themselves, assuring them that such spirit must be extinguished, and that any further instance of its existence which may come to his Lordship's notice, must be followed by the most serious consequences.

Lieut. Fothergill will then be released from arrest, and return to his duty.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order-book, and read at the head of every regiment in H.M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,
A. MACDONALD,
Adj. Gen. of H.M.'s Army in India.

ENSIGN GIBBS, 48TH FOOT.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Dec. 30th, 1826.—At a General Court-Martial held at Trichinopoly, on the 15th and 16th of Nov. 1826, Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of H.M.'s 48th regt. of Foot, was arraigned on the following Charge, viz.

Charge. "Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs, of H.M.'s 48th regt., placed in arrest by me, for sending a challenge on the evening of the 14th October, to Ens. Leech, 48th regt., to fight a duel, being in positive and direct disobedience of my orders as commanding-officer, delivered to Ens. Gibbs in presence of the Major of the regiment, on the 20th day of August, in consequence of the original quarrel having been made a subject of complaint to me by Ens. Leech, such conduct being subversive of military discipline, and in breach of the Articles of War."

(Signed) JAMES TAYLOR,
Lt.-Col. commg. H.M.'s 48th Regt.
Upon which charge the court came to the following decision.

"*Finding.*

Finding. "The court having maturely weighed and considered all that has been adduced in support of the prosecution, as well as what has been brought forward on the defence, is of opinion, that the charge has not been proved, and does therefore acquit the prisoner, Ens. E. G. H. H. Gibbs thereof."

Approved and confirmed,
(Signed) G. T. WALKER, Lieut.-Gen.
Ensign Gibbs is released from arrest, and will return to his duty.

The foregoing order is to be entered in the general order-book, and read at the head of every regiment in H.M.'s service in India.

By order of the Commander-in-chief,
A. MACDONALD,
Adj.-Gen. of H.M.'s Army in India.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Nov. 2. Mr. E. P. Thompson, assistant to collector and magistrate of Vizagapatam.

16. Mr. R. A. Bannerman, head-assistant to ditto of Tinnevely.

Mr. H. M. Blair, head-assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Malabar.

Mr. G. S. Hooper, register to Zillah Court of Malabar.

Mr. John Walker, register to Zillah Court of Madura.

Mr. J. C. Scott, register to Zillah Court of Canara.

23. Mr. W. D. Davis, sub-collector and assistant-magistrate in northern division of Arcot.

Mr. W. A. Neave, head-assistant to collector and magistrate of Salem.

Mr. H. Morris, head-assistant to principal collector and magistrate of northern division of Arcot.

30. Mr. G. D. Drury, sub-collector and assistant-magistrate in southern division of Arcot.

Mr. A. Crawley, ditto ditto in Salem.

Mr. H. Williams, head-assistant to collector and magistrate of Chingleput.

Dec. 7. R. W. Norfor, Esq., sheriff of Madras for the ensuing year.

Jan. 18. Mr. A. Maltland, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Cuddapah.

Mr. E. B. Thomas, assistant to ditto of northern division of Arcot.

Mr. A. Wilmot, assistant to ditto of Bellary.

Mr. R. T. Porter, assistant to ditto of Coimbatore.

Mr. W. C. Ogilvie, assistant to collector and magistrate of Masulipatam.

Mr. H. C. Montgomery, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Nellore.

ECCLIESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Jan. 5. Rev. C. Jeaffreson to be military chaplain at Nagpoor.

Rev. F. Spring, ditto at Quilon.

Rev. F. J. Darrah, ditto at Vizagapatam.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, Sept. 29, 1826.—3d N.I. Sen. Capt. D. Agnew to be maj. Sen. Lieut. T. Dallas to be capt., and Sen. Ens. F. J. Clarke to be lieut., in suc. to Turner invalided.

Oct. 6.—2d L.C. Lieut. G. M. Floyer to be adj., v. Garstin placed under orders of resident at Hyderabad.

1st Europ. Regt. Lieut. W. J. Manning to be qu. mast. and paym., v. Brown prom.

2d N.I. Lieut. R. M. Humphreys to be adj., v. Downing resigned.

Surg. T. Owen to be a superintending surg., v. Trotter dec.

Assist. surg. T. Key permitted to place his services at disposal of resident of Hyderabad.

Oct. 10.—Capt. A. Mussita, 48th N.I., transferred to invalid estab., and posted to 2d or Arnee Nat. Vet. Bat. at Guntore.

Oct. 13.—48th N.I. Sen. Lieut. H. C. Lynch to be capt., and Sen. Ens. John Lewis to be lieut., in suc. to Mussita invalided.

Sen. Assist. surg. Jas. Haslewood to be surg., v. Trotter dec.

Head-Quarters, Oct. 10, 1826.—*Ensigns posted.* G. Jackson to 11th N.I.; G. G. Brown to 40th do.; W. B. McCally to 41st do.; W. B. Jackson to 25th do.; J. Tainah to 11th do.

Oct. 13.—*Removals.* Ens. A. Barker from 33d N.I. to 2d Europ. Regt.; Ens. A. E. Nisbet from 11th N.I. to 1st Europ. Regt.; Ens. E. L. Durant from 20th to 3d N.I.; Lieut. F. J. Browne from 3d to 2d bat. artl.

Fort St. George, Oct. 24.—Lieut. W. Bremner, 47th N.I., to be fort adj. at Bellary, v. Metcalfe prom.

1st L.C. Lieut. W. Walker to be adj., v. Thwaite dec.

1st Brig. Horse Artl. Lieut. A. E. Sheriff to act as adj., v. Hyslop returned to Europe.

Lieut. J. Shepherd, 24th N.I., to be adj. to 1st bat. pioneers, v. Wheeler prom.

Maj. H. Degraives, 8th N.I., transferred to invalid estab.

Oct. 27.—*Artillery.* Lieut. G. Middlecoat to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 2d bat., v. Anderson.

7th N.I. Lieut. R. A. Harden to be adj., v. Hendrie prom.

12th N.I. Lieut. J. C. Coffin to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Shadden prom.; Lieut. E. Pelli to be adj., v. Coffin.

19th N.I. Lieut. G. W. Osborne to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Hitchens removed.

24th N.I. Lieut. C. Dennett to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Sinclair prom.

32d N.I. Lieut. T. R. James to be adj., v. Russell removed.

36th N.I. Lieut. J. Hayne to act as adj., v. Barton removed.

37th N.I. Lieut. D. Duff to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Wright removed.

38th N.I. Lieut. C. G. Otley to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Stafford removed.

41st N.I. Lieut. G. Logan to be adj., v. Langford removed.

43d N.I. Lieut. F. B. Griffiths to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Ely on furl. to Europe.

44th N.I. Lieut. F. Dudgeon to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Blaxland removed.

45th N.I. Lieut. J. Wyllie to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Fraser prom.

46th N.I. Lieut. J. T. Luard to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Baddeley removed.

51st N.I. Lieut. J. A. Russell to be adj., and Lieut. M. Blaxland to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., to complete estab.; Lieut. C. Stafford to act as adj. during absence of Lieut. Russell.

52d N.I. Lieut. C. H. Baddeley to be adj., and Lieut. T. Bayles to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., to complete estab.

1st Extra N.I. Lieut. F. L. Nicolay, 29th N.I., to be adj., v. Logan; Lieut. J. Symons, 18th N.I., to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Fitzgerald.

Oct. 31.—Col. Wm. Macbean, H.M.'s 54th regt., to succeed Lieut. Col. Campbell, H.M.'s 40th regt., in command of troops in Malabar and Canara.

Lieut. A. E. Byam, of artl., to be an extra assist. to resident at Hyderabad.

Assist. surg. D. Vertue to be surg. to Residency at Hyderabad, from 15th April.

Nov.

Nov. 3.—Capt. G. Hutchinson, 24th N.I., Brig. Maj. at Sholapoor, transf. as brig. maj. to Kul-ladgee.

Lieut. W. G. T. Lewis, 46th N.I., to be cantonment adj. at Sholapoor.

Nov. 7.—Lieut. W. H. Atkinson, of engineers, to be acting superintend. engineer in ceded districts.

Engineers. Sen. Capt. W. Monteath to be maj., and Sen. Lieut. E. Lake to be capt., v. Milbourne dec.

Nov. 10.—Lieut. Col. Com. T. Pollok, 22d N.I., to command Nagpore subd. force, v. Deacon permitted to return to Europe.

Lieut. Col. Com. J. D. Greenhill, 34th N.I., to command light field div. of Hyderabad subd. force at Jaulnah, v. Pollok.

Lieut. Col. Com. H. F. Smith, 43d N.I., to command Travancore subd. force, v. Greenhill.

27th N.I. Lieut. R. A. Joy to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Thorpe resigned.

10th N.I. Sen. Ens. C. Clayhills to be lieut., v. Sinclair dec.

Nov. 14.—Lieut. Col. Com. C. Farran, 14th N.I., to command at Bellary.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 13.—*Cadets (recently prom.) appointed to do duty.* Cornet G. B. D. Groube with 5th L.C.—Ensigns N. L. H. McLeod with 16th N.I.; R. H. J. Budd with 10th do.; J. S. Mackenzie and R. Bryce with 18th do.; F. Grant with 10th do.; J. Gomm with 18th do.; A. Mayhew with 10th do.; J. Jones with 18th do.; J. W. G. Kenney with 10th do.; J. H. Manley with 18th do.; J. Douglass with 16th do.; C. Gordon with 6th do.; A. E. B. Durant with 10th do.

Nov. 16.—Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow removed from 1st to 25th N.I., and Lieut. Col. J. S. Fraser from latter to former regt.

Assist. surg. Davenport removed from 25th to 14th N.I., and Assist. surg. Geddes from latter to former regt.

Lieut. H. Gould, 38th N.I., posted to 1st bat. pioneers, v. Macartney prom.

Nov. 17.—Assist. surg. E. Jessop removed from 4th Nat. Vet. Bat. to 32d N.I.

Ens. Jas. Kempthorne removed, at his own request, from 47th to 26th N.I.

Fort St. George, Nov. 14.—Assist. surg. J. Mack to have medical charge of north-western district of Madras, v. Atkinson resigned.

5th N.I. Sen. Lieut. H. S. Burgess to be capt., and Sen. Ens. C. Abbott to be lieut., v. Mitford retired.

20th N.I. Sen. Lieut. Brev. Capt. J. Macartney to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. Strettell to be lieut., v. James dec.

33d N.I.; Sen. Ens. H. Marshall to be lieut., v. Clay dec.

Mr. P. Poole admitted an assist. surg. and app. to do duty under cantonment surg. at St. Thomas's Mount.

Nov. 21.—Capt. S. W. Steel directed to assume duties of his situation in qu. mast. gen.'s department with Nagpore subd. force.

Lieut. A. T. Cotton, of engineers, to be civil engineer in centre division.

Head-Quarters, Nov. 25.—*Removals.* Cornet H. S. Waters from 8th to 3d L.C.; Ens. E. H. Martin from 8th to 31st N.I.; Ens. A. Wilkinson from 13th to 33d N.I.; Ens. J. Wright, from 32d to 5th N.I.

Dec. 1.—Capt. G. Conran, of B troop 1st brig. horse artil., to command artil. with light field div. of Hyderabad subd. force at Jaulnah.

Dec. 4.—Lieut. Col. G. Gillespie removed from 4th to 2d, and Lieut. Col. S. Martin from 2d to 4th L.C.

Dec. 7.—Capt. F. Blundell, 3d bat. artil., to command detachment of artillery proceeding to Prince of Wales's Island and its dependencies, and Lieut. W. S. Carew, 4th or Goulundaue bat., to be staff officer to same detachment.

Dec. 12.—*Removals of Lieut. Colo.* H. M. Kelly, from 1st Europ. regt. to 33d N.I.; G. Waugh from

50th N.I., to 1st Europ. regt.; G. Jackson from 32d to 50th N.I.

Fort St. George, Dec. 12.—3d L.C. Lieut. E. B. Gould to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Bullock prom.

1st N.I. Lieut. M. W. Perreau to be adj., v. Bisset.

Lieut. W. H. Simpson, 36th N.I., to be an extra aide-de-camp to his Exc. the Commander-in-chief.

Capt. F. F. Whynates, of artil., to be superintendent of rocket estab. at head-quarters of artillery, v. Wynch.

Artillery. Lieut. J. Booker to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 4th or Goulundaue bat., v. Carew.

3d L. Inf. Lieut. W. L. Williams to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Johnstone; Lieut. F. J. Clerk to be adj., v. Harvey returned to Europe.

2d L.C. Sen. Lieut. J. N. R. Campbell to be capt., and Sen. Cornet R. T. Pocock to be lieut., v. Macqueen dec.

36th N.I. Sen. Ens. R. H. Robertson to be lieut., v. Woodgate dec.

27th N.I. Sen. Ens. G. G. MacDonell to be lieut., v. Croft invalided.

43d N.I. Sen. Lieut. G. Williams to be capt., and Sen. Ens. D. Bayley to be lieut., v. Budd dec.

Lieut. R. C. Moore's appointm. to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 1st bat. artil. cancelled, that officer not having done regimental duty for regulated period of two years.

Lieut. W. H. Miller to act as qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 1st bat. of artillery until further orders.

Dec. 15.—Assist. surg. W. Fasken to have medical charge of sikhah of Salem, v. Richmond prom.; Assist. surg. N. A. Woods to be dep. medical store-keeper at Jaulnah, v. Davidson permitted to return to Europe; Assist. surg. Maxwell to do duty under garrison surg. of Poonamallee.

Dec. 19.—Capt. T. T. Paske, of artil., to be assist. adj. gen. of artillery, v. Bonner.

Capt. A. Crawford, of artil., to be commissary of stores with force in Dooab, v. Paske.

Lieut. H. S. Foord, of artil., to be dep. commissary of stores at Jaulnah, v. Chisholm permitted to return to Europe.

Artillery. Lieut. T. Dittmas to be qu. mast., interp., and paym. to 3d bat., v. Foord.

1st Europ. Regt. Lieut. F. H. Hopper to be adj., v. Doveton permitted to return to Europe.

3d L.I. Sen. Lieut. P. L. Harvey to be capt., and Sen. Ens. G. T. Pinchard to be lieut., v. Dallas discharged.

2d Lieut. of Engineers to be 1st Lieut. W. H. Atkinson, T. T. Pears, A. De Butts, and E. Buckle.

Dec. 22.—Lieut. J. V. Hughes, 39th N.I., to be fort adj. at Seringapatam, v. Macqueen.

Head-Quarters, Dec. 18.—Ens. Jas. Cannon removed from 14th to 15th N.I.

Dec. 19.—*Removals of Surgeons.*—W. Horsman from 9th to 5th N.I. S. M. Stephenson from 25th N.I. to 1st L.C. W. E. E. Conwell from 1st L.C. to 25th N.I. C. Desormaux from 50th to 9th N.I. J. Hazlewood (late prom.) posted to 14th N.I.

Removals of Assist. Surgeons. S. Higginson from 9th to 34th N.I. W. Mortimer from 43d to 4th do. R. Sutherland from 28th to 19th do. R. Oliphant from 10th N.I. to 3d bat. pioneers. J. P. Grant from 22d to 33d N.I. D. Richardson from 56th to 36th do. J. Bell from 43d to 49d do. G. V. Cunningham from 32d to 2d do. W. G. Owen from 24th to 22d do. J. T. Maule posted to 1st do.

Lieut. W. T. Croft, recently transf. to inv. estab., posted to Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat.

Lieut. W. Macqueen, 50th N.I., appointed to 3d bat. pioneers, v. Milnes.

Fort St. George, Dec. 26.—19th N.I. Sen. Lieut. (Brev. Capt.) J. T. Webbe to be capt., and Sen. Ens. E. H. Atkinson to be lieut., v. Binney discharged.

Lieut. J. Briggs, 13th N.I., directed to assume his

his situation of dep. assist. qu. mast. gen. in Mysoor.

Dec. 29.—41st N.I. Sen. Ens. G. H. Harrison to be lieut., v. Dale dec.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 1, 1827.—Removals. Ens. E. G. Taylor from 50th to 8th N.I. Lieut. W. T. Croft from Carnatic Europ. Vet. Bat. to 4th Nat. Vet. Bat. Capt. D. Walker from 4th to 2d Nat. Vet. Bat.

Fort St. George, Jan. 2.—43d N.I. Lieut. W. B. Cox to be adj., v. Manning; Lieut. E. C. Manning to be qu. mast., interp., and paym., v. Cox.

Jan. 9.—Lieut. J. Blackall, H.M.'s 48th regt., to be fort adj. at Poonamallee, and to have charge of pensioners at Tripasore, v. Lieut. Campbell resigned.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Sept. 29. Capt. W. S. Hele, of artill. for health.—Oct. 3. Maj. C. A. Elderton, 9th N.I.—Lieut. J. H. Macbriare, 9th N.I., for health.—6. Capt. J. Wilson, 30th N.I.—10. Lieut. A. Hyslop, of artill. for health.—Lieut. J. G. Deck, 15th N.I., for health.—31. Capt. T. Youngson, 48th N.I., for health.—Nov. 3. Capt. G. Fryer, 10th N.I., for health.—7. Capt. J. Chisholm, of artill. for health (via Bombay).—10. Capt. C. Poultou, 5th N.I., ditto ditto.—17. Lieut. P. L. Harvey, 3d N.I., for health.—21. Capt. T. Rud-diman, 31st N.I.—24. Capt. T. M. Claridge, 43d N.I.—Dec. 13. Lieut. R. H. Richardson, 7th L.C., for health (via Bombay). Assist. surg. R. Davidson, ditto ditto.—15. Lieut. O. Bell, 13th N.I., for health.—19. Lieut. F. B. Doveton, 1st Europ. Regt., for health.—Lieut. T. F. Baber, 44th N.I., for health.—29. Lieut. J. Psamores, pension estab. for health.—Lieut. T. Stockwell, 28th N.I., for health.—Jan. 9. Capt. N. Hunter, of artill. for health.—12. Lieut. Col. J. Briggs, 49d N.I., for health.—Lieut. C. Boldero, 94th N.I., for health.

To Bushire.—Dec. 19. Capt. P. Thomson, 39th N.I., for six months.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 19. Capt. J. Bayley, 22d N.I., for twelve months, for health (eventually to Europe).

To Sea.—Oct. 6. Lieut. J. Macvitie, 9th N.I., for six months, for health.—10. Capt. W. C. Brunton, 2d L.C., ditto ditto.—Jan. 9. Lieut. A. E. G. Turnour, 21st N.I., for four months, for health.

Cancelled.—Nov. 3. Lieut. H. Goold, 38th N.I., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, January 24.

The Quarter Sessions commenced this day, when Sir Robert Comyn delivered a charge to the grand jury, in the course of which he referred to the new jury act in the following terms:—

“It is first to be observed, that the former statute here recited, (*viz.* the 13 Geo. III. c. 63) limited, by the 34th Section, the selection of jurors to a class of persons whom it calls ‘British subjects,’ a term certainly not very accurate; but which appears to have been intended to designate those who having been born within the realms of Great Britain had come to settle in India, and their legitimate issue; such, at least, has been the practical interpretation in restricting the *personal* jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts in India. But it must not be inferred from this that no other persons are the subjects of Great Britain; for whilst under the several successive statutes from time to time passed

for that purpose, the Company have been permitted to enjoy their territorial acquisitions, the sovereignty and ultimate dominion has all along remained vested in the crown; and consequently all persons, of what colour or description soever, born within such territory, are the King's subjects, just as much as if they were natives of the island of Great Britain. By the present Act, then, all distinctions as to parentage are abolished, and all the King's subjects, native as well as European, resident within the presidencies, *may* be qualified; and those persons are alone excluded who, having been born elsewhere than in the Company's territory, owe allegiance to some foreign prince or state. It is, however, made an indispensable requisite for serving on the *grand* jury, that the party should profess the Christian religion; and in like manner Christians only are competent to sit upon the *petit* jury for the trial of Christian offenders.

“These are the restrictions by which the statute has circumscribed its own operation. But it has further vested a power in the judges of the several courts to make such rules for the qualification and service of jurors as they shall think fit; but which shall conform to the main object of the Act, and be moreover subject to the approbation of the crown. For this court, I can only say, that we shall, without delay, prepare these rules. What they may be, is at present impossible to define: one, however, I trust and believe, will not be omitted; I mean a rule by which no person shall be permitted to act as a jurymen who is not sufficiently acquainted with the English language fully to understand the judge's charge. The experience of all ages shews us, that there is always a strong connexion between the manners and the languages of nations; and I may be allowed to question the capacity of the Oriental tongues to give an adequate representation of our Western institutions. But when I call to mind the extreme nicety and subtlety of the English law; the very fine and minute shades by which the guilt of an offence may be heightened or extenuated; above all, when I remember that we have been compelled to invent, and engraft on our own copious language, terms of art for the expression of our technical distinctions, I must confess, that I, for one, should feel the greatest pain and repugnance at being compelled to commit any observation of mine, in a criminal charge, to the hazardous experiment of translation.

“The abolition, then, of the distinctions of descent and parentage, as amongst the King's subjects, is the main alteration introduced by this new statute; in passing which, it seems to have been the intention of the legislature to bring the natives of our territories in India more nearly upon a level with their fellow subjects, by re-

posing in them a duty of great trust and confidence. As to its *necessity* in this presidency, it is but due to those gentlemen whom we have been accustomed to see discharging the office of jurors, to say (and I am sure that I am speaking the sentiments of the whole court), that we have hitherto had every reason to be satisfied with the discretion and discrimination with which we have been assisted in the exercise of our criminal jurisdiction."

MISCELLANEOUS.

NATIVE JURORS.

A meeting of the principal Hindoo inhabitants, and heads of the different castes at Madras, was convened by the Sheriff, agreeably to requisition, on the 25th November, in Black Town, to take into consideration the act for regulating the appointment of juries in India. On the day named upwards of 1,000 of the most respectable Hindoo inhabitants assembled. The Sheriff (Mr. E. Gordon) opened the meeting; after which the assembly requested Vennelacutty Soob Row, Bramin, to preside, who accordingly took the chair, and interpreted the act of Parliament in the Tamul and Telugoo languages, and requested the assembly to state their individual opinion respecting it.

Chinnatombi Moodeliar then stated or read his opinion to the following effect:—

"The object of this meeting is to collect the opinion of the Hindoos of this town, on the subject of a law lately passed in England, whereby we are declared eligible to act as jurors like Englishmen, provided the judges of the Supreme Court should think fit, in cases of a criminal nature, when persons of our own religion are to be tried. Since this law became known at Madras, it has been the subject of much discussion and consideration, and some European gentlemen have kindly explained to several among us, that the privilege which has thus been conferred on us, is very valuable and ought to be received with gratitude; and some of the native inhabitants, who are acquainted with the English language and European customs, have at times spoken of this measure as one that is likely to be beneficial to the Hindoo community.

Others have considered that, in our present condition, we are not sufficiently educated, or advanced in knowledge, to understand the nature of the duty, which, as jurors, we shall have to perform; and it must be admitted, that nine-tenths of our number are totally ignorant of the English language, and have never been in the Supreme Court during a criminal trial; scarcely any of us are in the least acquainted with the rules of English law; and perhaps there is not a single individual who can understand the distinctions that

are said to exist in respect to offences against the law of England, of which, if we act as jurors, we shall be required to convict or acquit our countrymen. At a criminal trial we may understand the evidence given by witnesses in our own languages, and we may happen to know the character and condition in life of these witnesses, whereby we may form a correct judgment whether they are speaking truly or otherwise; but without a proper understanding of the nature of the offence, and the law that may apply to it, it will be a difficult task to pronounce a verdict, however we may understand the facts of the case. Should the trial be for an offence which may subject the prisoner to the penalty of death, there are very few among us who would consider themselves fit to form an opinion on a matter of so much importance. To the members of the Braminical Caste other considerations will suggest themselves, to which no allusions may be made. Many of us have heard, that at criminal trials the assistance of counsel has been useful in explaining the facts of the case, in prosecuting with effect the guilty, and in defending the innocent. Now, should we act as jurors, we shall lose whatever benefit can arise from the aid of counsel, either to the prosecution or the defence, for we shall not be able to understand what may be addressed to us; and the same effect can never be produced by an interpreter, however skilful and able he may be. This observation will apply in a much stronger degree to the charge of the judge, which must be interpreted and particularly explained, to enable the most intelligent amongst us to understand the law of the case, or the reasoning of the judge on the evidence, and the application of it.

"Yet all these difficulties ought to be overcome before any honest man can venture to pronounce a verdict which may deprive a fellow-creature of his life, or occasion some other punishment. If we are to act as jurors at the Court-House, we must also perform the duty of attending the inquests of the coroner; and let any one present reflect on the situation in which he will be placed, if liable to be summoned and to be kept for hours near to a dead body, and that body deposited in a place which Bramins and respectable Hindoos ought not to approach.

"On the present occasion, I do not wish to advert particularly to the differences and distinctions which exist between our castes; but in the trial of offences which may have been occasioned by quarrels of castes, involving the common feeling of great numbers of men, it will be very difficult to find an impartial jury to determine on the guilt or innocence of the party charged. The consequences of an acquittal or a conviction are likely to be much more prejudicial to the conflicting parties,

parties, than if the party offending should be tried as heretofore.

"It is said that a similar measure has been tried at Ceylon, and that its effects have been very beneficial. On this subject there are different opinions; but the people of Ceylon, who serve as jurors, differ essentially from ourselves, and perhaps are better fitted for the benefit which it is said has been conferred on them. There the judges perform circuits at a distance from the seat of government; and unless they were enabled to find men to perform the duty of jurors, it would be necessary either to take Europeans with the judges, or to abandon that mode of trial. At Madras the judges constantly administer justice in one court.

"A time may arrive hereafter, when the Hindoo population of this place may overcome the difficulties which have been noticed; but it is for those amongst us who are most competent to the task, to consider and declare, whether in our present condition we are fitted for the duty we may be required to perform; and if not, whether we ought not to represent submissively, but earnestly, to the judges of the Supreme Court, that we are at present desirous of being excluded from the privilege extended by the late Act of Parliament to the natives of this presidency.

"There are many points of a minor nature, which must occur to any one who may have witnessed or heard of the criminal proceedings in the Supreme Court, but which illustrate the inconvenience that would result from our attending as jurors. Whatever may be the day, or however indispensable we may think it to perform particular ceremonies, either for family purposes or in the celebration of festivals, we must attend punctually or be subject to fines. We cannot, during a trial, take any refreshment: that by our customs is not permitted. We must continue together until our opinion is found; and it is possible, that with every regard to our religion and our prejudices, men may be brought together who have never before sat on the same form or carpet, and whose sitting together would constitute a mental degradation to the one or to the other, and perhaps the feeling might be mutual. Thus circumstanced, any unanimity of opinion would be difficult of attainment.

"Although in certain cases about 30 years ago, half the jury were Hindoos, the other half were Europeans, and the court of that time was not conducted by any regular forms or proceedings; the judges were not lawyers, and the course was better within the comprehension of the natives, who were usually selected to fill the office. What then happened to terminate the summoning of natives to serve on the jury, is within the recollection of a few only. It is for our present consideration

whether we are yet competent to understand and to perform the duty.

"Should this assembly be of opinion that the period has not yet arrived when we can venture to exercise the privilege which the British parliament seems to have offered us, let us form a committee to prepare a respectful and becoming representation to the judges of the Supreme Court, to whom the framing of the rule is delegated, expressing our thanks for the benefit intended to be conferred, and explaining our reasons for wishing to decline it. It may also be proper to convey a similar representation to the government by which we are protected."

The sentiments stated by Chinnatombay Moodeliar, and his proposal, were declared by the chairman to be in conformity with his own; and for himself, and on behalf of the Bramin caste, he recommended that they should be adopted by the meeting. Poompavey Anasawmy Moodeliar supported the proposal, for himself and on behalf of the other Nattawars, with the exception of a few persons, in number about 20, who desired to be furnished with an extract of the proceedings of the late Mayor's Court, exhibiting the names of the Hindoo inhabitants who formerly acted as jurors in that court, for the purpose of giving their opinion within a month. This latter suggestion was seconded by Connore Mootiah Moodeliar.

The opinion and proposal of Chinnatombay Moodeliar, seconded or recommended by the chairman, was also supported by Namasevoy Chettyar, for himself and on behalf of the caste, and by Collah Ragavah Chettyar, for himself and on behalf of his caste.

Vencatasawmy Chetty, on behalf of the Dassayeas, asked the chairman's permission to retire into a room for the purpose of forming an opinion. This was seconded by Mootoosawmy Naick, but objected to by Poompavey Anasawmy Moodeliar, on the ground that it would take up time unnecessarily, which objection was supported by Nineappah Moodeliar.

The sheriff suggested that those people who wished to retire into a room should stand up, as also those who made the objection to it, in order to point out the majority and minority. Eight members of the Dassayeas then stood up, as wishing to retire, but twenty having objected to it, the original proposal was negatived.

It was then unanimously agreed by the members of all the castes, that respectable persons of each caste should be appointed to form a committee, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best mode of framing and preparing a respectful memorial to the Honourable the Judges of the Supreme Court, and another to the Honourable the Governor in Council, expressing the thanks of the Hindoo inhabitants

habitants of Madras for the benefit intended to be conferred by the Act of Parliament, and explaining the reasons for wishing to decline it.—*Madras Gov. Gaz. Nov. 30.*

From several communications which have appeared respecting this meeting, there seems some ground for apprehending that the genuine sentiments of the majority of the natives of Madras were not expressed on this subject. It is asserted that the wealthy and influential natives are apprehensive that the duty of jurors would interfere with their indolent enjoyments, and would be attended with a loss of consequence to them, by reason of inferior natives acquiring this privilege in common with themselves. It is also alleged that several of the natives who attended the meeting suppressed their sentiments, which were repugnant to those expressed, because they supposed the course of proceeding had been adopted at the suggestion of *some person in authority*. From a letter on this subject in the *Madras Courier*, which purports to be written by a Hindoo, we extract the following passage :

"I attended the meeting held on the 25th ult., but I beg to assure you that the meeting was not solicited by the principals and heads of the Hindoo Castes ; neither by any Hindoo respectable nor experienced ; but by fourteen who are pretty respectable Hindoos of Madras, who thus took upon them to act for the whole native community. The proceedings of the meeting are already before the public ; but so far from containing the sentiments of the generality of the respectable natives, they contain the very reverse. I am connected with the greater part of the respectable natives at the Presidency, and I beg to assure you that they are greatly distressed at what has taken place, and much lament it, as the account of the meeting must tend to lower their character very much in the eyes of all liberal or enlightened persons. Their refusing the gracious boon held out to them by their rulers, of serving as jurymen, was never their wish nor desire ; it is looked upon as a high honour and a great privilege ; and their sincere wish is that the proceedings of the meeting of the 25th ult. may be rescinded, and this foul stain obliterated from their characters ; and that the views of our rulers at home may meet with that gratitude they deserve, we shall "all be proud" to be admitted to so honourable a distinction.

"The person who took the lead at the meeting had no authority for the steps he adopted ; but by his *much fair speech*, misguided the worthy Sheriff into his ways, and, by his intrigues, put all the other Hindoos into confusion. It is very painful to us to find one of our number, who has risen to some eminence, making

use of his knowledge to *asperse* and injure his countrymen. I again beg to state, at least more than seven-eighths of the respectable natives of Madras are desirous of having the honour of serving as jurymen, and are most grateful to the honourable gentlemen who have in Parliament taken notice of them—they feel sadly grieved at what has taken place, but hope it may yet be obliterated.

"I would just say, that were Government to issue a notice that there was required a body of natives to serve as Petty Jurymen, to whom a *handsome monthly salary* would be given, on their being found fit for that duty, I conceive some *hundreds* would come forward fully qualified for it, conversant not only with the English language, but with Tamul, Telooogo, Mahratta, &c. all desirous of serving on this duty ; and, likewise, amongst the foremost would be found the fourteen persons who signed the requisition for the meeting."

EARTHQUAKE.

We have received the following from a correspondent, dated Vizagapatam, 7th January 1827.—"A shock of an earthquake occurred at this station yesterday afternoon, at about half-past five o'clock. It was apparently from seaward, and in the direction from east towards the hills westward, the immediate boundary of this narrow neck of land, which is nearly peninsular. The shock was of but a few seconds duration ; but the undulation of the earth was very perceptible, particularly in the houses at the eastern extremity of Waltair, and in those nearest the sea. The noise was similar to what would be occasioned by the passing of a waggon over a rough stone pavement. The doors of the houses shook, and all the venetians rattled in an extraordinary manner. Some persons state that they felt the *tremblement de terre* so sensibly, that it occasioned a slight sensation of sickness at the stomach."—*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Jan. 18.*

VEPERY SCHOOLS.

The annual public examination of the English and Tamil schools at the Vepery Mission of the Venerable Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, was held in the New Mission Church at Vepery, on Saturday last, in presence of a highly respectable assemblage of ladies and gentlemen of the Presidency. Amongst the visitors were the hon. Sir Ralph Palmer, Chief Justice, Sir G. W. Ricketts, Sir Ralph Rice, and the clergy and other members of the society's committees. The number of children belonging to these schools is 360, and their neat appearance and attentive

attentive and orderly demeanour, excited just approbation. The Tamil examination was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Rottler, senior Missionary at Vepery; that in English by the Rev. W. Roy, senior Chaplain at the Presidency, and Secretary to the Madras District Committee of the Incorporated Society. These schools are conducted upon the admirable system adopted in England by the National Society for schools; and on this occasion we had an opportunity of observing the large measure of success with which it has been pursued, in the benevolent establishment at Vepery. The children gave specimens of their attainments in reading and cyphering, and displayed a very pleasing degree of intelligence and proficiency. The result was not less creditable to those under whose charge these young persons have been placed, than gratifying to all who witnessed this interesting scene.—*Ibid*, Dec. 28.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Dec. 3. *Mermaid*, Yates, from Calcutta.—13. *Hope*, Flint, from Calcutta.—15. *Claudine*, Chrystie, from Calcutta.—20. *Melpomene*, Johnston, from Calcutta.—21. *Moirra*, Hornblow, from Calcutta.—Jan. 4. *Providence*, Ardlie, from Calcutta.—8. *Morley*, Halliday, from Calcutta.—9. *Cumbrian*, Blyth, from London.—11. *Aurora*, Earl, from Calcutta, and *Coldstream*, Stephens, from London.—16. *Malcolm*, Eyles, from Calcutta.—18. *Abberton*, Percival, from Calcutta.—21. *Lady Ragles*, Coxwell, from Calcutta.

Departures.

Nov. 14. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, for Penang and Singapore.—17. *Atlas*, Hunt, for Calcutta.—23. *Cambridge*, Barber, for Penang and Calcutta.—Dec. 9. *Castle Forbes*, Ord, for Calcutta, and *Mermaid*, Yates, for London.—12. *James Sibbald*, Forbes, for Penang, &c.—23. *Hope*, Flint, for London.—31. *Melpomene*, Johnston, for London.—Jan. 8. *Moirra*, Hornblow, for Cape and London.—14. *Morley*, Halliday, for Ceylon and London.—16. *Cumbrian*, Blyth, for Calcutta.—25. *Coldstream*, Stephens, for Penang and Calcutta.—26. *Ganges*, Milford, for London.—27. *Malcolm*, Eyles, and *Claudine*, Chrystie, both for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Oct. 29. At Chanda, near Nagpore, the lady of Asiat. surg. A. Montgomerie, Bombay Medical Establishment, of a daughter.
Nov. 5. At Tranquebar, the lady of Lieut. W. P. Burton, 27th N.I., of a daughter.
— At Rayapooram, Mrs. T. Jones, of a daughter.
— At Chindatrepatta, Mrs. M. Scriven, of a daughter.
6. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. Kirby, 4th N.I., of a daughter.
7. At Trichinopoly, the wife of Mr. J. Bigwood, of a daughter.
9. The lady of C. H. Clay, Esq., of a daughter.
10. The lady of Capt. D. Montgomerie, deputy surveyor general, of a daughter.
— At Cannanore, the lady of Lieut. Col. Campbell, H.M.'s 46th regt., of a son.
— At Quilon, the lady of W. Huxham, Esq., of a daughter.
14. At the Presidency Cantonment, the lady of Lieut. W. G. Broosboort, of a son.
15. At Bellary, the lady of A. Cheape, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

16. Mrs. P. Engel, of a daughter.
17. The lady of Lieut. C. Chauvel, 80th N.I., of a son.
21. Mrs. Le Cerf, of a son.
22. At Bangalore, the lady of Maj. T. S. Watson, of artillery, of a daughter.
25. At Cocanada, the lady of G. A. Smkth, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
— At Parawaukum, the lady of Lieut. Stoddard, H.M.'s 54th regt., of a daughter.
28. At Secunderabad, the lady of Lieut. Col. Martin, commanding 9d L.C., of a daughter.
30. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Lieut. Evans, fort adj. at that station, of a son.
Dec. 1. At Arcot, the lady of Capt. Lang, H.M.'s 13th Light Drs., of a son.
— At Palamcottah, the lady of John Walker, Esq., of a son.
4. At Ellichpoor, the lady of Capt. Hugh Robison, of a son.
5. At Arcot, the lady of Capt. H. B. Williams, 3d Light Cav., of a daughter.
8. At Palamcottah, the wife of the Rev. B. Schmid, of a daughter.
9. At Kamptee, the lady of Lieut. J. S. Impey, postmaster to Nagpore Subsid. Force, of a son still-born.
10. At Bangalore, Mrs. J. F. Pereira, of a son.
12. At Trichinopoly, the lady of Lieut. Archer, 20th regt., of a daughter.
— At the Presidency cantonment, the lady of Capt. Dods, cantonment adj., of a son.
— At Calingapatam, the lady of P. S. Derkas, Esq., master-attendant, of a son, still-born.
15. The wife of Mr. John Law, architect, of a son.
23. At Cannanore, the lady of Capt. Locke, attached to the S. L. B., of a daughter.
26. At St. Thomas's Mount, the lady of Lieut. Foord, artillery, of a son.
30. At Pondicherry, the lady of Capt. J. Matthews, 37th regt. N.I., of a son.
31. At Tanjore, the lady of Capt. Fyfe, of a daughter.
— The lady of G. J. Hadow, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
Jan. 1. At Arcot, the lady of J. C. Schroeder, Esq., H.M.'s 13th Light Drags., of a son.
— At Cuddalore, the lady of S. Crawford, Esq., civil service, of a son.
3. In Fort St. George, the lady of Lieut. O'Connell, commissary of ordnance, of a son.
— At Guntoor, the lady of Capt. B. Baker, 2d N. V. Bat., of a daughter.
4. At Berhampore, the lady of Dr. Pearce, 37th N.I., of a son.
12. The lady of Lieut. Gen. Sir George Walker, commander-in-chief, of a son.
— The lady of the late Capt. Gamage, Madras artillery, of a son.
— At Dindigul, the lady of Lieut. Col. C. Mandeville, of a daughter.
15. At Arcot, the lady of E. A. Langley, Esq., 3d Light Cav., of a son.
— Mrs. R. Franck, of a son.
19. At Quilon, the lady of Lieut. Col. G. M. Stuart, commanding 7th N.I., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 15. At St. Thomas's Mount, Mr. F. Dawes, of the horse brigade, to Miss M. Mason.
— At St. George's Church, Mr. R. Hamilton, of the commissariat department, to Miss E. Jackson.
Dec. 4. Capt. E. S. Dickson, 38th N.I., to Miss J. M. Fenoulhet.
12. At St. George's Church, Mr. J. A. Regel, eldest son of the late F. C. Regel, Esq., chief of Sadras, to Martha, second daughter of the late Mr. W. Jackson, deputy commissary of stores.
13. At St. George's Church, Mr. T. G. F. Conslitt, son of Lieut. Conslitt, royal navy, to Miss M. Anderson.
26. At St. George's Church, Salome, second daughter of the late Rev. C. Pohle, to Lieut. E. Willis, of the 28th N.I.
29. At Tranquebar, Lieut. Thase, of the royal Danish service, to Miss Sophie Wodachow.
30. Mr. W. Scaife to Miss A. Cox.
Jan. 4. At Bangalore, M. D. Cockburn, Esq., collector and magistrate of Salem, to Miss Lascelles.
6. Mr. J. Stephens to Miss A. E. Walters.
22. At St. George's Church, Capt. Coyle, 26th N.I.,

N.I., to Jane, daughter of Wm. Thomson, Esq., M.D., Wexford, Ireland.

DEATHS.

Oct. 14. At Nundy Cantonment, Amhers, Lieut. John Woodgate, 36th N.I., executive engineer to corps serving in Martaban district, and assistant in quarter-master-general's department.

Nov. 3. Major R. E. Milbourne, of the corps of engineers.

— Elizabeth, wife of Mr. J. S. Harvey, of the quarter-master-general's department.

5. At Quilon, the lady of Lieut. Col. Woodhouse, commanding 20th N.I.

7. At Secunderabad, Assist. surg. R. Lindsell, 19th N.I.

8. At Royapooram, Mrs. C. Meppen, aged 36.

10. Lieut. H. P. Clay, 33d N.I., son of the late General Clay, H.M.'s service, aged 22.

— At Merqui, Lieut. S. B. Goodrich, 1st M.N.I.

15. At Bangalore, the Baroness De Kutzleben, aged 42.

16. At Secunderabad, Caroline, wife of Mr. W. McKay, aged 33.

20. At Wallajahbad, Capt. G. H. Budd, 43d regt. aged 44.

— At Keltah, Mrs. Harding, wife of Mr. G. Harding, riding-master 3d Lt. Cav., aged 37.

24. Lieut. and Adj. G. A. Brodie, 3d Lt. Cav.

27. At Almorah, Susan, wife of Maj. M. Thomas, 54th N.I.

30. Wilhelmina Sophia, wife of A. J. Drummond, Esq., civil service.

— At Mysore, T. Vadanarrain Moodliar, son and heir of T. Ramasawmy Moodliar, after a short illness.

— At Royapooram, Mr. F. B. Garty, aged 51.

Dec. 7. At St. Thomas's Mount, Capt. D. Macqueen, 2d Lt. Cav., aged 38.

— At Secunderabad, assist. surg. R. Lindsell, 19th N.I.

14. In camp at Ongole, Lieut. H. H. Lewis, H.M.'s 30th regt.

— Mr. John Sample, aged 73.

20. Mr. John Prins, aged 35.

21. At Palamcottah, Pollengee Jevangee, parsec, in his 50th year.

25. At Ropapettah, Lazaro Laurence, son of Mr. F. D'Monte, aged 14 years.

29. At Cuddalore, Daniel, son of Mr. Manuel De Vaz.

— Mr. A. Regolay, harness-maker.

31. Mr. Wm. Lambert.

Jan. 1. At Vepery, Ann, eldest child of Mr. J. H. Williamson, aged three years.

21. Mrs. A. McDonald, keeper of the King's Arms Tavern, in her 48th year.

Bombay.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Nov. 30, 1826.—Capt. R. Meldrum to be paym. to Gulcower Subald. Force, v. Dunsterville prom. to a majority.

Capt. J. Rankin to be dep. paym. to Poona div. of army, v. Meldrum.

Dec. 4.—*New Corps of Sappers and Miners*. Lieut. S. Slight to command; Lieut. A. C. Peat to be adjutant.

Dec. 7.—15th N.I. Ens. J. Montgomery to be lieut., v. Cheshyre dec.; date 23d Nov. 1826.

Dec. 8.—Capt. D. Forbes, 2d or Gr. N.I., to command detachment at Rajpessa.

11th N.I. Lieut. N. Campbell to be capt., and Ens. H. C. Cole to be lieut., in suc. to Blackall dec.; date 27th Nov. 1826.

Capt. P. D. Ottey, 11th N.I., to be a brigade maj. to forces, v. Rankin.

Capt. W. Spratt, 4th N.I., to command 2d ex-N.I., v. Ottey.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Dec. 7. Capt. T. Marshall, 25th N.I., for health.—8. Maj. W. G. White, horse

artil., on private affairs.—Capt. P. W. Pedlar, 25th N.I., ditto.—Superintend. Surg. G. Ogby, ditto.—Capt. J. B. Sealy, 25th N.I., for health.—Lieut. T. T. Baber, 44th Madras N.I., for health. To Sea.—Dec. 7. Lieut. W. Wroughton, 3d N.I. for six months, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Dec. 9. Maj. W. Mezey, Inv. Bat., for health (eventually to Europe).

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, October 14.

At the opening of the third sessions this day, Mr. Just. Chambers, in the absence of Mr. Just. Rice (whose province it would otherwise have been), delivered a charge, wherein he referred to certain matters which engaged the attention of the court, and which our readers will easily call to mind, from the repeated allusions which have been made to them in this journal.* The learned judge commenced with observing, that he was not sorry that the absence of Mr. Justice Rice had imposed upon him this duty, as he was anxious to deliver his sentiments on points which the occurrences of the last sessions rendered it important for him to discuss; that, as his reflections extended to some length, he had embodied them in a written note, which he would read to the grand jury.† The note occupied in the reading, probably an hour and a half: it gave an interesting account of the origin and history of the jury-institution, the functions of jurors, and the mode in which they discharged them; it treated of the private or personal knowledge of jurors on matters brought before them, and the weight which should be given to it in producing the verdict; of the field occupied respectively by the court and the jury, and the extent to which the latter should be ruled by the opinion of the former; a certain space of debatable ground it stated to exist, but the charge did not attempt strictly to define its limits. Arbitrary judges and licentious juries had both, it stated, been known; for the excesses of the former, the jury, by not following the direction of the bench, had an effectual remedy. The charge concluded with a just eulogy on the jury-institution, as being the best practical institution that was ever invented.

The grand jury subsequently requested to be favoured with a copy of the charge; the learned judge declined acceding to this request, as he did not wish to sanction the precedent; the charge, however, was he said, in the press, and he would take care that every individual jurymen, who wished it, should receive a copy.

At the close of the session, the grand jury made its presentment, wherein occurs the following passage:—

"On the subject of the charge delivered by

* See pp. 392, and 491.

† This jury consisted (with a single exception of different persons from those who composed the grand jury in July.

by Mr. Justice Chambers, the grand jury, from hearing it only once, and most of them entertaining an impression, that they could afterwards have the means of consulting it more particularly, feel themselves unable to make any detailed observations, but they beg leave to remark, that the impression on their minds is, that the general exposition of the principles which should regulate the conduct of grand jury-men, as contained in the charge of the learned judge, is in unison with the ideas on that subject entertained by the grand jury, and that it is the grand jury's conviction, that the grand juries of Bombay, so far as their experience reaches, have always acted in conformity with those principles, and will always continue to do so."

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Foreman.

Grand Jury Room,
Bombay, Oct. 18, 1826.

Mr. Justice Chambers then said that, if that presentment had not been so moderate, he certainly would not have received it. As it was he had a few remarks to make upon it. Sitting as he did in that situation, it was his duty zealously to guard the rights of the bench, and he would take special care to preserve his own independence. The charge was simply on a point of law, which as a judge, it was his duty to lay down: he had particularly mentioned, that grand juries were free from any penal consequences, and the bench was equally so, as there was no power that could take cognizance of a judge overstepping the line of his duty but the crown. He would not suffer any grand jury, however respectable it might be, to comment on his charge when confined to points of law.

The learned judge has since abandoned his intention of publishing his charge, having intimated to the members of the late grand jury a wish to be relieved from his promise on that subject, in which they have accordingly acquiesced.*

November 28.

Amerchund Beederchund v. The Hon. Company and others.—This was a suit to recover property to a considerable amount, which had been seized by Capt. Robertson, in the year 1818, as prize. The principal points in the question were, 1st. whether the property belonged to the plaintiff, or rather to Naroba Outa, his testator; and 2d. whether the seizure took place at such a time, during the Mahratta war, or before the peace, as to make the subject a question for a prize court.

* It is proper for us to state, that the report of this proceeding (of which we give the substance above) is from the *Bengal Hurkaru*, which, in its remarks (wherein the right of the learned judge to debar the jury from observations in this matter is disputed) confesses that, if these discussions "are thought unfit for publication there, Bombay has not gained much by the non registration of the press regulations."

The proceedings lasted for many days, and the question was now decided in favour of the plaintiff: damages 12,21,790 rupees, with compound interest at 6 per cent. on 10,39,603 rupees, from 18th July 1818; and on 1,82,187 rupees, from 12th November 1818.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ENTERTAINMENT TO GOVERNOR ELPHINSTONE AT POONAH.

On Mr. Elphinstone's return to Poonah from the southward, a splendid entertainment was given to him by the society of the Deccan. For this purpose a temporary building was erected in the late Commissioner's compound. The tables were laid for 200 people.

On Mr. Elphinstone's arrival, he was received by the President, Vice President, and Stewards for the evening, and at half-past seven the company sat down to dinner, Major-Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B. in the chair.

After removal of the cloth, and the usual toasts, the President rose and addressed the company in the following terms:—

Gentlemen,—The next toast I have to propose you will have been all anticipating with sincere pleasure, "the health of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone."—(*Great applause.*)—Seven years ago I was called to this chair to convey the grateful estimation of the society of that day towards Mr. Elphinstone, when he was about to resign the office of Commissioner, and to assume that of the government of Bombay. On that occasion, the delicacy due to a mind like his, necessarily limited every allusion to his public situation; and on the present occasion, while he is still in high authority, I must observe the same rule with still stricter caution. It would not become us to go into any review of his official administration, nor does he stand in need of the applause which would be its certain result. If, therefore, I have faithfully interpreted your design, I shall leave nothing even for ungenerous suspicion to infer, that we have brought Mr. Elphinstone here for purposes of adulation. He comes amongst us this evening as our guest, a common friend, beloved by all, composed as we are of various services, but united in one and the same spirit in offering our homage to his personal character.

Gentlemen, you are all probably aware, that Mr. Elphinstone's present visit to the Deccan has been to consolidate the general tranquillity by his interviews with the native chieftains; yet, as in former times, his public labours have not prevented those habitual attentions to society, which have constantly brought us all together in happy intercourse, giving relief to our toils and variety to our pleasures. In a few words, he has been labouring as usual for our happiness, as he has ever done for the public

lic weal. He has given a useful lesson to any of you, gentlemen, who may rise to high stations in public life, by shewing that universal kindness, so far from being incompatible with dignified office, is sure to command universal good-will; and in his own case it will yield him the rare felicity of relinquishing power without the loss of a single friend! (*Shouts of applause.*) Gentlemen, my first duty and my first desire in this chair, is to assure Mr. Elphinstone of our grateful regards. If I am unable to express your sentiments in terms proportioned to your feelings, the attempt comes at least with the purest earnestness and truth. I have been associated with him in the public service for upwards of twelve years, during which I have been constantly honoured with his friendship, and there is not one among you who can feel more than myself, the apprehension that this may be the last time we shall enjoy the happiness of his society in this interesting quarter of his fame. When I say this, I do not mean to assume Mr. Elphinstone has any local partialities; for we are all aware, if he could go to Guzerat or any distant part of his government to-morrow, he would receive the same tender of affectionate respect. The apprehension I have spoken of is the only drawback I know of to the pleasures of this evening. If the contemplation of an event, which we must hope is still very distant, interposes so many regrets with the *European Community*, it will be still more severely felt by the *natives*, who never see Mr. Elphinstone here except to receive benefits from him, either through his political power or by his private charities. But, Gentlemen, we will keep this only alloy to our meeting out of present view, and prepare for the toast.

Gentlemen of the Civil Service, you will, I am well aware, do it ample justice, proudly remembering that Mr. Elphinstone is one of you. Gentlemen of the Army, you will receive the toast with joy, for Mr. Elphinstone has always been a soldier wherever he could, and has often been seen foremost in your ranks in the field of action. Scholars, however recently from your studies in science or in literature, there is not one of you who would overstep him in any form to-morrow; you will drink to Mr. Elphinstone as your master-example in talent and in knowledge. Sportsmen, though last not least, (for I never yet knew a good sportsman who was a bad soldier), you will hail the toast with delight, for Mr. Elphinstone has ever been your Patron, and the partaker of your joys.

Up, therefore, up! all classes with one heart, and we will make the walls echo back the peals of our fervent wishes for *Mr. Elphinstone's health and happiness.*

This toast, which was proposed in our

esteemed and gallant President's usual fluent and happy style, was received with the most heartfelt enthusiasm and joy; and while the cheering and applause continued, the band of the Queen's Royal marched round the table playing "*The Garb of Old Gaul*," and a salute of nineteen guns was fired.

Mr. Elphinstone then rose, and made the following reply:

Gentlemen, I beg to return my best thanks for the honour you have done me in drinking my health. I wish I could find adequate terms to express the sense I entertain of all the other kindness with which you have honoured me on this occasion. In whatever view it is taken, I must feel this mark of your favour as a most flattering distinction. In a public light I should be gratified by the good opinion of so liberal and enlightened a community; and in a private one, I am still more proud of the esteem of so honourable and high-minded a body of gentlemen. My gallant friend has spoken of me in terms which I know not how to acknowledge. I am conscious I owe them to his partiality more than to any merit of my own; but even partiality is honourable from a person of his talents and character; and it is a just source of exultation when it is concurred in by such an assembly.

And now, gentlemen, I have to return my grateful thanks, not only for the present splendid proof of your hospitality, but for the urbanity and cordiality that have made the whole of my residence at this station so pleasant. I had before spent many happy days in the Deccan, and the attachment I shall always feel for the place will be greatly increased by the recollection of my present visit, and of the agreeable and estimable society with which it was my good fortune to meet. I am sure that all the *strangers* present must participate in this feeling, and will gladly join with me in every good wish to, "*The Society of the Deccan.*"

After several other toasts had been drunk, Mr. Elphinstone proposed the health of the President, in the following terms:

"Gentlemen, I should find it difficult to do justice to the toast which I am going to propose, if I were not aware that your own knowledge is sufficient to make up for every deficiency on my part. When I name Sir Lionel Smith, your own recollections will at once suggest to you, both his high public merits and services, and those social qualities which render him the delight of private society. Many of you have witnessed his gallantry in the field, and all are well acquainted with his abilities in the exercise of his high command, his disinterested zeal for the public service, and the benevolence which renders him equally attentive to the comforts of the soldiers and the rights of the peasant.

You

You are all aware of the peculiar circumstances which give his appearance at this meeting so strong a claim to our acknowledgments; and all, I am certain, will unite with me in cordially wishing, that the amiable and interesting person from whom he has just been separated, may soon be restored to him in the full enjoyment of health and happiness. I beg now to propose "the health of Sir Lionel Smith."

Sir L. Smith returned thanks, and proposed "the health of Sir Charles Colville, our late Commander-in-chief;" and from the enthusiasm with which it was received and drank, it was evident he had left a general good feeling and respect behind him, highly gratifying to all who had ever the honour of being associated with that gallant general, as a soldier or friend.

The ladies began to assemble at half-past nine, and were immediately joined by the gentlemen. Dancing commenced with true Deccan spirit. An elegant supper was prepared in the temporary dinner-room, to which all the company retired at one o'clock. During supper, and while all was mirth and merriment, Sir Lionel Smith, at the earnest request of the ladies, rose, and addressed the company as follows:

Gentlemen, some inquiring whispers have come round to me from our fair friends, putting it to me, would I not rise and say something for them to Mr. Elphinstone? Who could resist such an appeal? Gentlemen, I declare myself half angry with the custom which we have given to ourselves, and which precludes ladies from speaking for themselves, on these as well as on all other occasions. We all know they are *always fluent, generally eloquent, always persuasive*. Wanting all these qualities myself, I shall only imperfectly express their amiable feelings towards Mr. Elphinstone; but I can safely assure him, they have always gratefully appreciated his uniform and kind attentions to them. Some among them, perhaps, may wonder and regret that Mr. Elphinstone has never yet quartered their silken chains in his honourable escutcheon, but all will long remember him as one of their kindest votaries. Mr. Elphinstone, the ladies charge me to offer you their best wishes.

Mr. Elphinstone replied in appropriate terms. Dancing recommenced with unabated spirit, and was kept up till "the morning star shone singly in the dark blue vault of heaven."—*Bombay Cour.* Dec. 9.

THE THEATRE.

On the 6th Dec. the Bombay Amateur Theatre opened; the play was Colman's "John Bull, or the Englishman's Fireside." The performance was excellent, and the audience numerous and respectable.

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COLAHAB.

Colahab is becoming so celebrated for unaffected and social intercourse, that scarcely a week passes without some particular manifestation of it. Dr. Dowison had a quadrille party Nov. 22d; and Capt. Maillard, of the H. C's ship *Amherst*, threw open his hospitable mansion on the 30th to a very numerous party. Dancing continued till the votaries of Terpsichore were at a loss, when the meeting separated, to tell whether it was the sun or the moon, or both, that conducted them to their respective habitations.

PANWELL BRIDGES.

We observe the following paragraph in the *Bombay Gazette* of Dec. 13:—"Considering the extreme accuracy of information on all subjects connected with India affairs, to which the *Asiatic Journal* lays claim, one would think that, for the preservation of its own character, the conductors of that periodical should be a little more on their guard in [against] inserting statements, which have only to be glanced at to discern their own refutation on the face of them. What we allude to more particularly in the present instance, is a letter, signed R. A. N., in that journal for April 1825, pp. 428, 429, in which the writer, speaking of the bridges to be constructed over the new road from Panwell to Poonah, sagely remarks, that 'the engineer's estimate for a single bridge, to be constructed on that road, was 68,000 rupees; whereas the officer commanding the pioneers, calculated that he could construct a bridge to last fifty years, for 4,000 rupees, a saving of 64,000 rupees in one bridge alone; and there are three required in the first ten miles of the road.' We would simply ask the gentleman who made the above calculation, whether his *pons quinquagenarius* was to be in all respects like that of the engineer officer's, or whether it was to resemble it in any respect, and also whether it was to be a *pons lapideus* or a *pons subicius*? as on the answer to these questions depend entirely the correctness, or otherwise, of the data on which his calculation was founded. What a pity this gentleman's services were not available when the estimate for building the Town-Hall was framed."

In reply to this ill-written paragraph, we observe, that an editor cannot be held responsible for every mis-statement in the communications of his correspondents, especially upon such matters as this. Is he to insert nothing which he cannot verify, to the minutest details? The editor of the *Gazette* considers that the statement carries its own refutation: we confess it does not appear to us that it is yet refuted, though it may be capable of refutation, which the *Gazette* might have shewn without displaying so much bad taste and bad feeling.—*Ed.*

CUTCH PIRATES.

We learn with astonishment, that a Cutch pirate has had the audacity to plunder a trading boat within sight, or nearly so, of the island of Bombay, and got clear off with the property.—*Bomb. Cour. Dec. 20.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Nov. 18. *Valleyfield*, Johnson, from Mauritius and London.—Dec. 18. *Hibbert*, Theaker, from Calcutta.—Jan. 13. *Gipsy*, Quick, from Liverpool.

Departure.

Dec. 19. *Valleyfield*, Johnson, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 14. At Sholapore, the lady of B. W. Cumberlande, Esq., 7th Lt. Cav., of a son.
22. In camp Kotool, pergunnah Kurdeh, Ahmednuggur collectorate, the lady of Capt. W. H. Sykes, officiating statistical reporter to Government, of a son and heir.

— At Colabah, Mrs. R. Beck, of a daughter.
29. At Cambala, the lady of G. Ogilvy, Esq., of a son.

— Mrs. J. Nimmo, of a daughter.
Dec. 1. At Poonah, the lady of Capt. Henderson, of a son.

5. At Mahim, Mrs. Pascoa A. de Souza, of a son and heir.

6. The lady of Capt. Moore, paymaster Surat division of the army, of a daughter.

7. The lady of G. Simpson, Esq., marine storekeeper, of a son.

8. The lady of G. Forbes, Esq., of a daughter.
18. At Bhooj, the lady of Capt. W. Havelock, H.M.'s 4th Drago., of a son.

26. At the Hermitage, Lady Chambers, of a son.
27. At Colabah, the lady of Capt. Chisholm, Madras Artillery, of a daughter.

— The lady of W. C. Bruce, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
Jan. 1. The lady of Major H. Pottinger, resident in Cutch, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 15. At St. Thomas's church, Capt. James Morison, 2d regt. Madras cavalry and Assist. Com. Gen., to Maria Macdonald, eldest daughter of John Elphinstone, Esq., late member of council at this presidency.

20. Mr. A. P. Rodrigues, to Rosa, eldest daughter of Rosario de Quadros, Esq., late a merchant of this place.

21. At Colaba, Mr. G. W. Scales, to Mrs. M. Halliday.

25. At Poonah, Lieut. Eyre, H.M.'s 20th regt., to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late John Dodd, Esq.

29. At St. Thomas's Church, Lieut. J. Hobson, 1st Grenadier Regt., youngest son of the late J. P. Hobson, Esq., auditor general Pinang, to Amelia Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Maj. W. C. Green, of this establishment.

Dec. 11. Mr. H. Enderwick, to Miss J. Thomas.
14. At Poonah, John Warden, Esq., civil service, to Ellen Maria, eldest daughter of Major Gen. Sir Lionel Smith, K.C.B.

20. Mr. J. Harrison, to Miss C. A. M. Collett.

DEATHS.

Nov. 17. At Mhow, Hannah, the wife of Lieut. 6. Athill, engineers, and eldest daughter of J. Crosby, Esq., of Kirkhythore, near Applebey, Westmoreland, aged 26.

22. At Baroda, Lieut. John Chesshyre, 15th regt.

— At Belgaum, the lady of Capt. Robson, 1st Bombay Europ. regt., a few hours after giving birth to a daughter.

23. Clarissa Maria, the wife of Lieut. Thomas,

barrack-master to Surat division of the army, aged 25.

Dec. 9. At Cambala, the lady of G. Ogilvy, Esq.

10. At Bhooj, Ens. Ramsey, 2d Europ. Regt.

12. At Baroda, Lieut. J. Dawes, 15th N.I.

19. Amerchund Bedrecond Shraweuk Banian,

aged 60.

30. At Colabah, Capt. J. B. Seely, of this establishment, aged 35. Capt. Seely was well known as the author of "*The Wonders of Elora*," "*A Voice from India*," and several essays in different periodical publications, on subjects connected with this country.

— Rose, daughter of Mr. S. J. Cross.

23. At Kaira, Theresa, wife of Mr. E. J. Siqueira, head clerk in the Kaira collectorate.

— At Poonah, W. Campbell, Esq., late paymaster H.M.'s 20th regt., aged 51.

24. At Colabah, John, only child of the Rev. John Cooper, Hurmes.

Jan. 1. Lieut. T. H. Broadhead, H.C.'s Bombay Marine.

3. James N. Walker, Esq., civil service, second son of James Walker, Esq., Blackhead hill.

Lately. At Colabah, Alfred Sayce, Esq., aged 18.

Ceylon.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

Nov. 18. C. Collier, Esq., dep. inspector of hospitals, to be superintendent general of vaccination, and principal civil medical officer in this island.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SAWERS.

We had much pleasure in learning that a great deal of good feeling had been evinced by the chiefs in the Kandyan provinces on the occasion of the retirement of the judicial commissioner, Simon Sawers, Esq., who is about to return to England. They had requested and obtained permission from his Excellency the Governor to accompany Mr. Sawers in procession as far as the river.

At about noon on Saturday last, Mr. Sawers took his departure from Kandy, attended by all the chiefs within a reasonable distance of the town, and a vast concourse of people, who by every means in their power indicated their respect and attachment to the individual in question.

Mr. Sawers has been employed in the Candyan provinces ever since they came into the British possession in 1815, and has mainly contributed, by his integrity and firmness of character, to inspire the natives with respect for and confidence in the British government, and at the same time, by his suavity of manner and conciliating disposition, excited strong feelings of personal attachment. These feelings have not been confined to the natives only, for we hear that a series of fêtes have been given in Kandy on the occasion of Mr. Sawers' retirement, demonstrative of the high respect and regard in which he was held by all classes of society.—*Ceyl. Gaz. Jan. 3.*

REGATTA.

Extract of a letter from Trincomalee:—
"The officers of the navy have made this

one of the most lively ports in India. Besides our field sports of tiger, elephant, and deer hunting, we have now regattas, one of which was on the 24th November. A race on that day took place: the prize was a silver cup, given by the Hon. Capt. Rous, of H.M.S. *Rainbow*; the entrance money was five rupees, to be divided between the first and second boats. Fourteen boats started from moorings in Cutcheree bay, went round Sober island, and ended by passing to the eastward of H.M. schooner *Cochin*. The prize was won by Lieut. Talbot's lugger *Iris*.

The amusements of the day were enhanced by an elegant *déjeûné* given by Capt. Rous at Rainbow Cottage, which was attended by all the beauty and fashion of Trincomalee. The fête was concluded by a splendid dinner, given to the officers of the squadron by the same liberal patron of the sports of the day."

PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY.

The following extract of a letter, written by Bishop Heber, from Galle, in Sept. 1825, addressed to the late Rev. John Mayor, Vicar of Shawbury, Salop, gives a favourable report of the progress of conversion in this island.

"The cause of Christianity is, I hope, going on well here. There is, among the Cingalese and Tamul population, a very large proportion of nominal Christians; who, although unhappily they are only nominal, because their fathers were so before them, or because the profession is creditable, and though too many of them still pay their superstitious homage to Buddhu and to the evil principle, have, notwithstanding, fewer *external* difficulties to contend with, in embracing the true faith, than fall to the share of the poor Hindoos. Among these, and in part among the professed Pagans, I am rejoiced to find that conversions are going on, if not very rapidly, yet steadily; and that the rising generation afford excellent hopes of repaying richly, and even in our own time, the labours of the good men, who have given up parents and friends and country in their service. I have had myself the pleasure of confirming, in this place, Kandy, and Colombo, 300 natives of the island—Portuguese (that is, descendants of Portuguese), Cingalese, and Malabarians: besides which, had I been able to go to Jaffna, for which the season was too far advanced, I am assured that I should have had at least 100 candidates more. In the great church at Colombo, I had to pronounce the blessing in four different languages. Surely this should encourage our best hopes and best exertions; and should fill us with gratitude to God, who has already made the fields *white unto the harvest*."

BIRTHS.

- Sept. 11. At Trincomalee, Mrs. E. G. Keil, of a son.
 Nov. 8. At Colombo, the lady of Dr. Tillery, medical staff, of a daughter.
 12. At Trincomalee, the lady of Capt. R. Brown, 16th regt., of a daughter.
 19. At Point de Galle, Mrs. Janax, of a son.
 23. At Colombo, the lady of T. Eden, Esq., of a daughter.
 26. At Colombo, Mrs. A. C. Stratsburgh, of a daughter.
 Dec. 8. At Colombo, Mrs. Gun, of a son.
 28. At Colombo, the lady of Lieut. Col. Lindsey, H.M.'s 78th Highlanders, of a daughter.
 Jan. 5. At Matura, the wife of J. F. Lorens, Esq., sitting magistrate of that station, of a son.

DEATHS.

- Nov. 2. Mr. Junias Humsted, late master of the schooner *Mary*, in his 25th year.
 8. At Hambanglotte, of fever, Capt. Chas. Driberg, commandant of the district, aged 39; and on the same day, Gertruida Elisabeth, his wife.
 28. At Mattakooly, Anna Catherine, eldest daughter of the late R. S. Tavel, Esq.
 29. At Colombo, J. F. Holland, Esq., aged 31.

Penang.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

- Aug. 1. Mr. S. Garling, provisional resident councillor at Malacca.
 Mr. E. Presgrave, deputy resident at Singapore.
 Mr. T. Church, acting collector of customs and excise, and acting warehouse-keeper.
 Mr. S. G. Bonham, assistant resident at Singapore.
 Mr. F. C. Salmond, assistant to accountant and auditor.
 Mr. H. Nairns, assistant to secretary to Government.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

- Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow, 25th Madras N.I., to command troops of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore, and Malacca.
 Capt. H. Raife, Bengal artil., to be military secretary and aide-de-camp. to Hon. the Governor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HON. MR. PRINCE.

The Hon. J. Prince, Esq., late acting resident of Fort Marlborough, arrived in the ship *Nearchus*, on Wednesday evening, from Bencoolen, and landed the following morning under the salute due to his rank. At one o'clock a salute of fifteen guns was fired on the occasion of Mr. Prince taking the oaths and his seat as Resident Councillor of Singapore.—*Penang Gaz. Nov. 25.*

DUTIES AND REGULATIONS.

Notice is hereby given, that the collection of the import and export duties leviable at this port, under the regulations of the 1st May 1812 and 29th June 1816, will be suspended from this date. In order, however, to ensure the regular transmission of statements of the extent and nature of the commerce at this presidency, required for the information of the authorities in England, and at the same time to prevent the import or export of articles

articles prohibited by law, it is hereby notified, that all the existing rules and forms relative to landing and shipping goods, entry of manifest, &c. at the Custom-house, will continue to be in force.

By order of the Hon. the Governor in council,

J. ANDERSON, Sec. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis, P. W. Island,
21st November 1826.

TRADE.

Every thing is dull and stagnant in the way of trade at Penang, but not just so bad at Singapore, which promises, provided a free trade continue to exist and that no duties are imposed, and if no impolitic legislation takes place under the new system which the island is about to undergo by a separation of its immediate control by the Bengal government. If the same liberal policy be pursued, it will, ere many years elapse, be a most flourishing settlement.

Mr. Chief Secretary Lushington and his lady landed at Penang on the 7th October; they had received much benefit from their trip. Mrs. Crawford (the lady of the Ava ambassador) had arrived from Singapore.—*Cal. John Bull*, Dec. 11.

THE KING OF QUEDA.

This chief, who has been driven from his dominions by the Siamese, in conjunction with the Raja of Ligore, is now residing at Penang. His territories have been devastated by Siamese, and many of his subjects have taken refuge in that part of the continent now belonging to the English. The coast opposite to Penang, formerly a deserted shore, is now said to be studded with cottages, and inhabited by 12,000 or 14,000 of the Queda refugees. The Penang government allows the king a pension of 500 dollars a month: but has refused his earnest applications for aid, and has prohibited his levying men, or procuring arms at Penang.

DEATH.

Nov. 20. At Kelso, Ena. H. Barrow, 28th Madras N.I., aged 19.

Singapore.

CONDITION OF THE SETTLEMENT.

Extract of a letter from Singapore, dated November 24, published in the *Calcutta John Bull*:—

"Having read so much about the trade and growing prosperity of this place, I was led to expect a port of great bustle and activity; but, having found from past experience, that where I have an opportunity of bringing what books say, to the standard which one's own eyes contemplate, my expectations uniformly required a considerable chastisement: I was fully pre-

pared to find the picture greatly exaggerated. I have not yet had time to see much or examine with any care; but my first impressions are that the reality of the bustle, activity, and thriving appearance of Singapore even exceeds what its annalist, in its own *Chronicle*, has related of its progress. It may perhaps derive a little of its magnitude from a comparison with the dull and stupid place, Malacca, where every thing is yet Dutch and heavy and cheerless. Here there is more of an English port appearance, than in almost any place I have visited in India. The native character and peculiarities seem to have merged more into the English aspect than I imagined possible, and I certainly think Singapore proves, more satisfactorily than any place in our possessions, that it is possible to assimilate the Asiatic and the European very closely in the pursuits of commerce. The new appearance of the place is also very pleasing to the eye, and a great relief from the broken-down, rotten, and decayed buildings of other parts in the peninsula. The regularity and width of the streets give Singapore a cheerful and healthy look; and the plying of boats and other craft in its river enlivens the scene not a little. At present here are no fewer than three ships of large burden loading for England. The vessels from all parts of the Archipelago are also in great numbers and great variety. At Penang and Malacca the godowns of a merchant scarcely tell you what he deals in, or rather proclaim that he does nothing, from the little bustle that prevails in them: here you stumble at every step over the produce of China and the Straits, in active preparation for being conveyed to all parts of the world. The number of new houses now building is not the least striking feature in the scene, and one to which, in other ports, belonging to European powers, in this part of the world, the eye is a stranger."

SINGAPORE INSTITUTION.

We are happy to learn from a private source, that the Singapore Institution is now in progress of building, owing to the liberal advance of 2,000 dollars made by the Rev. Mr. Burn, chaplain. It cannot be denied that such an establishment as the intended institution must add materially to the importance of Singapore in a literary point of view, and we hope that the proposed grant of 300 dollars a month, with arrears, will be speedily sanctioned by the Hon. the Court of Directors.—*Malacca Obs.*

Netherlands India.

By accounts from Batavia of the 27th January, we learn that his Excellency the Commissioner

Commissioner General, after visiting Samarang, Sourabaya, and the other residences to the East, had returned to Buitenzorg. His Excellency appointed and solemnly installed a principal committee of agriculture, and also appointed sub-committees for the whole island of Java, for the purpose of promoting agriculture.

Some time after the submission of Mangko Dinigrat, the insurgent chief, Diepo Negoro directed his principal force against the district of Minoreh, in order, as it seems, to chastise the inhabitants for the defection of his former ally. In consequence of this affair, the columns of Col. Cleerens, and of Majors De Leeuw and Van der Wych had several actions with the enemy in the beginning of January, and notwithstanding the unfavourable season, defeated him with great loss. The troops of Mangko Dinigrat behaved well, and supported the Netherlands troops.

The latest accounts from the territories of the princes were of the 16th January. At that time Djocjocarta was tranquil, and the necessary measures had been taken to prevent the farther advance of the rebels into Minoreh and Probolingo.

The accounts from the west coast of Sumatra, received at Batavia, were favourable.—*Dutch Paper.*

Persia.

Despatches, dated the 23d March, have been received from Colonel Macdonald at Tabriz. They announce that a Russian force, consisting of between five and six thousand regular infantry, some battalions of Armenians, and about five thousand cavalry, was assembling at Charak and Caracalak, on the banks of the Araxes, and that Persian troops, under the command of Abbas Mirza, were stationed at Tabriz.

General Yermoloff has been removed from the administration of Georgia and Caucasia. He is succeeded by General Paskovitch.

DECLARATION OF THE SHAH.

The *Jami Jehan Numa*, a Persian Bengal paper, contains a copy of a declaration of Futteh Ali Shah, of Iran, given Mohurrem 1242 (end of September 1826.) The following are its principal passages:—

“Be it known to the illustrious and fortunate prince, the supporter and ornament of the kingdom, Hosein Ali Mirza, that in the spring of this year his Majesty determined to punish the past presumption of Russia in retaining possession of Balighloo, which is a dependance of Gokcheh, in the district of Erivan, as well as the oppression exercised upon the Mohammedan faith and population, of which nu-

merous representations had been recently addressed to the royal court. In evidence of which determination, the royal tents were pitched in the gardens of Sultania, whither an ambassador from Russia arrived, to preserve tranquil relations and deprecate the occurrence of hostilities. The ministers accordingly entered upon negotiations, agreeably to the precept: ‘Be not remiss, but invoke peace, and you will be strong, for God is with you;’ he (the ambassador) for ever departing from agreements, and substituting other proposals. After several days had passed in this manner, no hope appeared that the ambassador would consent to evacuate the usurped territory, nor to promise protection for the Mohammedan districts in possession of his government. Wherefore it was determined to clear the state of the true faith from the spot of infidel usurpation, as it is said: ‘With respect to what is in their hearts, will not God expose their malevolence?’ and ‘Wage war with the infidels in whom there is no faith;’ God will support those who have pledged their faith with the words of truth.’ Orders were given to his highness the *Nair* of the kingdom, to advance with 15,000 mounted troops, and 20,000 others, from the confines of Azerbaijan, to occupy the fort of Shusha; and the districts of Kerabagh, and Hossien Khan, the Sirda of Erivan, was at the same time commanded, with ten thousand regulars and all his own retainers, to occupy Gokcheh, and the country about Teflis.”

The document then continues, in the style of a bulletin, to enumerate the successes of the Persians, but in a very vague, inaccurate, and artificial manner. It concludes with intimating that “further accounts of continued success may be expected.”

The Persian Gulf.

The transactions in the Persian Gulph have been so indistinctly described, that we have found it difficult to appreciate their character; but it appears that the Imam of Muscat has settled his dispute with the Sheikh of Bushir, and has directed his hostilities against Butsora. We understand that the Imam has an annual pecuniary claim upon the Turkish authorities at Busora, which has fallen into heavy arrears, and finding little prospect of repayment, he has proceeded to dun them by a naval force. At the date of our advices the Turks were preparing for resistance, and had equipped a naval force for that purpose. Communication of the expected attack had been made to the Pasha of Bagdad. According to the Persian paper, the governor of Busora had met the Imam with two vessels, both of which, and

and the Hakem himself, had been taken in the action that ensued. The Hakem had been sent prisoner to Muscat, whilst the Imam advanced against Bussora.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*

China.

Calcutta papers contain accounts from Canton to the 2d December. The following report is given of the market.

European Goods.—The quantity imported this season by the Company's direct ships has been unusually great, added to the supplies by American vessels mentioned in our former, which has completely overstocked our market; and at present we could not name an article of European manufactures which would realize within 20 per cent. of its original cost. The accounts also from Singapore and Manilla of the quantity of goods on hand, and the state of these markets, are of so unfavourable a nature that it is probable considerable supplies from those quarters may find their way on to this, in which case we cannot expect amendment for some time to come.

Exchange.—The Company's treasury continues open for bills on Bengal at 203 rupees 100 Sp. drs. and on England at 4s. 3d. per Sp. dr.

Another alarming fire has occurred at Canton, by which four hundred china-men's houses have been destroyed.

Cape of Good Hope.

THE PRESS.

Circular.—The Editor and Proprietor of the *South African Commercial Advertiser* respectfully informs the subscribers, that the publication of that paper is suspended, in consequence of the following letter from the Colonial Office.

Colonial Office, March 10, 1827.

Sir,—I am directed by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you, that in consequence of a publication in the *South African Commercial Advertiser* of Wednesday, the 24th of May last, containing a statement entitled "Mr. Buissine's Case," and which has been represented by his Excellency the Governor Lord Charles Somerset to be of a false and calumnious nature, his Honour has received instructions from his Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to cancel the licence under which you are allowed to print and publish that journal.

You will, therefore, from this date consider that license as cancelled and of no effect.

I have honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

RICHARD PLASKET, Sec. to Govt.
To Mr. G. Greig.

The passage referred to is an extract copied from the *Times* of the 25th of January, 1826.

The editor of the Cape paper intends to proceed without delay to London, for the purpose of representing this transaction to the proper tribunals, and of endeavouring to assist in impressing on the minds of his Majesty's ministers, in every way open to him, the propriety of extending the protection enjoyed by British subjects and British property in other parts of the world, to the inhabitants of the Cape of Good Hope.

Council Office, 13th March, 1827.

COPY OF RESOLUTIONS OF A COUNCIL HELD
THIS DAY.

Present—His Honour Major General Bourke, C.B., Lieutenant-Governor; the Hon. Sir John Truter, Chief Justice; the Hon. Sir Richard Plasket, Colonial Secretary; the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Daniell, second in command; the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Bell, C.B.; the Hon. J. W. Stoll, Esq., Receiver-General.

The Council having taken into consideration a Memorial addressed to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, by several of the inhabitants of Cape-town, under date the 12th instant, wherein permission is requested to hold a public meeting, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the circumstances attending the suppression of the *South African Commercial Advertiser* newspaper," are of opinion that this Government has always shown its readiness to comply with any request for permission to hold a public meeting for the purpose of discussing any measures of general policy affecting the interests of the colony; but that the declared object of the meeting for which permission is now requested being to deliberate upon an act of his Majesty's Government, in the case of an individual, the Council are of opinion that the prayer of the memorial cannot be complied with.

And his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor is requested to cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the memorialists.

(Signed) D. M. PERCEVAL
(A true Copy.)

St. Helena.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

St. Helena Artillery.

Castle, James's Fort, Aug. 31. 1826.—2d-Lieut. M. J. Johnson to be Lieut., v. Mead dec.; date of rank 29th Aug. 1826.

March 17, 1827.—Lieut. and Adj. R. Armstrong to have rank of capt. by brevet from 21st Feb. 1827.

March 30.—Lieut. and Brev. Capt. T. M. Hunter to be capt. of a comp., v. Shortis invalided; and 2d-Lieut. R. T. Hayes to be Lieut. v. Hunter prom.; dates 16th March 1826.

Governor.

Governor's Staff.

March 20.—Brev. Capt. G. A. Dentaffé to be military secretary to Governor and Commander-in-chief.

Lieut. M. J. Johnson to be aide-de-camp to Governor and Commander-in-chief, v. Dentaffé.

St. Helena Regiment.

Oct. 16, 1826.—Lieut. Jas. Bennett to be capt. of a comp., Ens. M. O'Connor to be lieut., and Cadet C. S. T. Bond to be ens., in suc. to Capt. H. S. Cole retired from service; date 16th Oct. 1826.

March 20, 1827.—Lieut. P. Cunningham to be capt. of a comp., Ens. J. Sampson to be lieut., and Cadet H. Doveton to be ens., in suc. to Capt. J. W. Torbett retired from service; date 8th March 1827.

EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES.

The Governor and Council are pleased to publish the following extract of a letter which they have received from the Hon. the Court of Directors, dated the 19th of December 1826.

Public Department.—Paragraph 2. We have taken into consideration the third and fourth paragraphs of your despatch, dated the 28th of November 1825, and the documents therein referred to, relative to the expediency of adopting measures in view to the emancipation of the Slaves on your Island.

3. A stop has happily been put to the perpetuity of Slavery at St. Helena, by the noble resolutions which the proprietors of Slaves there adopted in the year 1818—by which children born subsequently to that period were declared free.

4. But although the eventual abolition of Slaves has thus been secured, yet there are a considerable number of persons who must continue in that degrading state during life; unless steps be taken for their manumission, and to whom the misery and degradation of Slavery appear aggravated by the contrast between their condition and that of their free-born progeny.

5. The interest which we feel in the speedy and entire abolition of Slavery at St. Helena, is proportioned to our anxious desire for the welfare of the Island, and for the happiness of all classes of its population, persuaded as we are that Slavery presents the most serious of all obstacles to the prosperity of the Community where it exists.

6. It must, however, be admitted that the subject is encompassed with difficulties. Humanity should not be permitted to interfere with substantial justice, nor can manumission be granted with safety to the community, or benefit to the individual, until he is suitably prepared to receive it.

7. The nature of these difficulties is so peculiarly local, that we must depend mainly upon your efforts to remove them; and we shall do so with entire confidence, justified by the enlightened and benevolent sentiments recorded on your proceedings, and especially in General Walker's Minute of the 21st of November 1825.

8. We think, however, that the communication to you, and through you to the Slave Proprietors, of our opinions and views, may have a salutary effect in reconciling conflicting parties—and in upholding and strengthening your efforts; and with this hope, we declare our deliberate conviction, that, so soon as a Slave understands and appreciates the nature and blessing of freedom, that boon should, if possible, be conferred; and further, that it is the bounden duty of the government to take all practicable steps, in the way of education and instruction, for fitting the Slaves for the reception of so inestimable a privilege. If the schools already instituted do not present sufficient means for the education of Adult Slaves, the deficiency ought to be supplied; and we shall be ready to sanction any arrangements which you may deem calculated to promote that object.

9. But we must express an equally decided opinion that the Proprietors are justly entitled to the value of their Slaves whenever they may be declared free. This point being provided for, the Proprietors would have no cause of complaint, nor would they, we are persuaded, unnecessarily retard the emancipation of their Slaves.

10. The value of Slaves should not be arbitrarily fixed according to the caprice or particular views of each individual Proprietor; but (as your Governor proposes) by the fair inquiries of a committee chosen partly by the government and partly by the Proprietors. The valuation of that Committee should be made periodically, and deposited in a government office, for the purpose of reference as occasions might require.

11. The period at which a Slave may be manumitted must necessarily be that at which he, or some one on his behalf, may tender to the Proprietors the amount of the valuation. Freedom may then be safely granted, and must not be withheld; for whether the means of redemption may have been obtained through personal industry in hours of leisure sanctioned by his master, or through the good opinion of benevolent individuals, it may with reason be expected that the Slave is deserving of the blessing which he seeks to possess.

12. The whole of a Slave's time, excepting Sundays, belongs to his master, and thus it is obvious, that unless the master allow a small portion of time, the Slave will not be enabled to earn the price of his redemption. We trust, and, from their conduct hitherto, we have reason to believe, that the masters generally will not hesitate to concede some indulgence in this respect. A very limited period might accomplish the object, for a great deal may be effected in a little time by a Slave when he knows that freedom will be the result of industry. We would further suggest that

that the paid labour of the Slaves during the time which may be allowed to them should, if possible, be rendered in the service of their respective masters.

13. The Savings' Bank which we lately sanctioned will enable the Slaves to deposit their earnings at interest.

14. We are aware that, even supposing these arrangements to be carried into effect to the utmost extent which can be reasonably contemplated, there will still remain cases of Slaves without any fair prospect of becoming free by their own exertions. In such cases, *when you are satisfied of the good character of the Slave*, we authorize you, for the purposes of reward to him, and of example to others, to pay the valuation, as a loan (without interest) from the Company to the Slave, upon his undertaking to reimburse it gradually out of his earnings.

15. We further authorize you in all cases, in which for the like purposes you may deem it expedient to accelerate the period of manumission of Slaves who may be making deposits out of their earnings, to advance, as a loan, the difference between such deposits and the valuation.

16. The 37th Article of the Slave Code, as modified in 1819, prescribes that, before any Slave whose age exceeds forty shall be manumitted, his master shall give bond in the sum of £160 to indemnify the parish from all claim on account of such Slave, should he prove incapable to maintain himself.

17. Your Governor now suggests that the age may be extended to fifty-five, and omitted altogether if the vestry should after inspection be of opinion that the bond was unnecessary.

18. We fully concur in this suggestion, and you have our authority to act upon it accordingly; it being however understood, that the vestry shall exercise great caution and discretion, so as to prevent Slaves of bad character, and who may be useless as servants, from being thrown upon society by their masters.

19. We are not ignorant that the acts of grace and favour which we have now authorized will eventually entail expense on the Company. Where the Slave falls sick, or becomes old and infirm, we cannot expect to be repaid what has been lent. But this is a loss to which we are content to be subjected, as the cost of effecting great good.

20. We know also that the sick and infirm of those who may be manumitted must be maintained, but this charge should properly be borne by the parish funds, which in the instances in which bonds may have been given by the Proprietors, as before adverted to, will be thereby indemnified. In cases where bonds may not have been required, the Proprietors of the manumitted Slaves who contribute

to the parish funds will be relieved from the charge, and the Islanders at large will be benefited by the gradual abolition of Slavery. We repeat therefore, that the parish funds should be subjected to the cost of maintaining manumitted Slaves rendered, by infirmity, incapable of earning their maintenance.

21. We prefer the system of aiding meritorious Slaves in obtaining their freedom, by loans, to that of directly conferring a pecuniary gift; because we are of opinion, that the Slave will more duly appreciate the blessing when he has earned it, than he would if it were freely bestowed; and also, because we consider the Company fairly entitled to be reimbursed, out of the future earnings of a manumitted Slave, the sum expended on his redemption.

22. In reference to the suggestion contained in the 19th paragraph of your Governor's minute, we desire that, in future, a husband and wife, a parent or parents, and child or children, under the age of fifteen years, who may be the property of the same person, shall, if sold by him, be sold only together, and in one lot, and to the same person.

23. It has been urged in objection to the emancipation of slaves at St. Helena, that it would be difficult to supply their place by free labour; some such inconvenience might probably be sustained if the emancipation were general, but not so long as it is limited to those slaves who shall give solid proof of their industry and good character. The labour which these slaves would perform when free men, would, we think, be greater than that which they yielded in a state of servitude.

24. We cannot dismiss this subject without expressing to you our sense of the great importance of employing natives of the island for all purposes of labour there. The first evil to be corrected is slavery: that which is only subordinate to it is your dependence on foreign labourers. It is of little use giving freedom to the slave, unless measures be simultaneously adopted to stimulate the exertions of free labour among the native islanders, and thus to give scope to the manumitted slave to use his freedom aright: as long as labour is performed by Chinese, and others imported for the purpose, so long, may it be feared, will the lower class of the native population be generally inert and dependent paupers.

25. Difficulty would undoubtedly be experienced in the first attempts to substitute island for foreign labourers, the inhabitants being accustomed to employ foreigners, who are also understood to be more expert, and more generally useful than the natives:

26. But whatever be the difficulty, the effort should be strenuously used to surmount

(Signed) G. BLENKINS, Sec. to Govt.
St. Helena, 5th April, 1827.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

The Taliens had commenced hostilities against the Burmese. Dallah has been taken by them and destroyed by fire. Tackali, the suburb of Rangoon, has shared the same fate. The Taliens have defeated several parties of the Burmese, and captured about 500 boats, amongst which is the viceroy's war-boat. The Taliens have occupied a position a little above Monkey Point, where they remained at the date of the last advices; and it was fully expected that they would succeed in getting possession of Rangoon. They hoisted the Pegu colours at Dallah, a white flag, with an anomalous kind of bird with four legs, as their national emblem.

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Parliamentary Papers.

AN ACCOUNT of the Revenues and Charges of India, in each Year from 1822-23, showing the Annual Surplus of Revenue or Charge after the Payment of Territorial Charges in England.

REVENUES.	1822-23.	1823-24.	1824-25.
	£.	£.	£.
Bengal.....	14,163,277	12,950,302	13,479,192
Fort St. George.....	5,585,210	5,458,765	5,440,745
Bombay.....	3,372,447	2,789,550	1,785,917
Bencoolen.....	6,691	5,805	6,211
Prince of Wales' Island.....	44,076	35,956	38,220
Total.....	23,171,701	21,280,384	20,750,123
Deduct: Charges.....	19,963,648	20,726,723	22,064,035
Net Revenues in India.....	3,208,053	553,661	—
Net Charges in India.....	—	—	1,313,862

Note: The variations in the results exhibited in this Account from those exhibited in the Annual detailed Accounts for 1822-23 and 1823-24, are caused by some trifling adjustments, and by the omission from the Charges incurred in India of the value of Territorial Stores consigned from England, the use of which is included among the charges paid in England.

CHARGES.	1822-23.	1823-24.	1824-25.
	£.	£.	£.
Bengal.....	8,746,042	9,445,538	11,394,661
Fort St. George.....	5,072,992	6,213,817	5,714,840
Bombay.....	4,264,448	3,228,150	3,279,382
Bencoolen.....	96,478	88,467	101,529
Prince of Wales' Island.....	88,957	98,302	113,331
Total.....	18,268,917	19,074,274	20,603,602
Interest on Debts.....	1,694,731	1,652,449	1,460,433
Total Charges and Interest.....	19,963,648	20,726,723	22,064,035
Expense of St. Helena.....	120,093	112,262	109,445
Political Charges paid in England, including Invoice Amount of Territorial Stores consigned to India....	*1,720,724	1,153,866	1,580,235
Grand Total of Charges.....	21,804,465	21,992,857	23,753,715
Revenues.....	23,171,701	21,280,384	20,750,123
Surplus Revenue.....	1,367,236	—	—
Surplus Charge.....	—	712,473	3,003,592

* In this year the balance of the Loan advanced by the Public to the East-India Company is not redeemed under the arrangements ratified by Parliament (3d Geo IV., c. 93). The total of the Debt redeemed and interest amounted to £1,857,335, of which sum £587,335 only, the amount discharged in cash, is included in the above statement. The Balance, amounting to £1,300,000, has been set off against the claims of the East-India Company on the Public.

(Errors excepted.)

East-India House,
6th April 1827.

JAMES C. MELVILL,
Aud. of India Accounts.

THOS. G. LLOYD, } As regards Political Payments
Acct. Gen. } made in England.

AMOUNT of the Territorial Debt owing by the East-India Company at their several Presidencies in the East Indies, on the 30th April in each year, from 1822 inclusive, and according to the latest Advices.

	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Total.
	At 2s. the Cur. Rupee. £.	At 8s. the Pagoda. £.	At 2s. 3d. the Rupee. £.	£.
1822. Debts at 4 per Cent.....	—	—	68,708	68,708
Do. 6 do.	28,905,018	2,438,629	169,080	31,512,727
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	28,905,018	2,456,229	237,788	31,599,035
Debts not bearing Interest	5,793,875	599,281	548,586	6,941,742
Total Debts in India	34,698,893	3,055,510	786,374	38,540,777
1823. Debts at 4 per Cent.....	—	—	57,694	57,694
Do. 6 do.	26,513,871	2,582,985	176,336	29,273,192
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	26,513,871	2,600,585	234,030	29,348,486
Debts not bearing Interest	6,295,820	687,114	451,277	7,434,211
Total Debts in India	32,809,691	3,287,699	685,307	36,782,697
1824. Debts at 4 per Cent.	—	834	138,832	139,666
Do. 5 do.	11,776,471	—	—	11,776,471
Do. 6 do.	11,496,206	2,800,886	203,440	14,500,532
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	23,272,677	2,819,320	342,272	26,434,269
Debts not bearing Interest	6,678,907	845,333	471,183	7,995,423
Total Debts in India	29,951,584	3,664,653	813,455	34,429,692
1825. Debts at 4 per Cent.	1,529,042	6,389	138,587	1,674,018
Do. 5 do.	10,914,602	153,827	—	11,068,429
Do. 6 do.	11,177,322	2,984,842	208,997	14,371,161
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	—	17,600
Total Debts bearing Interest	23,620,966	3,162,658	347,584	27,131,208
Debts not bearing Interest	7,259,931	708,233	573,096	8,541,260
Total Debts in India	30,980,897	3,870,891	920,680	35,672,468
Per Quick Stocks, 31st October 1825 :				
Debts at 4 per Cent.	532,649	19,554	158,148	710,351
Do. 5 do.	14,998,504	—	—	14,998,504
Do. 6 do.	11,032,113	3,170,800	57,240	14,260,153
Do. 8 do.	—	17,600	180,475	198,075
Treasury Notes at an Interest of } 3½ and 2 pyc per diem }	366,247	—	—	366,247
Total debts bearing Interest	26,929,513	3,207,954	395,863	30,533,330
Debts not bearing Interest	6,946,067	843,595	584,752	8,374,414
Total Debts in India	33,875,580	4,051,549	980,615	38,907,744

(Errors Excepted).

East-India House,
6th April 1827.

5 X 3

JAMES C. MELVILL,
Auditor of India Accounts.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords, May 14.

Thanks to the Army and Navy in India.
 —Viscount *Goderich* introduced his motion for a vote of thanks to the army and navy employed in the late wars in India, by observing, that he should take care not to advert to any of those political topics connected with the cause and origin of the war against the Burmese, or the attack upon the fortress of Bhurtpore. His lordship then enumerated the difficulties under which the war with Ava was first commenced, in the course of which he observed, that it was impossible for any language to convey in sufficiently strong terms, the efforts made by Sir Thomas Monro, the head of the government of Madras, in which presidency the main body of the troops was collected, who were drawn from great distances with the utmost rapidity. But the merit of the praise, was not due to Sir Thomas Monro alone, who brought the troops together, for there were few circumstances under which the native troops had so signalized themselves, and their conduct gave a character to that portion of the forces of the East-India Company which was beyond all praise. Most of the native troops had been brought from distances of many hundred miles, some from a distance of a thousand miles, and yet there were no more than two individuals who had not embarked with their corps. After passing high eulogiums upon the conduct of the army and the navy employed in Ava, his lordship adverted to Bhurtpore, and pointed out the advantages which had been secured by its capture. He could say, with perfect truth and justice, that the preparations made to ensure the certainty of success, were only equalled by the attack. His lordship then moved votes of thanks in the same terms as those agreed to in the House of Commons.

The Duke of *Wellington* bore testimony to the merits of Lord Combermere in the capture of Bhurtpore. He commenced operations, and carried them on with a vigour and activity which ensured their success, and closed them by a military feat which had never been surpassed by any army upon any occasion. With respect to the operations in Ava, little more was known of that country than its name. The Indian government knew nothing of the climate, of the government, or the people, its military force, or any of those circumstances which would enable any man to form a plan of military operations. Under these circumstances, it was not to be wondered at that the operations should

have excited so much anxiety and doubt as to their termination. The army found that every animal had been driven out of the country, and every man suffered under great privations in consequence of the want of provisions. It was not possible to describe the nature of those privations which the troops suffered, and which were aggravated by the climate of the country. The officers and troops had, however, borne all these privations, and encountered every difficulty, with the greatest cheerfulness; and after vanquishing a numerous enemy, brought the contest to an end honourable to this country, by that which he hoped would be a lasting peace. Under these circumstances, he conceived that there had been no occasion upon which their lordships had been called upon to express their approbation where it was better deserved.

The Earl of *Carlisle* could have wished that the name of the Governor-General, who had so ably and successfully made every preparation for the war, might have been inserted in the thanks of this House. He regretted that his noble friend who presided over the government in India had been subjected to injurious and unfounded misrepresentations; though he trusted his noble friend would be able to answer those misrepresentations satisfactorily to his country, by mentioning the two simple words, "Ava" and "Bhurtpore."

The Earl of *Mortley* bore equal testimony to the merits of Lord Amherst, without whose firmness and wisdom the glorious achievement at Bhurtpore would never have taken place.

The Earl of *Harrowby* said, that after the observations that had been made, he considered it necessary for some member of his Majesty's Government to declare that the glorious results which had been accomplished were not only attributable to the valour of our troops, but to the judgment and discretion of the Governor-General. The only reason why the noble lord had not been included in the vote of thanks was, that it was not usual that the thanks of the house should be voted to the civil officers of the State. He begged to declare, in the most unqualified manner, that there was great merit due to the noble lord at the head of the Government: it was not only the valour of our troops, but the firmness and judgment of the noble lord, which had secured to the country such brilliant success.

The Resolution was then agreed to *unanimously*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, May 8.

Thanks to the Army and Navy in India.

— Mr. C. W. W. Wynn acknowledged the pleasure he felt in bringing forward a motion upon which there could be no difference of opinion. It was not his intention to propose any vote on this occasion which would affect the political government of India. He stated this, because he believed that as to the policy of the late war there existed some difference of opinion. He was far from admitting that for this opinion there was the slightest foundation; but he thought that, in general, the thanks of Parliament were best limited to the performance of military or naval services, as to which it was seldom that any opposition of feeling could exist. The service to which he had to refer, had certainly not been of so brilliant and imposing a character at all points, as some upon which, in the course of his experience, he had had opportunities of congratulating the House. The enemy, in fact, had been of a less noble, and perhaps of a less formidable, character than those which we had had in other places to encounter. But the troops employed had been compelled to meet local difficulties such as soldiers in very few instances had ever had to contend with. This service of danger and difficulty had not been confined to the army: its operations had been most materially aided by the navy, to the exertions of which the highest credit, throughout the enterprize, was due. It was also a new feature in this contest, lying, as the scene of operations had done, mainly upon the banks of a great navigable river, that the power of steam had for the first time been applied in aid of our warfare, and used with the most unequivocal success. It was not necessary to enter into the details of a struggle which had been as honourable to the British arms throughout its progress as in its termination. Upon that last part of the question certainly he would detain the house for a single moment, in noticing the conduct of Sir Archibald Campbell. The moderation and discretion of that gallant officer, in checking his army when it was within four days' march of the enemy's capital, and when that plunder which would have fairly recompensed his soldiers for their toils was open to them, could not too highly be commended. There was another gallant officer to whom he must also allude by name: it was impossible for him to pass over the signal service performed by Lord Combermere, in the taking of Bhurtpore. That great and important fortress was the only one which had ever withstood our arms in India. In the time of Lord Lake, circumstances had brought upon us the misfortune of being repulsed from before it, and the effect which that success had produced upon the superstitious con-

querors was indescribable; they believed that it was charmed by their deity, and impregnable for ever to European arms. The right hon. gentleman, after speaking in high terms of the Madras sepoys, concluded by moving as follows:—

That the thanks of this House be given to Gen. Lord Viscount Combermere, G. C. B., and Commander-in-chief of the forces in India, for his able and meritorious conduct, in the command of the forces employed against Bhurtpore, and particularly for the ability, judgment, and energy with which he planned and directed the assault of that fortress, the success of which brilliant achievement has highly contributed to the honour of the British arms, and to the permanent tranquillity of our possessions in the East.

That the thanks of this House be given to Major Generals Sir Thomas Reynell, K. C. B., Sir Jasper Nicolls, K. C. B., and Sir S. F. Whittingham, K. C. B.; and to Brig. Generals John W. Adams, C. B., John McCombe, C. B., and James W. Sleight, C. B.; and to the several officers of the army, both European and native, employed in the late operations against Bhurtpore, for their gallant conduct and meritorious exertions.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the zeal, discipline, and bravery, displayed by the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, both European and native, employed in the operations against Bhurtpore; and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallant behaviour.

That the thanks of this House be given to Major Gen. Sir Archibald Campbell, G. C. B., for the valour and perseverance displayed by him in the late operations against Ava, and for the eminent skill and judgment with which he conducted the war to an honourable termination, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty.

That the thanks of this House be given to Brig. Generals Wm. Macbean, C. B., Willoughby Cotton, C. B., Michael McCreagh, C. B.; and to the several officers of the army, both European and native, engaged in the late operations against Ava, for their indefatigable zeal and exertions throughout the war.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the zeal, discipline, and bravery displayed by the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, both European and native, employed against Ava; and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallant behaviour.

That the thanks of this House be given to Commodore Sir James Brisbane, K. C. B., for his cordial co-operation, and the essential service rendered by him in the late operations against Ava.

That the thanks of this House be given to the several captains and officers of His Majesty's and the East-India Company's naval forces employed in the late operations against Ava, for their skilful, gallant, and meritorious exertions, which greatly contributed to the successful issue of the war.

That this House doth highly approve and acknowledge the services of the seamen and marines serving on board the ships of His Majesty and the East-India Company, employed in the late operations against Ava; and that the same be signified to them by their respective commanders.

That the said resolutions be transmitted by the Speaker to Lord Viscount Combermere; and that his lordship be requested to communicate the same to the several officers referred to therein.

Mr. Hume seconded the motion. He entirely concurred with Mr. Wynn in his view of the services performed, the value and difficulty of which the right hon. gentleman had rather understated than exaggerated. He rejoiced also in the particular course which the motion of the right hon. gentleman had taken; because, although he cheerfully acknowledged the excellent conduct of the war, it would have been impos-

impossible for him to have given the same opinion as to its merits, if that question had been included in the vote. The right hon. gentleman had said nothing of the troops employed at Arracan. He thought their services had been of the most distressing nature, and that they were well entitled to a separate vote. For the generosity which the right hon. gentleman had attributed to Sir A. Campbell, in refusing his troops the plunder of Amerapoora, he rather believed that that policy was a prudent as well as a liberal one: for, as the gallant general, at the time when he signed his treaty, had not more than 2,000 men under arms, and the inhabitants of the city, of which he was within four days' march, exceeded that number about fifty times over; it seemed more than likely that, if he had gone on, instead of having to plunder the great city, his little army would have been destroyed the moment he entered it. With respect to the fortress of Bhurtpore, he could speak from some experience on that subject; and he agreed with the right hon. gentleman opposite as to the value of that service entirely. He had been in India when the British troops had been four times repulsed from before that fortress, and fully recollected the impression which that result had produced upon the natives. The taking of that fort did the highest credit to the activity of Lord Combermere, and was of the utmost importance to our possessions in India.

Mr. *Wynn* observed, that the reason why Sir A. Campbell had taken no greater number of troops than 2,000, was, that that force was deemed by him sufficient for the capture of the city, and a greater number would have impeded his march. The right hon. gentleman explained why more of the subordinate officers in command were not named. It had been well considered during the late war, and the practice adopted was, not to name any officers of a rank lower than he had now done, separately. Had he felt himself at liberty to do otherwise, he could not but have noticed with marked praise Lieut. Col. Sale: but the reason for this abstinence was, that in a service where so many were engaged in different operations, some of which, though useful, did not immediately lead to the success of the action, it was invidious to name any without naming all.

Mr. *Hume* thought that this rule should not be applied to India.

Sir *J. S. Yorke* thought that some of the captains of the navy ought to be mentioned by name, especially that fire-eater, Capt. Chad.

Sir *G. Cockburn* said, that the rule was to name no officer below the rank of commodores, or he should have wished

to notice Captains Chad, Marryat, and Alexander.

Some members expressed a hope that the East-India Company would distribute the sums paid by the King of Ava, under the treaty, amongst the troops and navy employed.

The resolutions were then agreed to unanimously.

May 15.

East India Trade.—Mr. *W. Whitmore* brought forward his proposed motion for a select committee to inquire into the trade between Great Britain and India, which he prefaced by a speech of considerable length. After adverting to the distresses which the country experienced, the falling-off of the revenue, and the state of Ireland, he complained of the erroneous principles which guided our commerce with India. On the partial opening of the trade, at the last renewal of the Company's charter, it was prognosticated, he observed, that our commerce with the natives would not be enlarged, owing to the prejudices of the natives; that the trade in cotton manufactures especially could experience no increase. This prophecy had singularly failed; the increase in this branch of trade had been marvellous. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to point out the augmentation which had taken place in the imports, as well as exports, from India since 1814. He then dwelt upon the hardship arising from the unequal duties imposed upon East-India products, compared with those on the West-India articles. He complained of the utter indifference to any consideration of justice or policy in the imposition of these duties, no less than those imposed on our imports into India. Indian manufactured cottons were subject to a duty of 10 per cent. on importation; while ours paid a duty of two and a half per cent. on importation into India. It was like saying, "We have the power and will use it," without any other argument. It was most unjust, and must be resented, if India should ever feel her strength, and compare the numbers of her population with those of her oppressors; and above all, if these numbers were taught to reflect upon the distance of our own country from our Indian possessions, and the difficulty of furnishing, under the worst crisis, an adequate force. He next referred to the article of sugar, the only one of bulk sent from India, and the consumption of which might be greatly increased. He was ready to admit the excess of that product in the West-Indian market, and that, in consequence, the price of the article was not affected by the monopoly. He would admit that this consequence was confirmed by the admission, under the restriction, of a quantity of East-India sugar, which latterly averaged 244,000 cwt., at a duty of

of 10s. per cwt., and sold at a loss to the trader. But he contended that the consumption might be increased beyond the limits of this two-fold excess, and that in effecting that object, they would not only increase the population, but provide ample and comfortable means for its existence. The consumption of sugar per head per annum was in England 23½lb.; that of Ireland only 6lb. What should hinder Ireland, if her population were employed, from consuming 12lb. or 18lb. per head? Might she not, by exporting manufactures, and importing and consuming produce, become, instead of a source of expense and disquiet, a tower of strength, and a mine of wealth to the whole empire? He then observed that the Company secured to itself in some cases the right of pre-emption. Their resident agents advanced money to the growers, and then shut up the produce, so as to answer the demands of the Company. In short, they connected sovereignty with trade in a manner which never was found to answer. The hon. member then adverted to the China trade, and trusted that the period would soon arrive—he alluded to the year 1833—when some changes might be expected; when there would be active commerce commenced in that quarter. There was another point in which he deemed the removal of restriction desirable—he meant respecting the emporia at Singapore and other places. It was exceedingly important that the principles upon which these emporia were regulated should be sound, and well adapted for real commercial advantages; through them chiefly was the trade of China conducted; and there was no other way of trading there, according to Mr. Crawford, considering the extreme jealousy of the Chinese. It was singular that the place from which alone tea could be collected, he meant Canton, was not either in or near any of the provinces which produced the article. If a committee were appointed, the advantages of a free trade would then be clearly demonstrated, and a boundless extent of new commerce might be opened to Great Britain. This would be the way to secure a real revenue from our possessions—one arising from a mutuality of profit, and not drawn or wrung exclusively, as was the old plan, from the people of India.

Mr. *Leycester* said, he was influenced to support this motion for eventually repealing the higher duty upon East-India products by a number of unanswerable reasons. It was called for by consistency, justice, and policy. It was called for also, by humanity: because, what could be more humane than to oppose the system of keeping up the price of sugar at a rate which prevented one drop of sweet from falling into the bitter cup which the poor of England had to drink? The re-

peal of the tea duties was likewise called for by public opinion: for nothing was so sorely felt by the community, as the maintenance of these extravagant prices for an article in constant use. It was a grievance, an injury, and an insult to prolong such a system; and the people were fully prepared to act, if obliged, upon a West-India non-consumption sugar agreement. —(*A laugh!*)

Mr. *Huskisson* said, that the last speaker seemed to think the equalization of the sugar duties was a work of the greatest facility, and that he had at least an obvious remedy in what he called his non-consumption sugar agreement. There was no novelty, however, in that recommendation; it had been often talked of for several years, without accomplishing any of the foreboded results; for though the hon. gentleman had told them the people were of late prepared to act upon it, yet the real fact was, that the consumption of British plantation sugars had considerably increased within the last year, and produced a revenue over and above all drawbacks of not less than £5,000,000 sterling. He agreed in almost all the general principles concerning trade which the hon. mover had propounded, and as far as they could be fairly and justly brought into practice, he was anxious to see them promoted. He admitted that if any impost were proved to be unjust, it was the duty of Parliament to consider how it could be repealed. Agreeing, as he did, in the general principles of the hon. gentleman, he was only at issue with him as to their application. It was always difficult to adapt great changes in the commercial relations of a country to the existing interests which were to be affected by them, and had grown up and been fostered under a different system. It was the duty of Parliament, in making such changes, to weigh well, that in benefiting one class, they did not more than counterbalance the advantage by inflicting an injury upon some other. (*Hear!*) It was certainly cheering to observe the beneficial growth of free trade to India, and he had no doubt that it would continue to increase if not precipitately tampered with. But they must attend to other interests, as they advanced in their progressive relaxation of the old restrictions, or else they might injure where they were seriously disposed to serve. With reference to what had been said on the subject of the monopoly of sugar, he could not help remarking, that that monopoly did not appear to have materially affected the price of the article. The supply of sugar from the West-India islands exceeded by 50,000 or 60,000 hogsheads the whole consumption of the United Kingdom, and that surplus must find a vent in the other markets of Europe, where it had to encounter the sugars of Brazil,

Brazil, Cuba, and the East-Indies, and to obtain a price of course dependent upon its open competition with them. How was it if the East-India sugars were so cheaply obtainable, that this surplus of the West-India produce, which was described to be so much dearer in price, could find, as it did, a foreign market? With this single observation he dismissed the hon. gentleman's remark upon this being a tax upon slavery. Indeed, he did not believe that if the sugar duties were taken off, there would be an increase of the exportation of it from India, for it now came home at the very cheapest rate, owing to its being brought more as ballast than an article of trade, and at a very small freight, and yet it was a discouraging traffic. He was quite prepared to admit, that the regulations respecting the refining of sugar were not of the most satisfactory kind. (*Hear, hear!*) But that was a subject of great difficulty, open to the conflicting opinions of different interests; still he hoped to effect an improvement in it, so as to satisfy all parties. With respect to part of the speech of his hon. friend, in which he alluded to the cheering prospect which the number of islands in the Indian sea held out to him of a great extension of commerce,—he had to state, and with great satisfaction, because it was the result of those principles of policy which he (*Mr. Huskisson*) had recommended, that Singapore and other great emporia were included in those regulations which the East-India Company had consented to adopt. (*Cheers!*) Those ports were now as free and as open as possible, no duty of any description being demanded. This was the commencement of a system which, in his opinion, promised the most beneficial results. He had recommended it as a much wiser course to maintain for a time the expense of those establishments, which, in all probability, would, at no very distant period, form the centre of an extensive commerce, rather than to levy small duties at first, and thus risk the destruction of so fair a prospect. (*Cheers!*) What effect these regulations would have upon the trade with China and elsewhere it was not for him now to anticipate; but he must say that he confidently looked forward for the time when the British flag should be seen to float between the western part of America and the eastern part of Asia. In the mean time it was the office and the duty of government to lay the foundation, and to prepare as it were the highways for that commerce. (*Cheers!*) If he might be allowed to advise his hon. friend, he would recommend him to wait until the result of those experiments which were already in progress had become apparent. He would recommend him to defer this committee for a time, because he believed that it would be able

to discharge its duties far more satisfactorily when it should be in possession of the result of those experiments; and he thought that the committee would be instituted at a much better time than the present if it were deferred until the period when the renewal of the charter of the East-India Company should come under the consideration of that House. (*Cheers!*) He was quite as anxious as his hon. friend could be to extend those principles of free and unrestricted commerce which he had advocated, as far as the rights of other parties would allow them to be extended. But he did not think this moment was well chosen for carrying into effect the proposed object, because other measures were now in the course of execution, and because it was necessary that the result of those measures should be first seen. To bring this question on now would be to excite and to inflame those anxious alarms which it was his earnest wish to allay; and for that reason, and not because he disliked the principles of his hon. friend, he felt obliged to object to the appointment of this committee.

Lord Milton recommended that the matter should be left to government, which entertained, he firmly believed, sound and wholesome views on the subject.

Sir C. Forbes concurred in this opinion, and recommended the hon. mover to withdraw his motion.

Mr. W. Smith made a few remarks upon the fallacious arguments employed to prove the impolicy of equalizing the duties on sugar. He complained of the distant period to which this question was to be put off. As the name of the Mauritius had been mentioned, he wished to observe, that the increase in the production of sugar was at least sevenfold since we first took possession of that colony. He was quite certain that this increase in the production of sugar could only have been carried on by a traffic in slaves. When we first took possession of the Mauritius, the quantity of sugar produced there amounted to between three and four millions of pounds; the quantity produced last year amounted to between twenty-three and twenty-four millions of pounds. This fact spoke for itself.

Sir R. Farquhar vindicated himself warmly against the unfounded accusations of the hon. gentleman who spoke last. It was acknowledged by the votes of that house, that not an instance of slave-dealing had occurred since the year 1820, with the exception of one single vessel, in 1821, which was burnt. "I then (said Sir Robt.) solemnly pledged to the house that no illicit debarkation had taken place at the Mauritius since that period. I re-asserted the same fact in 1826; and I now, in the presence of this house and of the country, am prepared solemnly to declare, that not
a sin-

a single instance has occurred up to the present day. I beg leave to refer to the hon. secretary of the colonial department for the truth of this assertion, which is vouched in the latest despatches by that distinguished public officer and highly hon. soldier (Sir Lowry Cole). The House will be guided in their judgment by such distinct and authentic information, in preference to the opinions of dissatisfied and discarded officers of the civil government, and to the evidence of perjured soldiers."

Mr. *Forrell Duxton* observed, that with reference to the statement of the hon. bart. he pledged himself to the house to prove, when the proper period arrived, that the slave trade in the Mauritius had been carried on to a great extent, during the government of the hon. bart. He repeated, that he was prepared with satisfactory proofs of this fact, which redounded to the disgrace of those by whom the trade had been suffered.

Mr. *Brougham* congratulated the House on the statements they had heard expressed by the right hon. gentleman (Mr. *Huskisson*), in which he heartily concurred. He would advise his hon. friend (Mr. *W. Smith*) to treat a subject like the present in a different spirit than that which he had displayed to-night. There was one point, however, in which he could not agree with the right hon. gentleman, who stated, he remembered, on a former occasion, that the West-Indies derived no benefit from discriminating duties. Now if that position were well-founded, it would at once put an end to the argument. Because if we were to pay a duty of 10s. on West-India produce, and if that duty was no protection to such produce, surely there was no proposal more fair and reasonable than that we should no longer be called upon to pay that 10s. duty, it being admitted that it was of no benefit to any.

Mr. *Wilnot Horton* defended the late Governor of the Mauritius (Sir *R. Farquhar*), who, he thought, had been unfairly attacked.

Mr. *C. W. Wynn* admitted that, on the grounds of justice and policy, every facility should be given to the admission of our manufactures into the interior of India. Every practicable endeavour was making to extend our commercial relations in the East; and he was happy to state that we had concluded a commercial treaty with Siam. It was not to trade alone that encouragement had been given by the Indian government, but to education and the promotion of knowledge; and he should have the satisfaction of laying shortly before the house some documents on this subject, which would prove the sincerity and the diligence with which these views of the Home government were seconded by the Indian authorities.

Mr. *Whitmore* replied: after what had
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been said by the right hon. gentleman he would withdraw his motion, leaving the matter entirely in his hands; but he hoped that the improvements mentioned would not be delayed till the discussion of the renewal of the charter; otherwise he would reserve to himself the right, and it would be not only a right but a duty, to bring the subject again before the consideration of Parliament. (*Hear!*)

May 17.

Administration of the Cape of Good Hope.—Mr. *Wilmot Horton* moved for the production of a series of correspondence between the Colonial Office and Sir *Rufane Donkin*, respecting the government of Lord *C. Somerset*.

After a long debate respecting the accusations preferred against Lord *Charles* by Sir *Rufane Donkin*, the motion was agreed to.

May 25.

Larceny Laws.—In the committee on the Larceny laws consolidation bill, Mr. *R. C. Ferguson* stated an important fact; namely, that by the repeal of the larceny laws, many of which affected India, and by the re-enactment of such parts as were intended to be retained, without specifically including India, the laws referred to would, he feared, be absolutely repealed as regarded that country.

The following petitions were presented praying for the equalization of the duties on East and West-India produce, and for free trade with India, viz. from *Frome*, *Manchester*, *Blackburn*, *Wolverhampton*, *Leeds*, *Halifax*, *Birmingham*, *Hull* and *Rochdale*.

The following petitions were presented praying for the abolition of the practice of burning widows in the British dominions in India, viz. from *Reading*, *Loughborough*, *Belfast*, *Belper* and *Hinton*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW COMMISSION FOR THE AFFAIRS OF INDIA.

The King has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, constituting and appointing the Right Hon. *C. W. W. Wynn*, Viscount *Dudley and Ward*, Viscount *Goderich*, the Right Hon. *W. Sturges Bourne*, the Right Hon. *George Canning*, Baron *Teignmouth*, the Right Hon. *John Sullivan*, Sir *George Warren*, Bart., *Joseph Phillimore*, LL.D., and Sir *James Macdonald*, Bart., his Majesty's Commissioners for the Affairs of India.—*London Gaz.*

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, May 12. On the 10th instant, in full convocation, the degree of Doctor
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in Divinity, by diploma, was conferred upon the Rev. John Thomas James, M. A., late student of Christ Church, who has been nominated by the King to the Bishopric of Calcutta.

The reverend gentleman preached his farewell sermon at his late rectory, Flitton, Northamptonshire, on Sunday, April 22d.

Cambridge, May 19. The books presented by this university to Bishop's College, Calcutta, and which have just been sent off, amount to 375 volumes, besides 300 volumes presented by individuals, mostly members of the university. The East-India Company convey them free of expense, and the Lords of the Treasury have remitted the export duty.

TESTIMONIALS TO EAST INDIA-COMMANDERS.

Ship Georgiana. Downs, 3d March, 1827.

To Capt. W. Haylett, comm. *Georgiana*.

Dear Sir: As we are on the point of separating and leaving the *Georgiana*, and that it is not probable we may again be assembled, we now beg to offer you our best thanks for the attention we have received from you during our voyage from India, and to express how much we appreciate your efforts to make the time pass pleasantly.

Trusting that in future days success and prosperity may attend your undertakings, we bid you farewell, and with the best wishes for your happiness, remain your's very truly,

(Signed) H. H. Mackenzie, capt. *Royals*.

J. A. Traut, lieut. 25th reg.

J. H. Middleton, lieut. Bengal art.

J. H. Macbriare, Madras, Nat. Inf.

W. Harrington, Madras C. S.

Towers Smith, capt. 3d reg. Foot.

Rob. A. Thomas, capt. 48 reg. B. N. I.

John Macdonald, assist. sur. 54 reg. foot.

John Rose, 4th officer *Sir D. Scott*.

J. D. Moir, lieut. 25th reg. B. N. I.

Charles Cook, lieut. 21 N. I.

To Capt. Mackenzie and Passengers of the ship *Georgiana*.

My dear Sir: I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of a kind, and to my feelings, a most welcome letter from yourself and the rest of the gentlemen whom I have had the pleasure of bringing as passengers in the *Georgiana* from India, for which I beg you to accept my best thanks, and, with sincere wishes for the health and happiness of you all, I cordially bid you farewell.

March 3, 1827. (Signed) W. HAYLETT.

To Captain Snell, commanding ship *Lady Holland*.

March 27, 1827.

Sir: We are now rapidly drawing near the close of an unusually protracted voyage; nor can we bid you adieu without thus publicly testifying towards you our high esteem, and the grateful sense which, both individually and collectively, we entertain of the kindness and attention shewn us; no effort on your part has been wanting to contribute to our comfort; no economical considerations have been allowed to interfere with the convenience of your passengers; and notwithstanding the long period that has elapsed since our embarkation at Madras, the greatest abundance, and the best possible material have invariably been met with at your table. However little value may be due to our opinions as to your professional talents, yet, as far as these opinions go, they are such as to secure our entire confidence; and to your unremitting attentions to the duties of the ship upon every occasion, we can and do bear the most ample testimony. That success may attend you in your professional career, and every domestic happiness, is the sincere wish of your's, most faithfully,

(Signed) H. M. Rowley, capt. Madras army.

J. Wilson, do. do.

W. S. Webb, do. art.

H. Stones, do. H.M.'s 13th dragoons.

F. H. Ely, capt. Madras army.
G. Beddingfield, lieut. H.M.'s 41st regt.
H. Harris, lieut. Madras army.
Rob. Woodgate, capt. H.M.'s 54th regt.
H. P. Pennyfather, do. do. 55th regt.
T. Servel, do. do. 49th regt.
T. Mair, assist. surg. 30th regt.

We also request your acceptance of a piece of plate, as a farther proof of our regard.

To the Passengers of the *Lady Holland*.

Gentlemen: In replying to your letter of this date, I am at a loss for language warm enough to express my feelings, on the handsome manner in which you have thought proper to notice me. That any attentions on my part should have contributed to your comforts individually, affords me the highest satisfaction; and that my public arrangements should have met with your approbation, is also gratifying; the more so as on that point I feel that I have only accorded with the wishes of my employers. I cannot however quit this subject without noticing that an unusually protracted voyage, and the difficulty, if not impossibility of procuring supplies, has obliged me to husband our means much more than would otherwise have been the case.

The piece of plate you have honoured me with is invaluable from the handsome manner in which it is presented to me; and in bidding you farewell, believe me, my sincerest, warmest wishes are for your happiness and prosperity.

Ever most truly your obedient servant,

March 27, 1827. SAMUEL SNELL.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST).

4th L. Dr. J. L. Paxton to be corn. by purch., v. Ogle prom. (19 Apr. 27.)

11th L. Dr. Corn. F. D. George to be lieut. by purch., v. Hare prom. (30 Apr.)

1st Foot. Ens. J. Mayne to be lieut. by purch., v. Ogilvy prom., and J. W. H. Hastings to be ens., v. Mayne (both 12 Apr.); Lieut. Col. J. Carter, from 2d W. Ind. Regt., to be lieut. col., v. Macleod, who exch. (30 Apr.); Ens. W. B. Johnston to be lieut. by purch., v. Fraser prom. (11 Apr.); E. Blackford to be ens. by purch., v. Johnston (30 Apr.); Hosp. Assist. F. Goodwin to be assist. surg., v. Russell, app. to 54th F. (30 Apr.)

2d Foot. Ens. W. N. Ralph to be lieut., v. Robertson dec. (29 Aug. 26); J. Hill to be ens., v. Ralph prom. (21 Oct.); J. T. Hutchings to be ens., v. McMahon app. to 87th F. (8 Nov.)

6th Foot. Capt. J. A. Campell, from h.p., to be capt., v. Thomson prom. (15 May).

13th Foot. Brev. Lieut. Col. M. Everard, from 14th F., to be maj., v. Thornhill, who exch. (11 Nov. 26); Capt. N. Chadwick, from 59th F., to be capt., v. Triphook, who exch. (3 Aug.); Capt. G. Fothergill, from h.p., to be capt., v. N. Barrett, who exch., rec. dif. (5 Apr. 27); Ens. T. Graham, from 17th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Howard prom. (27 Apr.); H. N. Vigors to be ens. by purch., v. Moorhouse prom. (12 Apr.); H. Davis to be ens. by purch., v. Sibley prom. (15 Apr.); Lieut. R. Stapleton, from 60th F., to be lieut., v. Croker, who exch. (29 Apr.); Lieut. C. M. Caldwell, from h.p., to be lieut., v. Graham, app. to 42d F. (30 Apr.); J. Darlot to be ens. by purch., v. Davis app. to 52d F. (15 May).

14th Foot. Maj. G. Thornhill, from 13th F., to be maj., v. Everard, who exch. (11 Nov. 26); Capt. B. Whitney, from 44th F., to be capt., v. Ashworth, who exch. (16 Sept.); Lieut. C. Dorne, from 31st F., to be lieut., v. Bower, who exch. (1 Oct.)

16th Foot. Ens. W. Ashmore to be lieut. by purch., v. Hyde prom., and Ens. D. U. Urquhart, from 1 W. Ind. Regt., to be ens., v. Ashmore (both 27 Apr.)

20th Foot. Capt. F. Fyans, from 67th F., to be capt., v. Brooke, who exch. (5 Apr. 27); F. M. Fraser to be ens., v. Childie prom. in 46th F. (11 Apr.); Qu. Mast. Ser. P. Connolly to be qu. mast., v. Dodd dec. (19 Apr.); Assist. surg. G. Knox, from Ceyl. Regt., to be assist. surg., v. Wood, whose app. has been cancelled (18 Apr.)

30th Foot. Hosp. Assist. J. K. Adams to be assist. surg., v. Campbell app. to 45th F. (30 Apr.)

31st Foot. Lieut. C. Shaw to be capt., v. Stafford dec. (30 July 26); Ens. A. Shaw to be lieut., v. Hayman dec. (13 Sept.); Lieut. G. J. Bower, from 14th F., to be lieut., v. Dormer, who exch. (18 Oct.); T. Pender to be ens., v. Shaw (13 Sept.)

38th Foot. Lieut. J. P. Sparks to be capt., v. Wilson dec. (5 Sept. 26); Capt. R. Hamilton, from h.p. 1st F., to be capt., v. Fothergill app. to 67th F. (27 Apr. 27); Ens. J. B. Blake to be lieut., v. Sparks, and W. Martin to be ens., v. Blake (both 5 Sept. 26.)

40th Foot. Lieut. T. Miller to be lieut., v. Lewis dec. (19 Apr. 27); — Rawlings to be ens. (27 Apr.); H. G. Alsop to be ens., v. Miller (19 Apr.)

41st Foot. Lieut. Col. P. L. Chambers, from 87th F., to be lieut.col., v. Godwin, who exch. (5 Apr.); Lieut. R. Butterfield to be capt., v. Boulton dec. (20 Oct. 26); Ens. J. Arata to be lieut., v. Butterfield (do.); Ens. W. Dyer, from 81st F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Guinnes prom. (5 Apr. 27); W. Morris to be ens., v. Arata (12 Apr.)

44th Foot. Capt. J. B. Ainsworth, from 14th F., to be capt., v. Whitney, who exch. (16 Sept. 26); Ens. G. Douglas, from 66th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Ogilvie prom. (5 Apr. 27).

45th Foot. Lieut. C. Deane, from h.p. 67th F., to be lieut., v. Irwin prom.; Ens. E. T. Coke to be lieut. by purch., v. Reid prom.; and A. Glendening to be ens. by purch., v. Coke (all 20 Apr.)

46th Foot. Lieut. W. Campbell to be capt. by purch., v. Willock, who rets. (12 Apr. 27); Ens. W. Jones to be lieut., v. J. Campbell dec. (10 Aug. 26); Ens. E. W. Child, from 20th F., to be lieut., v. Fraser dec. (11 Aug.); Lieut. J. M. McGregor, from 59th F., to be lieut., v. Mahon dec. (1 Oct.); Ens. E. H. D. E. Napier to be lieut., v. Gray dec. (11 Oct.); Ens. E. W. Sibley, from 13th F., to be lieut., v. Simkins dec. (16 Oct.); Volunteer L. Smith, from 41st F., to be ens. v. Jones (10 Aug.); E. D. Day to be ens. v. Johnstone dec. (22 Sept.); W. Green to be ens., v. Napier (11 Oct.)

48th Foot. Ens. A. Erskine to be lieut., v. Nixon dec.; and W. F. Stubbs to be ens., v. Erskine (both 16th Sept. 26).

54th Foot. Ens. F. Parr, from 99th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Dodd, whose prom. by purch. has not taken place (12 April 27).

59th Foot. Capt. T. Triphook, from 13th F., to be capt., v. Chadwick, who exch. (3 Aug. 26); Ens. E. Bolton to be lieut., v. McGregor rem. to 46th F. (1 Oct.); G. B. Hamilton to be ens., v. Bolton (12 Apr. 27).

78th Foot. Ens. J. Macleod to be lieut. by purch., v. Gore prom. (27 Apr. 27); Assist. Surg. J. Young, from 56th F., to be Assist. surg., v. Thompson app. to staff (12 Apr.); Lieut. E. Macpherson to be capt. by purch., v. Macleod, who rets., and Ens. F. Montgomery to be lieut. by purch., v. Macpherson (both 26 Apr.); J. Burns to be ens., v. Macleod promt (27 Apr.); A. Ruxton to be ens., v. Montgomery (28 Apr.)

83d Foot. Lieut. J. Wynn to be capt. by purch., v. Thomson, who rets.; Ens. J. Kelsall to be lieut. by purch., v. Wynn; and E. D. Visme to be ens. by purch., v. Kelsall (all 30 Apr.)

87th Foot. Lieut. Col. H. Godwin, from 41st F., to be lieut.col., v. Chambers, who exch. (5 Apr.); Lieut. J. Kennelly to be capt., v. Waller dec. (13 Aug. 26).

93th Foot. Ens. C. Macan to be lieut., v. O'Neill dec. (18 Apr. 27); Ens. J. Graham to be lieut., v. McLeod dec. (19 Apr.); H. T. Griffiths to be ens., v. Macan (do.); W. H. Bayntun to be ens. by purch., v. Graham prom. (15 May).

97th Foot. Brev. Maj. J. Tyler, from h.p. 53d F., to be capt., v. Lynch prom. (27 Apr.); Capt. R. F. Holmes, from h.p. 16th F., to be capt., v. Morris prom (30 Apr.)

Ceylon Regt. Hosp. Assist. G. Rumley to be assist.surg., v. Knox app. to 20th F. (19 Apr.)

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

April 27. *Greenock*, Miller, from Singapore; at Leth. — *Carnarvon Castle*, Davey, from Bengal

23 Dec.; off Penzance.—May 1. *Hope*, Flint, from Bengal and Madras; off the Wight.—2. *Corair*, Petrie, from Manilla 15th Dec., and Singapore 7th Jan.; at Cowes.—3. *Ganges*, Boulbee, from Bengal and Cape; off Brighton.—also *Belle Alliance*, Hunter, from Bengal, Mauritius, and Cape; at Deal.—also *Euphrates*, Scott, from Bengal and Mauritius; off Weymouth.—6. *William Fairlie*, Blair, from China 1st Jan.; *Rival*, Wallace, from Bengal and Cape; *Timandra*, Wray, from ditto; and *Britannia*, Ferris, from the Mauritius; all at Gravesend.—7. *Palmira*, Lamb, from Bengal; at Gravesend.—8. *George the Fourth*, Barrow, and *Earl of Balcarra*, Cameron, both from China; *Melpomene*, Johnson, from Bengal and Madras; and *Sir George Osborne*, Neilson, from Otaheite; all off Dartmouth.—also *Moira*, Hornblow, from Bengal, Madras, and Cape; off Weymouth.—also *Bengal*, Gale, from Sumatra; off Torbay.—9. *Marquis Camden*, Fox, from China 4th Jan.; off Brighton.—also *Edmouth*, Owen, from Singapore and Cape; off Weymouth.—also *Ellen*, Camper, from the Mauritius; off Penzance.—10. *Cuttle Huntley*, Drummond, from China 28th Dec.; and *Marchioness of Ely*, Mangles, from Bengal 15th Jan.; both at Deal.—also *Maffat*, Brown, from China 9th Jan.; off Portsmouth.—11. *John Hayes*, Worthington, from Bengal 23d Jan.; at Liverpool.—also *Wildman*, Barney, from Otaheite, at Plymouth.—12. *Cornelius Houtman*, Druet, from China; off Plymouth.—13. *John Taylor*, Pearce, from Bengal; at Liverpool.—15. *Ganges*, Mitford, from Bengal 15th Jan., and Madras 27th, at Liverpool.—16. *Junia*, Furnell, from the Mauritius; at Gravesend.—17. *Runnymede*, Kemp, from Bombay 26th Nov., and Cape 8th March; at Gravesend.—also *Malcolm*, Eyles, from Bengal 2d Jan., and Madras 27th; at Deal.—18. *Anna Robertson*, Irving, from Bengal and Cape; off the Lizard.—20. *Orwell*, Farrer, from China 17th Jan.; off Dover.—21. *Prince Regent*, Hoamer, from Bengal; *Fairlie*, Short, from ditto; and *Florentia*, Aldham, from ditto; all off Portsmouth.—also *London*, Sotheby, from China 24th Jan., off Portland.—also *Milo*, Winslow, from ditto; at Cowes. 22. *Mary*, Nichols, from Bengal 22d Jan., off Portsmouth.—23. *Aurora*, Earl, from Bengal 30th Dec., and Madras 20th Jan.; and *Claudine*, Chrystie, from Bengal, Madras, and Cape; both at Deal.—24. *Valleyfield*, Johnson, from Bombay; *Royal George*, Ellerby, from Bombay 5th Jan., and Cape; and *William Money*, Jackson, from Bengal 19th Jan., and Cape; all at Deal.—also *Britannia*, Lamb, from Bengal and Cape; off Dover.—also *Princess Amelia*, Kennaway, from China 4th Feb.; off Weymouth.—also *Calcutta*, Stroyan, from Bengal; at Liverpool.—also *Elizabeth*, Cock, from the Mauritius and Cape; at Cowes.—25. *Hibernia*, Gillies, from Bengal and Cape; at Deal.—27. *Roberts*, Corbyn, from Bengal and Cape; off Portsmouth.—also *Upton Castle*, Thacker, from Bombay 16th Jan.; off Weymouth.

Departures.

April 26. *Lady of the Lake*, Nichols, for Bengal; *Duke of Sussex*, Whitehead, for China; and *Bolton*, Clarkson, for Bombay; all from Deal.—27. *Bengal*, Atkins, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—28. *Eliza*, Young, for Bengal; from Deal.—also *William Young*, Morison, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—29. *Crovan*, Baird, for Bombay; from Greenock.—May 1. *America*, Findlay, for N. S. Wales and Tellicherry; from Deal.—2. *Waver-tree*, Short, for Singapore; from Liverpool.—7. *Kingston*, Bowen, for Madras and Bengal; *Fulvia*, Stephenson, for Cape and Bombay; *Morning Star*, Gibbs, for Mauritius and Ceylon; and *Cambridge*, Pearce, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); all from Deal.—8. *Tygers*, Sheriff, for Bengal; from Greenock.—9. *Lady M'Naghten*, Falth, for Madras and Bengal, and *Mountaineer*, Canby, for Bombay; both from Deal.—11. *Dublin*, Stewart, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—12. *Greelan*, Allen, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—also *Clyde*, Scott, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—also *Welcom*, Buchanan, for Bengal; from Greenock.—14. *Minerva*, Probyn, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—15. *Warren Hastings*, Mason, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—19. *Crisis*, Peabody, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—20. *Harmony*, Middleton, for N. S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—24. *Katherine Stewart Forbes*, Chapman, for Bombay; *Security*, Ross, for Cape and Madras; *Eliza*, Sutton, for Madras and Bengal; *Wahoorth Castle*,

Castle, Johnson, for Batavia; and Layton, Lumcombe, for V. D. Land (with convicts); all from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Carnarvon Castle, from Bengal: Mrs. Heber, widow of the late Bishop of Calcutta; Mrs. Worrall; Mrs. Mackenzie; Mrs. Petrie; Hon. Sir Anthony Buller, late a Judge of the Supreme Court, Calcutta; three Misses Buller, daughters of Sir A. Buller; Col. W. Comyn, 84th N.I.; Col. P. Byres, 90th do.; Capt. Roberdeau, 4th N. Cav.; Lieut. B. Pead, 4th do.; E. S. Smith, Esq., civil service; J. Mackenzie, Esq., merchant; M. Petrie, Esq., do.; W. L. Grave, Esq., do.; two Misses Heber; Misses M'Kenzie, Clarke, and Paton; Masters Bruce, Briggs, Lambert, Petrie, and Mackenzie; 3 European servants; 6 native ditto.—(Miss Catherine Worrall died at sea.)

Per Dorothy, from Bombay: Mr. Mitchell, H.C. marine.

Per Geesee, from Bengal: Dr. Tweedie and four children; Capt. and Mrs. Jervis, and three children; Mrs. Stewart; Mrs. Southall and two children; Capt. J. A. Tween.

Per Corsair, from Singapore: Miss Lewis and servant.

Per Hope, from Bengal and Madras: Mrs. Oliver; Mrs. Elderton; Mrs. Cocke and child; Colonel Deacon; Colonel Glover; S. Cleghorn, Esq.; Maj. Elderton; Captains Gordon, Milson, and Ruddiman; Lieuts. Hewson, Berridge, St. John, Shell, and Milnes; two Misses Tennent; Misses Oliver, Elderton, Milson, and Blundie; two Masters M'Kenzie; two Masters Ferrar; two Masters Milson; Masters Crawford, T. Oliver, Elderton, and Cocke; 4 servants; 30 invalids—(Master Oliver died on the passage).

Per Belle Alliance, from Bengal: Mrs. Timbrell and two children; Dr. Ramsay, Esq., assist.surg.; Mrs. Hunter and child; Miss Lawrence; two Masters Campbell.—From the Cape to St. Helena: Colonel and Mrs. Robertson and family, Bombay establishment; Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Agnew and family, Madras establishment; Capt. and Mrs. Lyons, Bombay establishment; Capt. Newport, ditto.

Per William Fairlie, from China: Dr. John Livingstone; Mrs. and Miss Livingstone; J. Ritchie, Esq., merchant; D. S. Napier, Esq., and two children, from Amjer; Colonel and Mrs. Agnew and two children; from St. Helena; Master F. Cunliffe; several servants.

Per Palmyra, from Bengal: Lieut. Col. Durant, Bengal Inf.; Lieut. Mac Murdoch, N.I.; Mr. Percival, H.M.'s 11th L.Dr.; Mr. MacLean; Mrs. Paton; Mrs. Rowe; two Masters Paton; Masters Rowe and Burton; two Misses Rowe; Misses Burton and Ellery.—From Ceylon: Lieut. Col. Walker, dep. adj.gen.; Lieut. Col. Hardy, qu. mast.gen.; S. Savers, Esq., civil service; G. D. Browne, Esq.; Lieut. Covey, of Engineers; Mrs. Marshall; Mrs. Walker; two Masters Marshall, three Masters Walker; Master Bonstead; two Misses Walker; Miss Selkirk.—(Capt. Paton, Bengal Engineers, died at sea).

Timandra, from Bengal: Capt. Alex. Grant, 56d N.I.

Per Marchioness of Ely, from Bengal: Hon. Mrs. Lindlay; Mrs. Sands; Mrs. Stevenson; S. Ahmuty, Esq., civil service; W. J. Sanda, Esq., ditto; D. M'Farland, Esq., ditto; Hon. F. Howard; Capt. Tomlinson, H.M.'s 11th L.Dr.; Lieut. Neil, 16th Lancers; Lieut. Lowe, ditto; Mr. Fulsher; Misses Mackenzie, Shakespear, Nisbet, Clarkson, and Stevenson; two Misses Lindsay; Masters Clarkson and Shakespear; 8 servants.

Per George the Fourth, from China: H. Batson, Esq., Bengal civil service; Mr. A. E. Reid, writer, from China; Mrs. Wells and child; two Masters Best; two native servants.

Per Marquis Camden, from China: Capt. Mee, country service; Mr. S. Whittaker, assist.surg., Penang.

Per Castle Huntly, from China: John Thurston, Esq.; Mr., Mrs., and Miss May, from St. Helena; Miss Solomon, from ditto.

Per Mohr, from Bengal, &c.: Mrs. Pakenham; Mrs. F. W. Russell; Mrs. Macquhoo; Macqueen; Mrs. Gordon; Mrs. Claridge; W. Dent,

Esq., civil service; Lieutenant Colonel Smith, H.M.'s 41st Foot; Maj. Degraives, Madras N.I.; Capt. Gordon, Bombay Engineers; Capt. Leslie, H.M.'s 84th regt.; Captain Claridge, Madras N.I.; Lieut. Deveton, Europ. Regt.; Lieut. Bell, N.I.; two Misses Macquhoo; two Misses Smith; Misses Dent, French, Haig, Wilson, Ashton, and Spicer; two Masters Macquhoo; two Masters Alexander; two Masters Turner; two Masters Dent; Masters Pakenham, Steven, Morat, French, Haig, Ashton, Gordon, and Russell.

Per Earl of Balcarra, from China: Lieut. Col. MacInnes, Bengal service; W. Cracroft, Esq., civil service, Penang.

Per Bengal, from Padang: Mr. Robinson.

Per Cape Packet, brought away from the late of Crozet: Capt. Fotheringham, Mr. Lingman, and 13 seamen of the late schooner *Adventure*, wrecked on the 29th July 1825.

Per Malcolm, from Bengal and Madras: Lieut. Col. Com. W. Innes, Bengal army; Mrs. E. Innes; Lieut. Col. G. Sargeant, Bengal army; J. Cotton, Esq., collector of Tanjore; J. Goldingham, Esq., superintendent of Madras Observatory; Mr. Goldingham; Capt. J. V. Fletcher, H.M.'s Royals; Lieut. J. Ogilvy, ditto; Misses Campbell, Innes, Gilbert, and Hitchens; two Misses Bird; two Misses Gordon; two Masters Tweedie; Master Goldingham; Invalids, servants, &c.—(Miss Jane Goldingham died off the Cape).

Per Geesee, (Mitford) from Bengal: Mrs. Lovelace; J. Stephenson, Esq.; Lieuts. Forster, M'Donald, and Bushby; Mr. Alexander.

Per Prince Regent, from Bengal: Mrs. George Swinton; Miss Colonel Gall; Mrs. Burney; Mrs. Charter; Mrs. Howard; Mrs. Evans; Maj. Gen. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon; Lieut. Col. Com. R. Hetzler; Lieut. Col. M. W. Browne; Surg. A. Hall, cavalry; Capt. T. Hall, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Capt. Burney, H.M.'s 44th do.; Capt. Jas. Charter, N.I.; Lieut. J. P. Pencock, H.M.'s 29th Foot; Misses Swinton, Nicholson, Mary Howard, Maria Howard, Diana, Howard, M. Evans, and G. Evans; Masters Swinton, Gall, Ainslie, Forde, Hogg, Stuart, C. Evans, and R. Evans; 7 servants.—(Master J. H. Halded died at sea on 29th Jan.)

Per Fairlie, from Bengal: Mrs. Graham; Mrs. Short; Mrs. Goate; Miss Silk; Col. Griffiths, Bengal Inv. estab.; Majors Rodbar and Webb, Bengal Artillery; Capt. Goate, H.M.'s 87th Foot; Lieut. Schaleh, 2d Bengal L.C.; Dr. Geo. Playfair, Bengal medical estab.; Misses Short and Griffith; two Masters Goate; Masters Garnham, Short, Crisp, Scott, and Macqueen; 6 servants.

Per Aurora, from Bengal: Dr. W. Glass, 1st N.I.; Capt. G. Barker, 53d N.I.; Capt. T. Stockwell, 20th Madras N.I.; Mr. R. Campbell, merchant; Mr. J. W. Mills.—From Madras: Mrs. C. Wilson; Mrs. M. Young; Miss C. Haslewood; Mr. P. MacGovern, surg., N.I.; Capt. J. Weston, H.M.'s 48th regt.; Capt. W. G. White; 35th N.I.; Dr. W. Bruce; Mr. R. Forbes; Conductor J. Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. Wilson; Misses Bruce and Duncan; two Misses Young; three Masters Hawkins; Masters Fallofield, Bruce, and Haslewood; Serj. Forster, 1st Bombay Europ. Regt.; 8 servants.

Per Florentia, from Bengal: Mrs. Costly; Mrs. Patby; Mrs. Cox, Mrs. King; Mrs. Bradley; Colonel Blakney; Capt. Horsburgh; Mr. J. Aldham; Lieuts. Johnson, Symes, and G. D. Johnston; 10 children; 25 invalids; 4 servants.—(Miss A. King died at sea on 6th Feb.)

Per Valcutt, from Bengal: Colonel and Mrs. Whitehead; two Misses Whitehead; Lieut. Bell, Bengal N.I.; Mr. D. M'IVER.

Per Elizabeth, from the Mauritius: Capt. A. Haig, country service; Mr. Smith, late of the *Snipe*.—(Mr. Allen, of the country service, died at sea.)

Per Roberts, from Bengal: Lieut. Col. Baddely, 16th N.I.; Mrs. Baddely; Maj. Elliott, 36th N.I.; Mrs. Richardson; Lieut. Daly, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Capt. Osborne, H.M.'s 16th Lancers; Mrs. H. Read; H. C. R. Wilson, Esq.; Mrs. Wilson; Mrs. E. Wadd; D. Hickman, Esq.; D. Sherman, Esq.; Mrs. Sherman; Mrs. Gardner; Capt. and Mrs. Ross; Rev. Mr. Statham; Capt. C. Newman, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Misses Wilson, Mary, Young, Crichton, Graham, 2 Baddely, 2 Read, 2 Mon-ton, 2 Shearman, 3 Ward, 2 Richardson, and 3 Ross;

MARRIAGES.

April 17. At Liangollen, North Wales, T. M. Griffith, Esq., of Wrexham, county of Denbigh, to Anne Mary, eldest daughter of the late Capt. T. Robertson, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

26. At Enfield, John Palmer, Esq., to Rose Mary Henrietta, second daughter of the late Lieut. Col. John Riddell.

28. At St. George's, Hanover Square, H. Dawes, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, to Maria, daughter of the late W. Noble, Esq., of Foley Place.

May 10. At St. Clements' Dances, P. Fennings, Esq., to Eliza Sophia, daughter of the late E. Bird, Esq., of St. Mary's, Southampton, formerly a captain in the Bengal infantry.

15. At St. Marylebone New Church, the Rev. H. K. Bonney, D.D., Archdeacon of Bedford, to Charlotte, daughter of the late John Perry, Esq., of Moor Hall, Essex.

19. At Millbrooke, A. Hamond, Esq., of the Inner Temple, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Ross Moore, Esq., of the Bengal establishment.

DEATHS.

Jan. 12. At sea, on his passage from Madras to the Cape of Good Hope, J. L. Grant, Esq., late Master Attendant at Madras.

Feb. 7. At sea, on board the *Palmyra*, on the passage to England, Capt. J. F. Paton, of the Bengal engineers, aged 30.

24. At sea, on board the *Fairlie*, on the passage home, Col. Garnham, of the 36th regt. Bengal N.I.

April 21. In the Commercial Road, Capt. W. Jover, of the 64th Bengal N.I., aged 39.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs. M. Schevis, widow of the late Maj. H. Cumming, 31st foot.

27. At Park Place, Regent's Park, Hans Sotheby, Esq., of the Bengal civil service, and second son of W. Sotheby, Esq., of Sewardstone, Essex.

28. At Walworth, Mary, relict of Mr. John Browne, senior associate engraver of the Royal Academy, aged 70.

May 4. In Jernyn Street, P. Denniss, Esq., late captain on half-pay of 41st foot.

7. At Grove Cottage, St. John's Wood, Wm. Tait, Esq., formerly Superintending Surgeon at Madras, in his 64th year.

13. In Montague Square, Anna, daughter of the late G. Harper, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

16. At his house on Blackheath Hill, J. Walker, Esq.

20. At Highgate, Frances, wife of H. Johnson, Esq., of the East-India House.

— On his passage home, Lieut. J. S. Webb, late of the Bombay artillery, third son of R. H. Webb, Esq.

22. Capt. J. C. Lambie, late of the Bengal cavalry, aged 33.

— At Gunnersbury Park, Ealing, Major Alex. Morison, of the Bengal service, in his 69th year.

Lastly. At sea, on board the *Upton Castle*, on the passage home, Maj. Gen. Samuel Wilson, of the Bombay army.

— On board H. M. S. *Warspite*, at Sydney, New South Wales, Commodore Sir James Brisbane, C.B., late commanding his Majesty's ships in the East-Indies.

Ross; Masters Lewis, Caulfield, Bedford, Shearman, Sherriff, Sandys, Studd, Green, Ward, Harrowell, Graham, Richardson, Baddely, Barnes, Lawson, Lyall, Tomkyns, 3 Road, 2 Wilson, 2 Watson, and 3 Masseyk; 12 servants.

For *Upton Castle*, from Bombay: Colonel and Mrs. Shuldham and two children; Colonel and Mrs. Briggs and one child; Maj. Dunsterville and two children; Mrs. Bruce; Mrs. Mackintosh and child; Mrs. MacIntyre; Mrs. Fleetwood; Capt. and Mrs. Payne and two children; Colonel Burford and child; Maj. White, horse artill.; Mr. S. Moore, civil service, and two children; Capt. Cowell, H.M.'s 60th regt.; Mrs. Cowell; two Misses Wilson, daughter of Col. Wilson, Bengal service; two Masters Dunlop; 95 invalids.—(Maj. Gen. Wilson died on the passage.)

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

For *Minerva*, for Madras and Bengal. Capt. A. Inglis, in charge of recruits; Mrs. Inglis; Lieut. A. Taylor, for Madras; Lieut. J. C. Tudor, for Bengal; Cornet French, H.M.'s 11th Draga; L. Clark, Esq., Madras C. S.; Mr. Moran; Messrs. J. H. Sanders and W. Foulles, free mariners; Mr. H. Ludlow, assist. surg.; Mr. W. F. Rice, free merchant; Misses C. Beecher, L. Beecher, and H. Beecher; Misses M. Martin, E. M'Leod, P. M'Leod, C. Dalrymple, V. Campbell, C. Stirling, Clara Stirling, and C. Anderson; Mrs. Roy and child; several European and native servants.

For *Warren Hastings*, for Madras and Bengal; Maj. C. Elphinstone; Mrs. Elphinstone and three children; Mrs. Jane Gray, Messrs. Layard and Barrett, cadets; Mrs. Rose; Miss C. Shaw; Mr. G. Gough, writer; Mrs. Gough; Maj. M'Laren; Capt. and Mrs. Harris; Capt. Skirrow, Lieut. Griffith, Lieut. Erskine, Lieut. White, and Ena. Hamilton, H.M.'s 48th regt.; Lieut. Blaquiere, Lieut. Beare, Lieut. Edwards, Ena. Lacey, and Ena. Edmonds, H.M.'s 46th regt.; Ena. Wheatstone, H.M.'s 54th regt.; Ena. Waldron, H.M.'s 30th regt.; 270 troops H.M.'s service.

For *Lady M'Naghten*, for Madras and Bengal: Capt. O'Connor and lady; Mr. Cole, assist. surg.; Mr. Trimlet; Mr. and Mrs. Jones; Messrs. Prescott, Brockman, Turnbull, Samler, Golding, Paton, Napier, Lloyd, Campbell, Bignell, Blackburn, Nesbitt, Henderson, Anderson, and Loughnan; Miss M. A. Stuart.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

April 24. In Euston Square, the lady of H. Ferguson, Esq., of Calcutta, of a son.

May 4. At his house, in York Buildings, the lady of Col. White, of a daughter.

14. At Blackheath, the lady of R. Boyd, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, of a daughter.

15. The lady of Capt. G. Probyn, of the H.C.'s ship *Minerva*, of a son.

17. In Lower Grosvenor Street, the widow of Hans Sotheby, Esq., late of the Bengal civil service, of a son.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 4 June—Prompt 31 August.

Ton.—Bohea, 850,000 lb.; Congou, Campoi, Pekoe, and Souchong, 5,350,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson-Skin, 1,300,000 lb.; Hyson, 200,000 lb.—Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 12 June—Prompt 7 September.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece Goods.—Damaged Bengal and Coast Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Piece Goods.—Longcloths—Sallampores—Blue Sallampores—Blue Cloths—Nankens—Blue Nankens—Bandannoes—Yellow Bandannoes—Madras Handkerchiefs—Muslins—Corahs—Choppah Romals—Cotton Romals—China Silk Piece Goods—Wrought Silks—Damasks—

Velvet—Shawls—Crapes—Crape Dresses—Crape Shawls—Crape Handkerchiefs.

For Sale 18 June—Prompt 5 October.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.

Private-Trade.—China and Bengal Raw Silk.

The Court of Directors have received a letter from the Honourable Board of Customs, stating that—"It having been represented to the Board, that many of the overtime, sold under authority of the Treasury Order of the 23d July 1825 still remain in the Company's Warehouses uncleared, the Board request the necessary measures may be taken for the disposal thereof, as well as the Camphor,

phor, Lac Lake, Lac Dye, Red Wood, or Red Saunders, imported up to the 31st Dec. 1815, and of all other Goods imported up to the 5th July 1821, which have continued warehoused longer than allowed by law."—The Court have therefore given notice, that, in pursuance of the above communication, they are preparing lists of all Goods, and falling within the above description now in the Company's Warehouses, and when such lists are completed the Court will fix a Day or Days for the sale or other disposal thereof, of which due notice will be given.

CARGOES OF EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *William Fairlie*, *Earl of Balcarras*, *Castle Huntly*, *King George the Fourth*,

Marquis Camden, *Moffatt*, *Orwell*, *London*, and *Princess Amelia*, from *China*; the *Palmyra*, *Marchioness of Ely*, *Prince Regent*, *Faith*, *Claudine*, *William Money*, *Florentia*, *Roberts*, and *Ganges*, from *Bengal*; and the *Malacca*, from *Bengal* and *Madras*.

Company's.—Tea—Bengal Silk Piece Goods—Madras Piece Goods—Raw Silk—Cotton—St. Helena Wool—Indigo—Refined Saltpetre—Sugar.

Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk—Silks—Blue Nankeens—Tortoiseshell—Ivory—Ivory Ware—Mother-o'-Pearl Beads—Mother-o'-Pearl Knife Handles—Combs—China Rose—Dragon's Blood—Saw—Paper—Bamboo Blinds—Yellow and Black Bumboos—Fishing Rods—Rattans—Whanghees—Mats—Floor Mats—Lacquered Ware—Wine—Madeira—Sherry.

A									
List of the Directors									
OF THE									
UNITED COMPANY OF MERCHANTS OF ENGLAND, TRADING TO THE EAST-INDIES.									
FOR THE YEAR 1827.									
Letters to serve.	Accounts.	Buying and Warehouses.	Civil College.	Correspondence.	Houses.	Lane Suits.	Laboury.	Military Fund.	Military Seminary.
Private Trade.	Shipping.	Treasury.							
1	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
2	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
3	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
4	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
5	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
6	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
7	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
8	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
9	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
10	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
11	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
12	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
13	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
14	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
15	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
16	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
17	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
18	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
19	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
20	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
21	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
22	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
23	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
24	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
25	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
26	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
27	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
28	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
29	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T
30	A	BW	CC	C		LS	L	M	T

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN ARE OUT BY ROTATION :

Henry Alexander, Esq. M.P. 37, *Upper Harley Street*.
 William Stanley Clarke, Esq. *Elm Bank, Leatherhead*.
 R C. Plowden, Esq. 8, *Devonshire Place*.

George Raikes, Esq. *Fulham*.
 Sir George Abercrombie Robinson, Bart. 73, *Pall Mall*.
 John Thornhill, Esq. 8, *Cornwall Terrace*.

PRICE CURRENT, May 29.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.							
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.
Coffee, Java cwt.							
--- Cheribon	2	4	0	2	15	0	
--- Sumatra	2	0	0	2	5	0	
--- Bourbon							
--- Mocha	3	0	0	6	0	0	
Cotton, Surat	0	0	5	0	0	6	
--- Madras	0	0	5	0	0	6	
--- Bengal	0	0	5	0	0	6	
--- Bourbon	0	0	8	0	0	11	
Drugs & for Dyeing.							
Aloes, Epatica cwt.	16	0	0	21	0	0	
Aniseeds, Star							
Borax, Refined	2	4	0	2	5	0	
--- Unrefined, or Tincal	2	5	0	2	6	0	
Camphire	8	10	0	10	0	0	
Cardamoms, Malabar	0	10	6				
--- Ceylon	0	1	4				
Cassia Buda	7	0	0	7	5	0	
--- Lignes	5	5	0	5	10	0	
Castor Oil	0	0	6	0	1	6	
China Root	1	10	0	2	0	0	
Coculus Indicus	3	0	0				
Dragon's Blood	5	0	0	21	0	0	
Gum Ammoniac, lump	3	0	0	5	0	0	
--- Arabic	1	10	0	3	10	0	
--- Assafoetida	6	0	0	8	0	0	
--- Benjamin	2	0	0	50	0	0	
--- Animal	3	0	0	8	0	0	
--- Gambogium	30	0	0				
--- Myrrh	3	0	0	8	0	0	
--- Oilbanum							
Kino	14	0	0	16	0	0	
Lac Lake	0	1	0				
--- Dye	0	4	2				
--- Shell	2	10	0	5	0	0	
--- Stick	2	0	0	3	0	0	
Musk, China	0	10	0	0	15	0	
Oil, Cassia	0	0	5				
--- Cinnamon	0	9	0	0	10	0	
--- Cloves	0	1	3	0	1	6	
--- Mace	0	0	2	0	0	3	
--- Nutmegs	0	2	9	0	3	0	
Opium	0	2	0	0	5	6	
Rhubarb	3	5	0				
Sal Ammoniac	0	0	9	0	2	0	
Senna	1	12	0	1	16	0	
Turmeric, Java	1	10	0				
--- Bengal	2	2	0	2	5	0	
--- China	4	0	0	4	10	0	
Galls, in Sorts							
Galls, Blue	4	10	0				
Indigo, Blue and Violet	0	13	3				
--- Purple and Violet	0	12	9				
--- Extra fine Violet	0	12	0				
--- Violet	0	9	9				
--- Violet and Copper	0	9	0				
--- Fine Copper	0	10	0				
--- Copper	0	8	9				
--- Consuming sorts	0	7	0				
--- Benares and Oude	0	5	6				
--- Low and bad Oude	0	3	0				
--- Madras							
Do. mid. ord. and bad	0	5	1				
Rice, Bengal White	0	13	0				
--- Patna	0	18	0				
Safflower	1	0	0				
Sago	0	15	0				
Saltpetre	1	2	0				
Silk, Bengal Skein	0	8	1				
--- Novl	0	12	7				
--- Ditto White	0	11	0				
--- China	0	15	9				
Spices, Cinnamon	0	4	3				
--- Cloves	0	2	0				
--- Mace	0	4	6				
--- Nutmegs	0	3	2				
--- Ginger	0	17	6				
--- Pepper, Black	0	0	4				
--- White	0	1	4				
Sugar, Bengal	1	12	0				
--- Slam and China	1	12	0				
--- Mauritius	1	4	0				
Tea, Bohea	0	1	8				
--- Congou	0	2	4				
--- Souchong							
--- Campol							
--- Twankay	0	2	9				
--- Pekoe	0	4	1				
--- Hyson Skin	0	2	9				
--- Hyson	0	4	7				
--- Young Hyson	0	4	3				
--- Gunpowder							
Tortolleshell	1	4	0				
Wood, Sanders Red	3	0	0				

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Southern	30	0	0
--- Sperm	67	0	0
--- Head Matter	75	0	0
--- Wool	0	2	0
--- Wood, Blue Gum	0	7	10
--- Cedar	0	0	4

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS,

From the 26th of April to the 25th of May 1827.

April	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N4 Pr. C. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.	Consols. for Acc.	
26	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 3/8	88 1/2	7 8	98 1/2	10 1-16	1-8	247	67 68p	43 45p	33 1-8
27	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/4	88 1/2	3-4	98 1/2	10 1-16	1-8	—	68 69p	44 45p	33 1-8
28	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/4	88 1/2	—	98 1/2	10 1-16	1-8	—	70p	44 45p	33 1/8
29	203 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/4	88 1/2	—	98 1/2	10 1-16	1-8	—	—	—	—
30	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	83	98 1/2	10 1-16	18 15-16	—	70 71p	44 45p	32 1/2
May												
1	203 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	83	98 1/2	10 1-16	19	245	70 72p	45 46p	31 1/2
2	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	83	98 1/2	18 15-16	7-8	244 1/2	71 72p	46 47p	31 1-8
3	202 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	—	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
4	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
5	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
6	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
7	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
8	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
9	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
10	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
11	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
12	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
13	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
14	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
15	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
16	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
17	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
18	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
19	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
20	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
21	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
22	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
23	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
24	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8
25	202 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83	84	98 1/2	18 13-16	15-16	244 1/2	73 75p	47 48p	31 1/8

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